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Review: Pharmacoepidemiology as an important tool for pharmacovigilance

Swathi Rapole Osmania Medical College, India

Pharmacoepidemiology deals with study of distribution of drug related events in population. It is helpful in providing efficacious treatment. A good pharmacoepidemiological study is an important guideline for pharmacovigilance. It provides valuable information about the drug which was not available during premarketing studies, or during clinical trials, and also helps to overcome ethical and legal issues related to the drug. Pharmacoepidemiology plays a key role in deciding the drug status. Pharmacoepidemiological studies had helped to bann many drugs from the market. For e.g. : thalidomide for its teratogenicity, rosiglitazone due to heart attacks etc. Pharmacoepidemiological studies also helped in deciding the age specific uses of few drugs. For e.g. : Nimesulide had proved deleterious in children below 12 yrs and some anti-hypertensive drugs in elderly. Pharmacoepidemiological studies plays an important role in reporting Adverse Drug Reactions of some commonly used drugs and warns physicians against the prescription of those drugs. For eg: some anti-diabetic drugs like pioglitazone and many more. Hence, in this way the continuous post marketing surveillance by proper pharmacoepidemiological studies helps in assesing the Adverse Drug Reactions.

Biography

Swathi Rapole is pursuing her MD Pharmacology in Osmania medical college affiliated to Dr NTR University of health sciences.

drswathikarna@gmail.com