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Fourth National Pharmacovigilance Week Celebration by *Proceedings* ADR Monitoring Centre, JNMC, AMU, Aligarh

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INTRODUCTION

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, launched a nationwide Pharmacovigilance Programme of India (PvPI) to monitor the safety of medicinal product in Indian population. Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) is functioning as national Coordination Centre (NCC) to collate ADR reports and recommends Central Drug Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) for regulatory intervention.^{1,2}

In line with a mission to safeguard health of Indian population, in 2021 Government of India has taken an initiative to celebrate Nation Pharmacovigilance Week from 17th to 23rd September every year, which serves as platform for communication and knowledge enrichment to the various stake holders in the field of safety of medicinal product for ultimate benefit of patients.³

ADR Monitoring Centre (AMC), Jawaharlal Medical College & Hospital (JNMCH), Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), Aligarh is one of the AMC running under PvPI since 2011. This year AMC, JNMCH, AMU celebrated the 4th "National Pharmacovigilance Week" from 17th -23rd September 2024 with the designated theme "Building ADR reporting Culture for patient safety" as per the directives of PvPI, IPC, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. A total of 1015 participants attended the week-long programme.⁴

Society of Pharmacovigilance, India (SoPI) provided a platform to hold events during 4th NPW 2024. In the past few years so many CMEs conducted by AMC, JNMC, AMU in association with SoPI.^{5,6}

JNMC, AMU also celebrates 35 years of ADR Reporting in 2024 which starts from 1989 ICMR multicentric project.^{7,8}

DAY 1 INAUGURAL FUNCTION

The chief guest Prof. Veena Maheshwari, Dean, Faculty of Medicine and Principal and CMS, JNMCH, AMU, inaugurated the 4th National Pharmacovigilance Week. She emphasized that the health care professionals must be encouraged to report ADRs for the betterment of the patient's health and treatment. She further appealed all the staff members of the medical college hospital to assist AMC in building a good number of ADR database.

Prof. Syed Ziaur Rahman, Coordinator, ADR Monitoring Centre (AMC) informed that this year AMC is celebrating 35 years of ADR reporting in medical college. The first multi-centric project on ADR monitoring in India was granted to the Dept. of Pharmacology. He further highlighted the need of ADR reporting to generate the safety data pertaining to the patients.

The guest of honor Prof. Asad Ullah Khan, Director IQAC, AMU, gave an overview of ADRs with a special focus on antibiotic resistance. He informed that his lab has found a mutant form of NDM in antibiotic resistance from JNMC hospital sewage plant. Another guest of honor Prof. Farha Azmi, Principal, College of Nursing, AMU, discussed the role of nursing staff in making the Pharmacovigilance Programme of India (PvPI) a success.

SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS

The first scientific session based on sensitization lecture took place on the second day of the 4th National Pharmacovigilance Week. The lecture was hosted in the seminar room of the Department of Pharmacology. Dr. Imrana Masood, Deputy Coordinator of the AMC and Assistant Professor in the Department of TB & Chest Diseases, delivered the invited talk on the significance of

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Group Photographs of Inaugural Function

Group Photographs of Guest Lecture

pharmacovigilance in respiratory medicine, highlighting the need for focused pharmacovigilance efforts, especially bedaquiline reactions.

Earlier, Professor Syed Ziaur Rahman, Chairman of the Department of Pharmacology, welcomed all attendees and stressed the importance of focused pharmacovigilance in addition to spontaneous reporting. Dr. Jameel Ahmad, Assistant Professor and a senior faculty from the Department of Pharmacology facilitated the speaker with remarks of caution in noticing side effects. Pharmacovigilance Associate Gufran Ali played a key role in organizing and arranging the program.

The audience included faculty members, resident doctors, PhD scholars, and other healthcare professionals. The program concluded with a vote of thanks and formal certificate given ceremony.

