

Awareness, Attitude and Practice of Pharmacovigilance among Healthcare Professionals and Students in a Tertiary Care Teaching Hospital

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Aims

To find out the level of awareness & attitude towards pharmacovigilance and extent of ADR reporting in healthcare professionals & medical students.

Materials & method

A total of 799 participants including healthcare professionals and students were asked to fill a predesigned questionnaire. It consisted of questions regarding awareness, attitude & practice of pharmacovigilance. Data collected were analyzed using relevant statistical tests, awareness between healthcare professionals & students was compared using chi square test.

Results

70.46% of participants responded to the questionnaire. 22% of doctors and 37% of nurses had reported ADR to any authority in last 2 years. Lack of awareness about the ADR reporting system was the most common reason for non-reporting. Majority of healthcare professionals and students considered ADR reporting as very important and recommended active involvement of pharmacovigilance in medical curriculum.

Conclusion

Overall level of awareness was low both among healthcare professionals and students. There is a great need to increase the awareness and improve the attitude of healthcare professionals and students towards pharmacovigilance and its national programme. Regular training sessions and awareness campaigns need to be conducted. Pharmacovigilance should be included in the undergraduate training of MBBS, pharmacy, nursing and physiotherapy students.