

Pharmacovigilance Programme of India: A Review

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Abstract

Background: In India, a proper adverse drug reaction monitoring system was started in 1986 with 12 regional centers. In 1997, India became the member of the World health organization Programme for International Drug watching managed by the Upsala Monitoring Centre, Sweden. At origination, 6 regional centers were created in Mumbai, New Delhi, Kolkata, Lucknow, Pondicherry, and Chandigarh for ADR watching within the country. Promoting safe use of drugs may be a priority of the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission that functions as the National Coordination Centre for Pharmacovigilance Programme of India. Today, 179 adverse drug reactions monitoring centers presently report adverse events to the National coordinative centre in India.

Index terms— vigiflow, UMC, death, thalidomide, reporting form, phocomelia.

1 Introduction

According to World Health Organisation (WHO), Pharmacovigilance (PV) as the pharmacological science and activities relating to the monitoring, detection, assessment, understanding, and prevention of adverse drug reactions (ADRs), or any long-term and short-term medicine-related problems (Figure 1&2). Variety of ADRs associated with medication prompted the event of the science of PV [1][2][3] [4]. This prompted WHO for a systematic study of ADR of medicine, that is that the starting of PV. Thenceforth variety of ADRs was detected, a number of that square measure shows in (Table 1). ADR is taken into account to be the 6th leading reason behind death. India, with a current population of 1.27 billion, is that the 4th largest producers of prescription drugs within the world with quite 6000 licensed makers and over 60000 branded formulations within the market. In the United States of America, ADRs contribute 3-7% of hospital admissions. In England, 1% chronicles of the entire hospital admissions were due to ADRs throughout the year 1999-2008. ADRs square measure common in the Australian healthcare system additionally and that they contribute to a 1% of hospital admissions [5,6]. The percentage of hospital admissions due to ADRs in bound countries is 100% or additional.

Drug attributed deaths square measure calculable to be 0.19% altogether medical inpatients. About 0.40% of ADRs known were directly joined to high costs. ADRs not solely increase the mortality and morbidity; however, additionally multiply the health care value [7]. The PV effort within India is coordinated by the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) and conducted by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO). The most responsibility of the IPC is to keep up and develop the PV database consisting of all suspected ADR to medicines observed. IPC is functioning as a National Coordination Centre (NCC) for the Pharmacovigilance Programme of India (PvPI). NCC is working underneath the direction of a committee that recommends procedures and guidelines for regulatory interventions [8]. The main responsibility of NCC is to watch all the ADR of medicines being observed within the Indian population and to develop and maintain its PV information. The aim of the commission that acts just like the NCC for PvPI is for the safety of the patient, and the population with relevancy use of the drug. The Commission has become operational from 1st January 2009 an associate autonomous body, absolutely supported by the central government with specific fund allocations under the administrative control of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare [9]. The Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, is the Chairperson and therefore the Chairman-Scientific Body is that the Co-Chairman of the Commission. The Secretary-cum Scientific Director is that the Chief Scientific and Executive

46 officer of the Commission. The CDSCO, Directorate General of Health Services underneath the aegis of Ministry
47 of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India unitedly with IPC, Ghaziabad is initiating a nation-wide PV
48 program for shielding the health of the patients by reassuring drug safety. The program shall be coordinated by
49 the IPC, as an NCC. The center can operate underneath the superintendence of a steering committee. The PvPI
50 was initiated by the government of India on 14 th July 2010 with the All India Institute of Medical Sciences
51 (AIIMS), New Delhi as the NCC for monitoring ADRs in the country for safeguarding public health. Within the
52 year 2010, 22 ADR monitoring center, as well as AIIMS, came upon underneath this program ??10][11][12][13]
53 . To confirm the implementation of this program in an exceedingly method, the NCC was shifted from the
54 AIIMS to the IPC, Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh on 15th April 2011 (Figure 3). The concept of PV is not new,
55 because the time of Charak Samhita in 700 BC had cautioned that properly understood however improperly
56 administered drug is Vagueness poison and Vagbhata-a physician represented adverse events, reason, delayed
57 ADRs to Ayurvedic Drugs' around 500 AD. After that, many reports of ADRs from India area unit found within
58 the history of modern medicine, but there was no systematic effort of ADR monitoring since the primary try was
59 created in 1989 [15,16] .

