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Role of Pharmacist in ADR reporting in Pakistan: A myth or reality?

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Purpose & Methods: A cross-sectional study design was used to explore the perceptions' and attitudes of pharmacists regarding ADR reporting in Pakistan. The study was approved by ethical committee of Hamdard University and Ministry of Health, Pakistan. A validated semi-structured questionnaire was used to collect data. Data was cleaned, coded and analyzed using SPSS vs. 16.

Results: The results showed that 83.2% of the pharmacists were familiar with the term pharmacovigilance and 95.2% thought that it is important to report an ADR. Most of the pharmacists 93.2% agreed to designate pharmacist as the chief personnel to be involved in development of ADR reporting system and 94% agreed that ADR reporting should be mandatory for practicing pharmacists. On the other hand, only 38.7 % of the pharmacists were of the view that pharmacist is well trained to report an adverse drug reaction in Pakistan. Only 7% of the pharmacists agreed on effective and efficient working of current pharmacovigilance centre's in Pakistan and 91.3% strongly emphasized on improvement of current pharmacovigilance practice in Pakistan.

Conclusion: The findings concluded that concept of ADR monitoring is still not matured in Pakistan and there is need to develop monitoring systems to implement the idea of pharmacovigilance seriously in Pakistan. Appropriate training programs on ADR reporting must be designed for capacity building of healthcare professionals. This will provide opportunities for the pharmacists to take the profession to the next level in order to cope up with advanced concept of public healthcare.

Biography

Madeeha Malik has completed her PhD in 2013 from University Sains, Malaysia and her Post-doc in 2015, in Pharmacy Practice from North West University, South Africa. She is currently serving as Director and coordinator for MPhil Pharmacy Practice at Faculty of Pharmacy, Hamdard University Islamabad, Pakistan. She is also serving as an appointed MPhil and PhD supervisor for Higher Education Commission of Pakistan. She has published more than 50 papers in reputed journals and serving as an Editorial Board Member of repute.

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