



Research Article

KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND PRACTICES TOWARD PHARMACOVIGILANCE AMONG CRRION A TERTIARY CARE HOSPITAL

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ABSTRACT

An “adverse drug reaction” is any noxious, unintended and undesired effect of a drug, which occurs at a dose used in humans for prophylaxis, diagnosis, therapy or modification of physiological functions. Reporting of adverse events and adverse drug reactions is the commonest method utilized for generating safety data. Lack of awareness about Pharmacovigilance is one of the most important causes of such under-reporting. Spontaneous reporting system is considered the main mechanism of pharmacovigilance study for gathering information about ADRs. A cross-sectional study was carried out in 134 doctors using pre-validated 20 item questionnaire with details of participant’s information followed by questions regarding knowledge, attitude and prescribing practice of pharmacovigilance was used as a tool, administered to all the resident doctors and the collected data was analysed. Our study revealed that knowledge about pharmacovigilance was not adequate CRR had a knowledge score of less than 50%. This shows that only few doctors are aware about the pharmacovigilance programme. The assessment of questionnaire based on attitude regarding pharmacovigilance shows that 27 (30 %) of CRR had attitude score of 70% and above, Pharmacovigilance is not enough as is evident from our study. Success of Pharmacovigilance programmes depend also upon the effective practice of Pharmacovigilance by healthcare professionals.

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INTRODUCTION

Adverse drug reactions (ADRs) are important public health problem contributing to a considerable economic burden on the society and health care systems. ADRs lead to number of medical and economic consequences like prolong hospital stay; increase in the cost of treatment and increase in the risk of mortality. It is one of the important causes of hospitalization varying between 5% and 13% ADRs accounts for 0.2-24% of hospital admissions, 3.7% of the patient experiences fatal ADRs Reporting ADRs voluntarily by healthcare professionals is essential for success of pharmacovigilance programme and decreasing the risk of ADRs by pharmaceutical products. Despite many efforts and presence of large number of tertiary care facilities pharmacovigilance is still in its infancy. Findings from various studies have revealed that ADR reporting is linked to the KAP of the healthcare professionals Lack of awareness about Pharmacovigilance is one of the most important causes of such under-reporting. Spontaneous reporting system is considered the main mechanism of pharmacovigilance study for gathering information about ADRs. Hence this study was undertaken to assess the knowledge, attitude and practice regarding Pharmacovigilance among junior residents and interns in a tertiary care hospital

The PvPI was launched with a broad objective in patient safety for more than one billion people of India. In July, 2010, the Central Drug Standard Control organization, New Delhi has initiated a nationwide pharmacovigilance program under aegis of Ministry of health and Family welfare, Government of India with All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi as a National Coordinating Center (NCC) to monitor ADR.

METHODS & MATERIALS

The inclusion criteria were enrolment interns posted in various departments like medicine, surgery, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, skin and venereal diseases as well as the psychiatry departments and the exclusion criteria were senior residents, undergraduate students and Post graduate students and those who refused to give written consent were excluded from the study. The participants were briefed about the nature and purpose of the study before subjecting to the questionnaire. Each participant was allotted 30 minutes for the completion of the study. Written informed consent was obtained from each participant. Informed consent was voluntary and freely given. A cross-sectional study was carried out using pre-validated 20 item questionnaire with details of

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participant's information followed by questions regarding knowledge, attitude and prescribing practice of pharmacovigilance was used as a tool, administered to all crri The collected data was pooled and expressed as counts and percentages by statistical analysis which explores each variable in a data set separately. The results were analyzed by One way ANOVA followed by post hoc test using SPSS Software version 20 for windows. The results expressed are in mean±standard deviation mean