60 2 III. Scope of the Pharmacovigilance Programme of India

61 Before registration and selling of drugs within the country, its safety and efficaciousness expertise area unit
62 primarily based totally on the employment of the drugs in clinical trials. These trials in the notice common
63 ADR. Some vital reactions, like those, that take a protracted time to develop, or those, that occur seldom,
64 might not be detected in clinical trials. Additionally, the controlled conditions beneath that medicines area unit
65 utilized in clinical trials don't essentially replicate the method they will be utilized in observe. For a drug to
66 be thought-about safe, its expected advantages ought to be more than any associated risks of harmful reactions.
67 So, to achieve a comprehensive safety profile of drugs, a continuous post-marketing monitoring system, i.e.
68 PV is crucial. To monitor the security of drugs, information from several sources is employed for PV [17] .
69 These embrace spontaneous ADRs coverage mechanism; medical literature published worldwide; action taken by
70 regulative authorities in alternative countries. Since there exist substantial social and economic consequences of
71 ADRs and therefore the positive benefit/cost magnitude relation of implementing applicable risk management
72 -there may be a have to be compelled to interact health care professionals and therefore the public at massive,
73 during a well-structured program to make synergies for watching ADRs within the country. The PvPI aims is to
74 collate data, method and analyze it and use the inferences to advocate regulative interventions, besides human
75 action risks to health care professionals and therefore, the public [18] .
76 IV.

77 3 Management of the Pharmacovigilance Programme of India

78 This is headed by the Secretary cum scientific Director: Dr. Gyanendra Nath Singh, who is working with
79 the help of Advisor and National Scientific Coordinator supported by the several committees like-Steering
80 Committee, Working Group, Quality Review Panel, Core Training Panel, etc. involving experts from all over the
81 country.Current Status of NCC-PvPI Presently the PvPI program has more than 200 Adverse Drug Monitoring
82 Centres (AMCs) involving all states and Union Territories through-out India [19] .
83 V.

84 4 Reporting of Adverse Drug Reactions

85 Suspected ADR reporting forms for health care professionals (Figure ??) and consumers (Figure ??) a unit
86 available on the website of IPC to report ADR. To get rid of barrier in ADR reporting, the consumer reporting
87 form is available in 10 vernacular languages (Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Kannada, Bengali, Gujarati, Assamese,
88 Marathi, Oriya, and Malayalam). ADRs will be conjointly reportable via PvPI helpline number (18001803024)
89 on week days from 9:00 am to 5:30 pm. The mobile Android application for ADR reporting has conjointly been
90 created available to the general public [20] .

91 5 VI.

92 6 World Health Organization-Uppsala Monitoring Centre & 93 India

94 The WHO Program for International Drug Monitoring provides a forum for WHO member states that has India
95 to collaborate within the monitoring of drug safety. At intervals the Program, individual case reports of suspected
96 ADRs are collected and keep in an exceedingly common information, presently containing over 3.7 million case
97 reports. Since 1978, the Uppsala Monitoring Centre (UMC) in Sweden has dispensed the Program. The UMC is
98 accountable for the gathering of knowledge concerning ADRs from around the world, particularly from countries
99 that are members of the WHO together with India. Member countries send their reports to the UMC wherever
100 they are processed, evaluated, and entered into the WHO International information. When there are several
101 reports of adverse reactions to a particular drug, this process may lead to the detection of a signal-an alert about

102 a possible hazard communicated to member countries. This happens solely once elaborated analysis and expert
103 review. These ADR reports are assessed regionally and will cause the action at intervals in the country. Through
104 membership of the WHO International Drug Monitoring Program, a rustic will recognize if similar reports are
105 being created elsewhere. India is a country with a large patient pool and healthcare professionals, yet ADR
106 reporting is in its infancy (Table 2) [21][22][23] .

107 **7 VII.**

108 **8 Aim of the Pharmacovigilance Programme of India**

109 Pharmacovigilance has specific aims as follows:

- 110 1. Improve patient care and safety in about the use of medicines and all medical and paramedical interventions.
- 111 2. Improve public health and safety in about the use of medicines. 3. Contribute to the assessment of benefit,
112 harm, effectiveness, and risk of medicines, encouraging their safe, rational and more effective (including cost-
113 effective) use.

