



## PHARMACOVIGILANCE: A TOOL FOR HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

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### ABSTRACT

Pharmacovigilance has grown significantly in recent years and its importance in the healthcare system has been recognized worldwide. Healthcare professionals play a crucial role in the Pharmacovigilance system. They require considerable knowledge and expertise in the field of medication safety which will successfully contribute to this area through early recognition, management, and reporting of the medicine safety issues. Furthermore, the healthcare professionals should be well educated about the necessity and procedure of adverse event reporting. Despite global concerns against medication safety, there is a lack of awareness and knowledge of Pharmacovigilance and ADR reporting among healthcare professionals yet. Moreover, recent studies have indicated that ADRs are poorly reported by healthcare providers, especially in developing countries. The need of the hour is to educate the physicians, pharmacist and nurses to encourage them to report ADRs that occur in patients. Education and training of health professionals in medicine safety, exchange of information between national Pharmacovigilance centers, the coordination of such exchange, and the linking of clinical experience of medicine safety with research and health policy, all serve to enhance effective patient care. A regular flow and exchange of information in this way means that national Pharmacovigilance programme are ideally placed to identify gaps in our understanding of medicine-induced diseases.

**KEY WORD:** Pharmacovigilance, healthcare professionals.

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