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Research article

A study on Knowledge, attitude and practice of pharmacists and pharmacy students on reporting of adverse drug reactions in the region of Hyderabad

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ABSTRACT

BACKGROUND: Adverse drug reactions (ADRs) are one of the leading causes of mortality and morbidity with increased hospital admissions in India. In modern world, the concern regarding patient safety and effective use of medicines are of high priority. There is a huge competition among pharmaceutical manufacturers where the medicinal products are being manufactured and marketed simultaneously. Because of this, the ADRs may not be identified or reported systematically. Healthcare professionals should consider Adverse Drug Reaction (ADR) reporting as part of their professional obligation and participate in the pharmacovigilance programs of their respective countries. In India, the government launched Pharmacovigilance program of India (PvPI) in 2010 to ensure medication and patient safety. Pharmacy students must be trained well on how to recognize, prevent, and report ADRs. Lack of knowledge about ADR reporting among pharmacists is associated with negative attitude towards pharmacovigilance.

OBJECTIVES: The current study aimed to assess the Knowledge, attitude and practice of pharmacists and pharmacy students on reporting of Adverse drug reactions in the region of Hyderabad.


METHODS: A survey was conducted among the pharmacists and pharmacy students through data collection forms containing Pre- and Post- intervention questionnaires. The questionnaire consisted of four sections: demographics, knowledge, attitude and practice towards ADR reporting. Students and Pharmacist were evaluated before and after receiving the educational module.

RESULTS: On an average, the results of post educational module on knowledge showed significant

improvement in correct answers. We have observed that 91.5% of the doctor of pharmacy students have seen an ADR report form before. 71.28% of pharmacy students received training on Pharmacovigilance and ADR reporting. Pharmacovigilance is included in their curriculum for 93.5% of the students. Our survey showed that Doctor of Pharmacy students and Pharmacists have a positive attitude towards ADR reporting. They have shown their willingness in being trained on ADR reporting and Pharmacovigilance programme to improve patient safety.

CONCLUSION: The results of our study have shown that many Pharmacy students (Pharm D-6YDC and Pharm D PB-3YDC) are aware of concept of ADRs but don't know how and where to report ADRs. Pharmacists showed willingness to change practice if the barriers in ADR reporting are minimized. It is necessary to offer continuous educational programs and training for spontaneous reporting of ADRs until it becomes accessible and habitual among the pharmacists.

KEY WORDS: Adverse drug reaction, Pharmacovigilance, Knowledge, Attitude, Practice, Pharmacy students, Pharmacists.

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