114 **9 Promote understanding, education, and clinical**

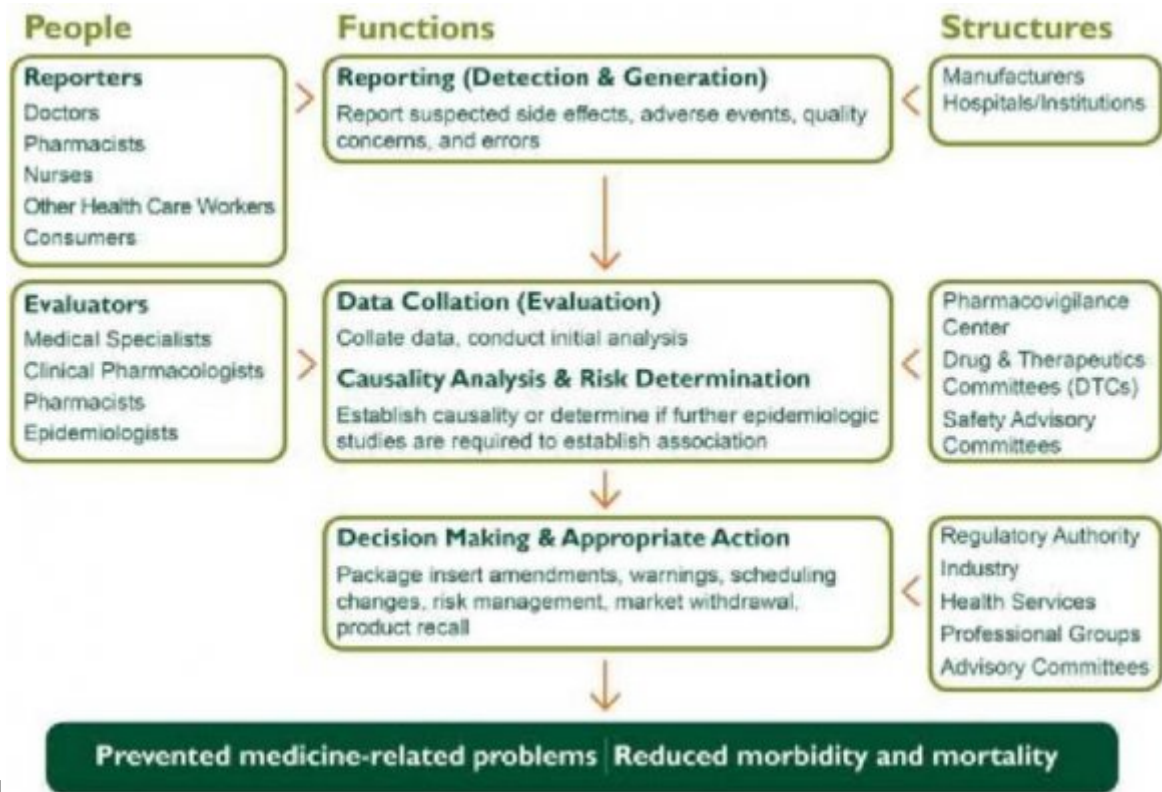
115 training in PV and its effective communication to the public [24] . IX.

116 **10 Conclusion**

117 The adverse drug reaction observation and reporting programs or pharmacovigilance program of India is aiming
118 to identify the risks related to the utilization of the drugs. The current analysis has disclosed opportunities
119 or interventions particularly or avertible adverse events, which arecan to facilitate in promoting safer drug use,
120 data to the health care professionals. Improve the standard of patient care and educate to extend awareness.
121 Therefore, currently, this point has returned to aware the general public too for the reporting the adverse drug
122 reaction to the nearest hospital or ADR monitoring center or the health care professionals. They will directly
123 report the adverse drug reaction through the government. Toll-free number 18001803024, adverse drug reaction
124 application, email, and alternative methodology like social media.