RESULTS

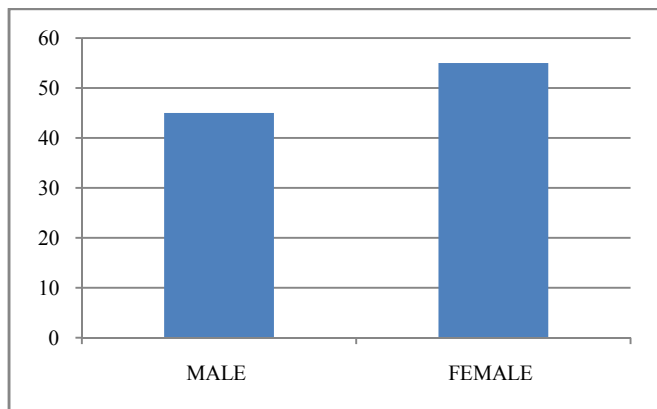


Figure No 1 Sex Distribution

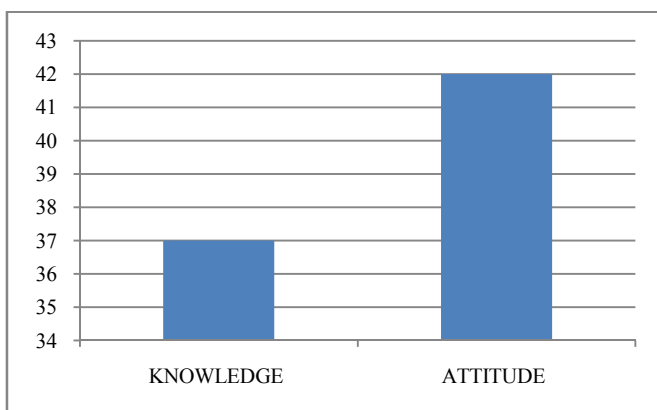


Figure 2 Attitude and Knowledge

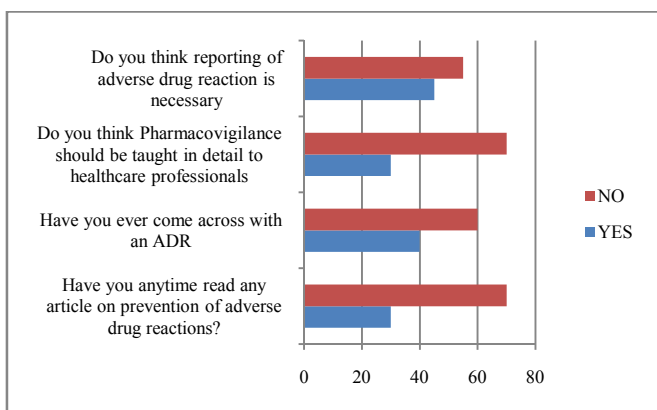


Figure No 3 PVG Questions

DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION

The present study is a questionnaire-based study to assess the knowledge, attitude and practice of pharmacovigilance towards ADR reporting among doctors in a tertiary care teaching hospital. The essential component of pharmacovigilance is to report ADRs and spontaneous

reporting system is important tool for reporting ADR and also new ADR of a new drug. A study conducted by Radhakrishnan R *et al*, that stated doctors were less aware or lack of knowledge of national and international pharmacovigilance program.¹¹ In some other study or the literature noted, a lack of time and knowledge about ADRs is often considered to be a cause of underreporting Good knowledge and attitude remove the obstacles, misconceptions and barriers to the activities for practicing pharmacovigilance. 57% doctors stated that the establishment of ADR reporting center in every tertiary care hospital is necessary. 93% of the participants in the present study supported the fact that the healthcare professionals should be sensitized about pharmacovigilance, which is very high when compared to Murararaih *et al*, study where only 58% of the participants were in favor of improving awareness about pharmacovigilance by educational programmes Even as ADR reporting was considered to be important by a large majority of the participants but the actual practices of ADR reporting were very low. In this study, 29.4% of the respondents stated that they had come across an ADR previously. 82.2% of the participants stated that they have not been trained on how to report ADRs and basic orientation about pharmacovigilance which hinders the process of practicing pharmacovigilance For the success of pharmacovigilance programmes only knowledge and attitude regarding Pharmacovigilance is not enough as is evident from present study. Success of Pharmacovigilance programmes depend also upon the effective practice of pharmacovigilance by healthcare professionals. There is a need for training and educational activities like CMEs for increasing the awareness about reporting of ADRs. Importance on adverse event reporting should be emphasized while teaching undergraduate and post graduate students

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