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Editorial Open Access

Pharmacovigilance in India

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Editorial

Pharmacovigilance concept has witnessed marvelous development worldwide within this decade. Public health care system in India is in sole control of the people who practice medicine. Literally Pharmacy practice system is not existent. There is an urgent need for the country to give preference for establishing Pharmacy practice system in the health care sector. To make Indian public health care system more effective and meaning full, country need Pharmacovigilance centre in order to address the problems related with occurrence of adverse drug reaction and other similar issues. Pharmacovigilance centre helps to derive the data related with aforementioned issues and in turn will give way for framing the national regulatory decisions. These measures definitely help drug regulatory authorities, physicians, pharmacists, patients and pharmaceutical companies to deliver effective duty in order to upgrade the quality of health care area in the country. India has got few highly reputed national Pharmaceutical institutes and number of private Pharmaceutical institutes of repute. It also has got national health authority and drug regulatory agency. However, any such organizations involved in clinical related research activity can be considered as suitable starting point for pharmacovigilance centers.

Pharmacovigilance is not a mere center but it is a process which requires a broad vision, dedication in its function, sufficient time to address the issues and competent expertise and restlessness continuity. The adverse drug reaction reporting programme can be developed step wise starting in any local hospital and extend it as a national activity. These centers should be shouldered to take care about prevention of prevention of drug induced human suffering and to avoid financial risks associated with unexpected adverse effects.

History of Pharmacovigilance in India

The history of adverse drug reaction monitoring system in India can be traced back to 1982, wherein five centers were established by Drug Controller General of India for nationwide monitoring of Adverse drug Reaction. It worked up to 1987 and where after stopped due to many reasons. Perhaps, the present plan may become successful as if it is structured based on previous lacuna. India is the fourth largest pharmaceutical producer in the world and recognizing as an important Clinical trial hub in the world. Due to introduction of many new drugs in the country necessitated to start a vibrant pharmacovigilance system in order to protect interest of public health. The main function of this programme involves data collection, analyzing it. Based on the inferences it can be recommended to regulatory interventions, besides communicating risks to healthcare professionals and the public.

Conclusion

Due to complexity associated with availability of multiple new drugs in the country every health care professional must have knowledge about the importance of adverse drug reaction reporting monitoring and pharmacovigilance. Hence, pharmacovigilance centre is necessary for continuous monitoring of marketed medicines in India.