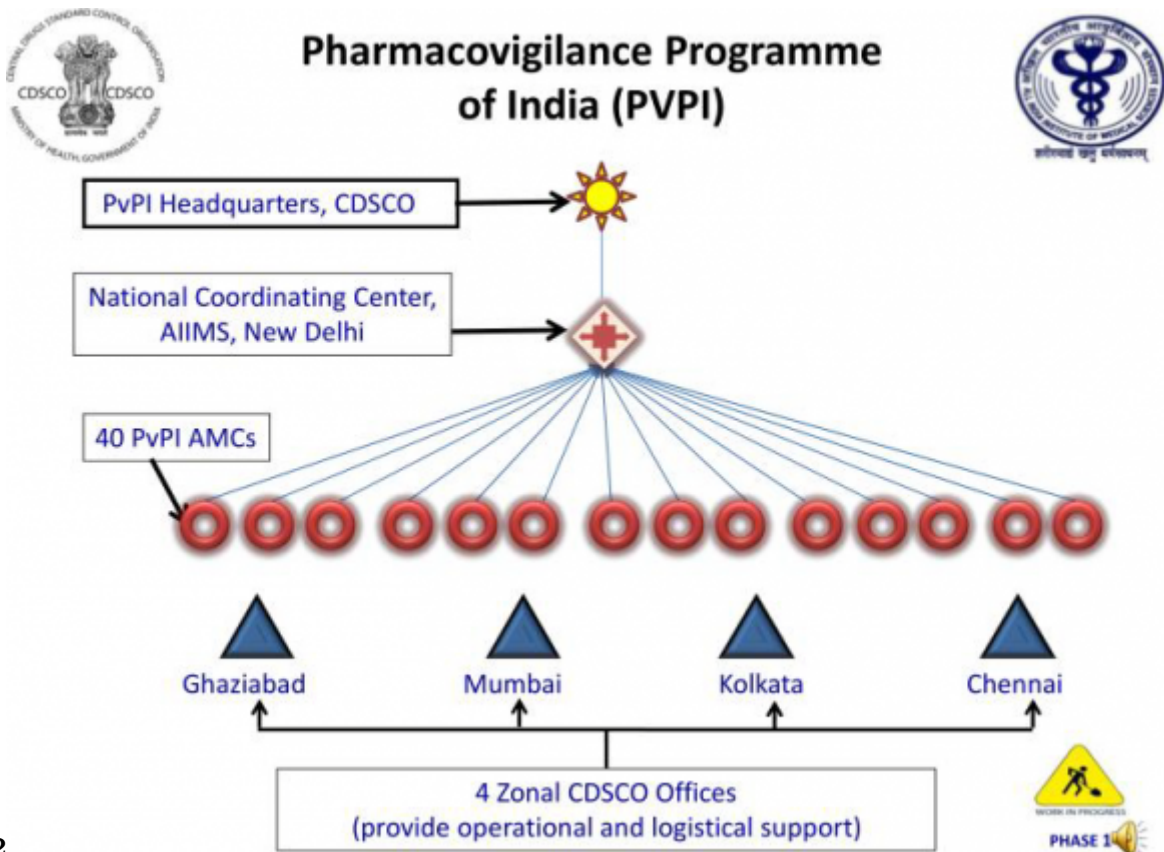
125 **11 B**

126 Pharmacovigilance Programme of India: A Review 4. To generate the evidence-based information on the safety
127 of medicines. 5. To support regulatory agencies in the decisionmaking process on the use of medications. 6.
128 To communicate the safety information on the use of medicines to various stakeholders to minimize the risk. 7.
129 To emerge as a national center of excellence for PV activities. 8. To collaborate with other national centers for
130 the exchange of information and data management. 9. To provide training and consultancy support to other
131 national PV centers located across the globe [25,26] .



1

Figure 1: Figure 1 :



2

Figure 2: Figure 2 :