Another scientific session entitled “Pharmacovigilance: Insights from AMC, JNMC” was held on the fifth day in the seminar room of AMU's Paramedical College. The speaker Dr. Syed Ziaur Rahman, delivered the keynote sensitization lecture, highlighting AMC's progress and sharing examples of notable ADRs reported by the Center. The Principal of the Paramedical College, Professor Qazi Ehsan Ali, welcomed attendees and requested all the paramedical staff to participate in the national pharmacovigilance programme. Dr. Ghufan Jameel, Assistant Professor at the Paramedical College, compered the event with fruitful introductory remarks.

The audience included faculty members, resident doctors, PhD scholars, students from Paramedical College, and other healthcare professionals. The event concluded with a vote of thanks and a formal certificate ceremony.

OUTREACH PROGRAM

On day one, the inauguration ceremony was followed by a walkathon for public awareness, which started from the Dean's Office, had a round around the college campus, and ended at the Trauma Centre. During the walk, the volunteers distributed ADRs related pamphlets and replied the queries raised by the general public on the road. Faculty members, resident doctors of various departments of both Medical and Dental College participated the programme. The local media covered the event at a large scale in both electronic and print media.

A sensitization cum awareness camps were arranged at the registration counter outside the OPD Block of both medical and dental colleges. The Dental College camp was coordinated by the Principal Prof. R. K. Tewari and Dr. Anshul Aggarwal, Professor at the Dept. of Oral Medicine and Radiology while the camp at the Medical College was led by Dr. Imrana Masood, Deputy Coordinator of AMC, alongside Pharmacovigilance Associate Mr. Gufran Ali. Residents from the Department of Pharmacology and several school students volunteered their support.



Paramedical College, AMU, Aligarh

Group Photographs of Walkathon

Another outreach activity on the 4th day of the NPW was organised at the Medicine (Moalejat) OPD Block of the Ajmal Khan Unani Tibbiya College, AMU, Aligarh. The details of the PvPi including the safety of Ayush drugs were explained and discussed. Patients were informed to be vigilant even with the treatment by traditional medicines. Few patients reported their experience of side effects by traditional medicines. It was noticed that these shared ADRs because of ignorance were not reported to the concerned centres even at Peripheral Pharmacovigilance Centre (PPvPI) of AK Tibbiya College under Ministry of Ayush. Such under-reporting is very common amongst the consumers of Ayush medicines. Tibbiya College camp was coordinated by the Principal & CMS Prof. Badrudduja Khan and PPvPI Ayush Coordinator Prof. Tanzeel Ahmad

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Badrudduja Khan and PPvPI Ayush Coordinator Prof. Tanzeel Ahmad.

Prof. Syed Ziaur Rahman, Coordinator of AMC, JNMC, alongside Pharmacovigilance Associate Gufran Ali and all the residents from the Department of Pharmacology and Department of Moalejat were present and contributed in sensitization and distribution of both ADR Reporting forms for Ayush and modern medicine. Few school students also volunteered their support.

AMC coordinated with Aligarh IMA to organize a CME on pharmacovigilance, which was held at Ibn Sina Academy, with presentations by Prof. Syed Ziaur Rahman and Dr. Ruhi Khan from the Department of Medicine. The event was attended by Aligarh IMA members, including President Dr. Rajeev Kumar Varshney and Secretary Dr. Anurag Gupta, and presided over by esteemed pharmacovigilance expert Prof. K. C. Singhal and former IMA UP State President Dr. Vijay Pal.

GROUP ACTIVITIES FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

On day 4, around 80 UG students from varied disciplines participated in poster making competition. The best posters declared were from BPT students.

