

Role of Pharmacist in Health Care System

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Abstract

During the last few years, the pharmacy profession has expanded significantly in terms of professional services delivery and now has been recognized as an important profession in the multidisciplinary provision of health care. The paper highlights the current scenario of the Pharmacy profession in the health care system. Pharmacist is a backbone that strengthens the health care system. Different roles of Pharmacist in different sectors of the pharmacy profession like Industrial, academic, community health, clinical research, drug design and discovery, developing NDDS etc. In nutshell, pharmacist plays an integral part of the health care system. "Physician gives medicine to the patients but life to medicine given by pharmacist"

Introduction

The focus of the profession of pharmacy has shifted from technical, product-oriented functions to patient-oriented, health outcomes counseling, information and professional services. This shift, generally referred to as "Pharmaceutical Care", embarrasses the nation that pharmacist, working in collaboration with other health care providers, undertake responsibility for patient outcomes with respect to their drug therapy.

The principal task of the modern pharmacist is to identify, resolve and prevent drug-related problems.

Some important aspects of health care are outlined in the report of the international conference on primary health care held in Sept. 1978 at Alma Ata to achieve the goal "Health for all by 2000 A.D." are

1. Education concerning prevailing health problems and methods of identifying, preventing and controlling them.
2. Promotion of food supply and proper nutrition.
3. Prevention and control of locally epidemic nutrition.
4. Provision of essential diseases.
5. Immunization against the major infectious diseases.
6. Availability of health professionals.
7. Availability of health services.
8. National health policies.

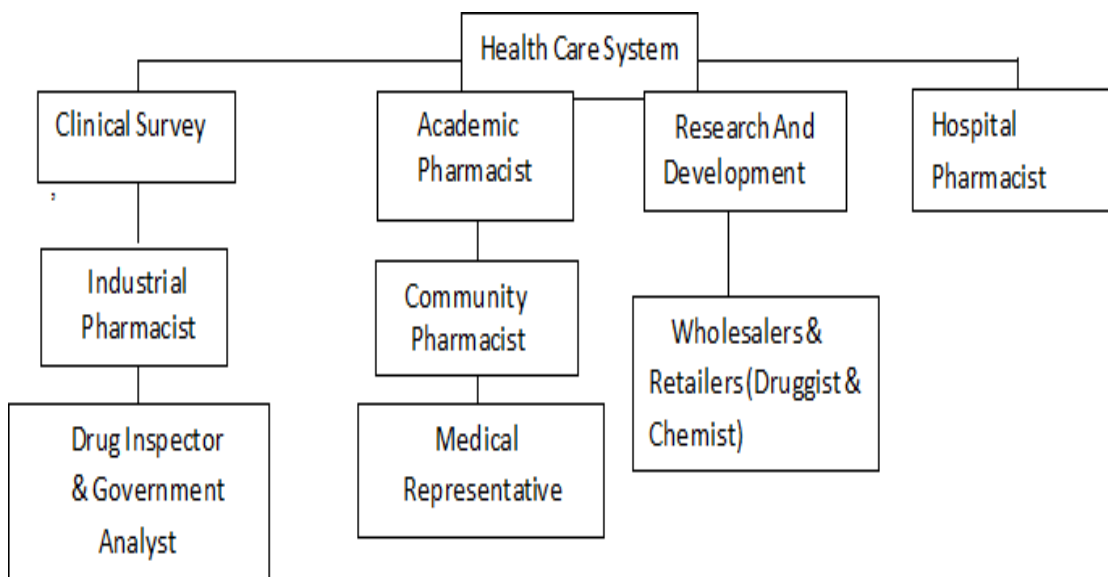
More over this report was regarded as a basic requirement to be supplemented according to the economic and social values of the nation and its public. The word "HEALTH" means different things to different peoples from different nations. Too many people merely mean freedom from any disease or the absence of disease. According to WHO "Health is complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely absence of disease. According to Ayurveda Swasthya's health is defined as "well balance metabolism. Happy state of being senses and mind. In spite of shortcoming in the WHO difference the concept of health is wide and positive and provides an overall goal towards which nations should march. "Well Health" of citizens leads to socially and economically protective life that's. Why health for all every nation

1. Health is an integral part of the development
2. Health is intersectoral
3. Health is central to the concept of quality of life hence, health is a world-wide social goal. To achieve this goal every nation sets professional persons in the healthcare system.

Professionals include in Health care system

1. Direct professional
 - A. Pharmacist
 - B. Physician/doctors
 - C. Nurses
 - D. Compounder
 - E. Dispenser
2. Indirect professional
Like Engineers, Teachers and every person
3. Different professional plays different minor roles in the health care system but only Pharmacist plays a major role in the health care system.

Chart shows various roles of pharmacist in various sectors of health care system



According to pharmacy Act 1948

“Registered Pharmacist is person whose name for time being is entered in the register of pharmacist of the state, in which he is for the time being residing or carrying on his profession or business of pharmacy”.

