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A Prospective Study on the Adverse Reactions on Patients on RNTCP Dot's Therapy

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INTRODUCTION

Tuberculosis (TB) is a disease that has severely affected communities and nations since times immemorial. The disease has brought untold miseries to generations and even today, when newer modalities for diagnosis and treatment of TB have made the disease curable, people are suffering and dying from the disease. TB is the leading cause of death from a curable infectious disease. The 1990 World Health Organization (WHO) report on the Global Burden of Disease ranked TB as the seventh most morbidity-causing disease in the world, and expected it to continue in the same position up to 2020. One-third of the global population is estimated to be infected with TB bacillus. TB has a huge impact on patients, families and their communities through spending on diagnosis, treatment, transport to and from the health facilities and time lost from work. If TB is detected early and fully treated, people with the disease quickly become non-infectious and are eventually cured.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has defined ADR as "A response to a drug which is noxious and unintended, and which occurs at doses normally used in man for the prophylaxis, diagnostic or therapy of disease, or for the modification of physiological function"⁴². The currently recommended anti-tuberculosis regimens are usually well tolerated. However some patients experience problems, usually bulk of the drugs, a single day's dose consisting of 6-7 tablets. Hence it has been very important to draw attention of all health workers towards adverse effects of anti-tuberculosis drugs. Pharmacist have an ethical obligation to notify the appropriate bodies whenever adverse effects are suspected⁴⁰.

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