On day 6, a quiz competition for postgraduate scholars from the Department of Pharmacology was held in the seminar room. Dr. Puneet Paliwal, Dr. Sreemedha Choudhury, and Dr. Shariq A. Azmi were announced as the first, second, and third-place winners, respectively



Centre JNMCH & OPD ZA Dental College, AMU, Aligarh



AK Tibbiya College, AMU, Aligarh

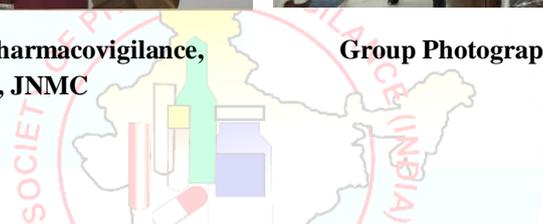


Ibn Sina Academy, Aligarh



Poster Making Competition on Pharmacovigilance, Dept. of Pharmacology, JNMC

Group Photographs of Pharmacovigilance Quiz



DAY 7 VALEDICTORY FUNCTION & PRIZE DISTRIBUTION

To commemorate the 4th National Pharmacovigilance Week (September 17-23, 2024), the ADR Monitoring Centre (AMC) at JNMC, AMU, Aligarh, hosted a series of programs to enhance awareness among healthcare professionals, consumers, and patients. The week culminated in a valedictory celebration on September 23, 2024, at the Department of Pharmacology, JNMC, in accordance with guidelines from the PvPI, IPC, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India. The Chief Guest at the Valedictory Function was Prof. Asad Ullah Khan, Director of IQAC, AMU, who emphasized the need to encourage healthcare professionals to report Adverse Drug Reactions (ADRs) for a better understanding of medication risks and to safeguard public health.

Guests of Honor included Prof. R. K. Tewari, Principal of ZADC; Prof. Badrudduja Khan, Principal of AKTC; Prof. Qazi Ehsan Ali, Principal of Paramedical College; and Prof. Farah Azmi, Principal of the College of Nursing, AMU. During the function, Prof. Mohammad Shameem (Department of TBRD), Prof. Kamran Afzal (Department of Paediatrics) and Prof. Pradhuman Verma (Department of Oral Medicine and Dental Radiology) were acknowledged for their ongoing support of AMC. Additionally, Dr. Mohd. Yaman JR (Department of TBRD), Dr. Pratik Vijay Ganvir JR (Department of Pharmacology) and Dr. Sidra Aslam (Department of Oral Medicine and Radiology) received awards for reporting the highest number of ADRs. Winners of the quiz and poster-making competitions were also recognized.

Pharmacovigilance Associate Gufran Ali played a key role in organizing the week's events. The valedictory proceedings were led by Dr. Anju Joshua, with Dr. Swathi G delivering a vote of thanks. The number of participants in the week-long celebrations is shown in Figure 1.

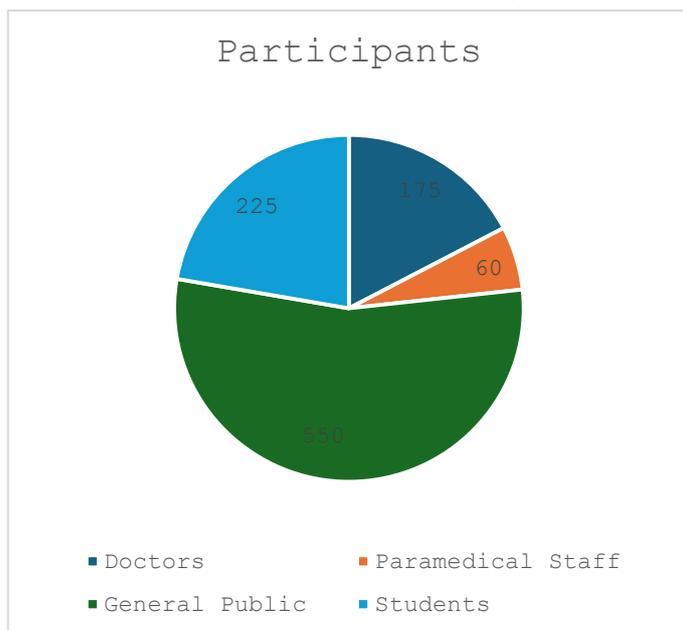


Figure 1: Data of Participants

CONCLUSION

The programme was successfully organized with good feedback.

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