

# **National Pharmacovigilance Programme**

**Peripheral Pharmacovigilance Centre**

*at*

**Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute  
University of Delhi, Delhi-110 007**

**Co-ordinator :**

**Prof. A. Ray, MD, PhD, FAMS**

**Head, Department of Pharmacology  
& Clinical Pharmacology Unit**

# About the Centre

- **The VPCI : a specialized institute for postgraduate medical education and research in the area of Respiratory diseases and allied conditions**
- **Source of patients :**
  - **OPD**
  - **In-patients including ICU**
  - **Research : Clinical trials**

# **General Progress of the Centre**

- **The VPCI is functioning as a peripheral PVig centre since March 2006**
- **The nature of patients are primarily respiratory disorders, like bronchial asthma, COPD, ILD, Pulmonary TB, other respiratory infections, etc.**
- **ADR reports are generated from the OPD, wards, ICU and also clinical trials**
- **Intercations between pharmacologists and clinicians : positive and productive**

# Performance of Centre

- **Reports generated from the above mentioned sources :  
Approx. 200 (from March 2006 to date)**
- **Regularly sent to the corresponding Regional PVig Centre (as per guidelines of the programme)**
- **Consultants at the VPCI informed about the programme, and they readily agreed and are cooperating**
- **Postgraduates and faculty of the Pharmacology dept. are in constant touch with PGs and faculty of the clinical side at the OPD and wards (including ICU)**
- **All clinicians of the VPCI have been sensitized to the concept of reporting ADRs**
- **Faculty and student seminars on Pharmacovigilance are regularly organized**

- **A National Conference on Pharmacovigilance was organized at the VPCI in 2003 in which several international faculty including Prof Ralph Edwards, Head of the UMC of Sweden gave a plenary lecture**
- **A Workshop on Good Clinical Practice was organized at the VPCI in 2005, highlighting the importance of Pharmacovigilance**
- **An International Symposium on Herbal Drugs was organized at the VPCI in 2006 in which a special session on Pharmacovigilance and Safety Evaluation of Herbal Drugs was held**
- **Faculty of the centre delivered lectures on :**
  - (a) Pharmacovigilance in Respiratory Medicine (plenary)**
  - (b) Focussed ADR reporting on Theophylline,  
at the National PVig Conference, Bangalore, 2006**
  - (c) Adverse Drug Reactions at**
    - (i) National PVig Conference, 2005 at Ahmedabad**
    - (ii) Update on Ayurveda at Mumbai, 2006**

# Research activities

- **Two research projects (MD theses) on Pharmacovigilance in Respiratory Medicine (Bronchial Asthma and COPD)**
- **Experimental research to assess the toxicodynamics of Theophylline are being conducted**
- **Research data presented at international and national conferences and published in indexed journals**
- **Ongoing clinical trials involving interactions between herbal medicines and modern medicines in bronchia asthma and COPD**

# Issues being faced

- **Co-operation from patients are sometimes a problem as they know that we are not the treating physicians**
- **Follow up is sometimes inadequate, and incentives like free tablets / inhalers are needed**
- **There is need for at least one qualified personnel to help in ADR report collection and related activities**
- **Need for additional funds to meet the expenditure related to the working of the centre**