SUSPECTED ADVERSE DRUG REACTION REPORTING FORM

For VOLUNTARY reporting of Adverse Drug Reactions by Healthcare Professionals

INDIAN PHARMACOPOEIA COMMISSION							FOR AMC/NCC USE ONLY				
(National Coordination Centre-Pharmacovigilance Programme of India) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India Sector-23, Raj Nagar, Ghaziabad-201002							AMC Report No. _____				
Report Type <input type="checkbox"/> Initial <input type="checkbox"/> Follow up							Worldwide Unique No. _____				
A. PATIENT INFORMATION							12. Relevant tests/ laboratory data with dates				
1. Patient Initials _____		2. Age at time of Event or Date of Birth _____		3. M <input type="checkbox"/> F <input type="checkbox"/> Other <input type="checkbox"/>							
		4. Weight _____Kgs									
B. SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTION							13. Relevant medical/ medication history (e.g. allergies, race, pregnancy, smoking, alcohol use, hepatic/renal dysfunction etc.)				
5. Date of reaction started (dd/mm/yyyy)							14. Seriousness of the reaction: No <input type="checkbox"/> if Yes <input type="checkbox"/> (please tick anyone) <input type="checkbox"/> Death (dd/mm/yyyy) <input type="checkbox"/> Congenital-anomaly <input type="checkbox"/> Life threatening <input type="checkbox"/> Required intervention to Prevent permanent impairment/damage <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitalization/Prolonged <input type="checkbox"/> Disability <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____ 15. Outcomes <input type="checkbox"/> Recovered <input type="checkbox"/> Recovering <input type="checkbox"/> Not recovered <input type="checkbox"/> Fatal <input type="checkbox"/> Recovered with sequelae <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown				
6. Date of recovery (dd/mm/yyyy)											
7. Describe reaction or problem											
C. SUSPECTED MEDICATION(S)											
S.No	8. Name (Brand/Generic)	Manufacturer (if known)	Batch No. / Lot No.	Exp. Date (if known)	Dose used	Route used	Frequency (OD, BD etc.)	Therapy dates		Indication	Causality Assessment
								Date started	Date stopped		
i											
ii											
iii											
iv											
S.No as per C	9. Action Taken (please tick)						10. Reaction reappeared after reintroduction (please tick)				
	Drug withdrawn	Dose increased	Dose reduced	Dose not changed	Not applicable	Unkn own	Yes	No	Effect unknown	Dose (if reintroduced)	
i											
ii											
iii											
iv											
11. Concomitant medical product including self-medication and herbal remedies with therapy dates (Exclude those used to treat reaction)											
S.No	Name (Brand/Generic)	Dose used	Route used	Frequency (OD, BD, etc.)	Therapy dates		Indication				
					Date started	Date stopped					
i											
ii											
iii											
Additional information:							D. REPORTER DETAILS				
							16. Name and Professional Address: _____				
							Pin: _____ E-mail _____ Tel. No. (with STD code) _____ Occupation: _____ Signature: _____				
							17. Date of this report (dd/mm/yyyy): _____				
Confidentiality: The patient's identity is held in strict confidence and protected to the fullest extent. Programme staff is not expected to and will not disclose the reporter's identity in response to a request from the public. Submission of a report does not constitute an admission that medical personnel or manufacturer or the product caused or contributed to the reaction.											

3

Figure 3: Figure 3 :

1

Sr. No.	Drug	Year	Serious & unexpected adverse event
Chloroform (Anaesthetic)		1848	Episode of ventricular fibrillation & death
Sulphanilamide (Elixir)		1937	Death
Thalidomide		1961	Amelia, phocomelia & dysmelia
Clioquinol		1970	Subacute nephropathy
Practolol		1975	Sclerosing peritonitis
Benoxaprofen		1982	Nephrotoxicity & cholestatic jaundice
Terfenadine		1997	Torsade de pointes
Rofecoxib		2004	Cardiovascular effects
Veralipride		2007	Anxiety, depression & movement disorders

Figure 4: Table 1 :

Centre	Role
ADR monitoring centre	Collection of ADR reports, perform follow up with the complainant to check completeness as per standard operating procedure (SOPs), data entry into Vigiflow, reporting to PvPI-NCC through Vigiflow with the source data (original) attached with each ADR case Training/ sensitization/ feedback to physicians through newsletters circulated by the PvPI-NCC.
PvPI AMC other than medical colleges [Corporate hospitals, autonomous institutes, Pharmaceutical industry and public health Programmers]	Preparation of SOPs, guidance documents & training manuals,
Pharmacovigilance programme of India, National coordinating centre, Indian pharmacopoeia commission (Ghaziabad)	data collation, Cross-check completeness, Causality Assessment etc as per SOPs, conduct Training workshops of all enrolled centres, publication of medicines safety newsletter, reporting to CDSCO-HQ, Analysis of the Performance measurement system, Periodic safety update report, Adverse event following immunization data received from CDSCO-HQ.
Zonal/Sub-zonal CDSCO Offices	Provide procurement, financial and administrative support to ADR monitoring centres, report to CDSCO-HQ.
Central drugs standard control organization- Headquarter (New Delhi)	Take appropriate regulatory decision & actions on the basis of recommendations of PvPI NCC at IPC, propagation of medicine safety related decisions to stakeholders, collaboration with WHO-UMC, provide for budgetary provisions & administrative support to run PvPI.

Figure 5: Table 2 :

.1 Acknowledgement

None

.2 Conflict of Interest

The Authors declare that there is no conflict of interest.

Abbreviations: WHO: World health organization, CDSCO: Central drugs standard control organization, PvPI: Pharmacovigilance programme of India, NCC: National coordinating centre, AIIMS: All India institute of medical sciences, IPC: Indian pharmacopoeia commission, PV: Pharmacovigilance, ADR: Adverse drug reaction, AMC: ADR monitoring centre, UMC: Uppsala monitoring centre.

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