The word PHARMACIST stands for

P- Patience

H- Honesty

A-Alertness

R-Research

M- Motivator

A-Administrator

C- Courageous

I-Intelligent

S- Studious

T- Thinker

Mission: “Right drug to the patient at right time in right dose through right route in right way”. From ancient days the it is cleared that medicine was prepared by the specialize person, that today we refer as Pharmacist. Till today's date medicine save life of human beings.

Food, cloth and shelter are basic need of human being but now day's medicine is major basic need of human being. “Without medicine there no life, it act as sanjivani for human being”, such medicine are manufactured by only pharmacist is the first person of health care system as per the discussion held at British pharmaceutical conference in 1963 a pharmacist is regarded as an expert on drugs⁹.

Roles of Pharmacist

Academic Pharmacist: In academic pharmacist focus on teaching, research and training of the upcoming pharmacist. Academic institute are major source of pharmacist, who add professional into health care system. By arranging seminar, project, or system

academics, pharmacist plays valuable role in health care system. Education motivates the professionals in the health care system. From their basic education training and pre-registration training, students acquire a broad understanding of the scientific principles and the ability to keep pace throughout their careers with developments in medicine and pharmacy. Their knowledge and expertise extent to all aspects of the preparation, distribution, action and uses of drugs and medicines as well as to enable those who wish to continue their studies to undertake postgraduate training and research.

Educational training programs helps to professionals for their current knowledge. Pharmacist gets a specialized knowledge regarding to drugs and therapeutic action through there practical training overall we can say academic pharmacist preliminary part in pharmacy profession⁵.

Industrial Pharmacist

Research and development: Pharmacist contributes to research, and their expertise in formulation development is of particular relevance to the biological availability of active ingredients⁵.

Manufacture and quality assurance: The pharmacist's broad knowledge of the pharmaceutical sciences ensures an integrated approach to quality assurance (including good manufacturing practice) through the validation of the various stages of production and the testing of products before release¹⁰.

Drug Information: The pharmacist has the knowledge and expertise to provide detailed information on medicines to members of the health profession and the

public. Also, pharmacists provide an information service within the company¹⁰.

Parent application and drug registration: The pharmacist is ideally qualified to understand and collate the diverse Information required for potent and authorization submissions¹⁰.

Clinical trials and post–marketing surveillance: The pharmacist has the knowledge of drug and health care provision required to facilitate collaboration between companies, health professionals and governments in relation to clinical trials and surveillance¹⁰.

Sales and marketing: The pharmacist, whose professional ethics demand a concern for the interest of? Patients, can make a contribution to proper marketing practices related to health care and to the provision of appropriate information to health professionals and the public¹⁰.

Management: The inclusion of pharmacist in all levels of management promotes an ethical approach within management policies¹⁰.

Primary care pharmacist/ prescribing advisors: These are people work for NHS organizations that are in charge of a range of local. Health services - such as doctor’s surgeries and community pharmacies. Their job is to ensure the best use of medicines and resources across the area. In Some places practice pharmacist or primary care pharmacist also run medication review Clinics and have lots of patient contact¹⁰.

Community pharmacists: Pharmacist work at the frontline of healthcare in cities, towns and villages across nation. They work from their own pharmacies or out of local healthcare center and doctors surgeries.

As community pharmacist job would be all about helping the public, assessing their condition and making decision about which medicines they should take. They will be involved in dispensing medicine and offering patient advice and practical help on keeping health. It is very responsible job and community pharmacist tend to be highly respect members of their communities.

Community pharmacist are also taking on more of the clinical roles that have traditionally been undertaken by doctors, such as the management of asthma and diabetes as well as blood pressure testing .they also help people give up smoking ,alter their diets to make them healthier and advise on sexual health matters.

Some community pharmacist owns their own business and enjoy the challenges of financial management and responsibility for staff, stock and premises that this brings. Other work for large high street pharmacy chain and have the opportunity to move around within an established company structure.

Pharmacist with special interest: Pharmacists with special interests are involved with developing their skill and expertise in specialist areas such as cancer or diabetes.

Almost half of all pharmacists (42%) offered additional clinical and educational Services to community residents including blood pressure checks, screening for Cholesterol and osteoporosis, glucose screening and diabetes counseling, tobacco Cessation programs, immunizations. As per government of India now pharmacist is considered as “Arogyadoot” who can formulate, compound and dispense medicine in his pharmacy.

Hospital pharmacy: Hospital pharmacists are a vital part of the healthcare term. Working in either the PHC or private hospitals, being a hospital pharmacist means you’re part of a team where the focus is firmly on patients.

In a hospital pharmacy department there are many areas we can get involved in. Like doctors, pharmacist regularly attends ward rounds and more involved in selecting treatments for patients than ever before. Aside from working on the wards, there is the manufacturing of sterile medicines, managing the care of patients with all types of condition, working in the dispensary, providing information on medicines for the whole hospital. You can also get involved in general management of hospital itself.

Some pharmacists specialize as consultant (or as pharmacists with specialist interests) in many areas as Hematology (blood), Nephrology (kidneys), Respiratory medicine, Cardiology (heart), Urology (urinary), Diabetes, Gastroenterology (stomach and intestine), Infection diseases, pediatrics (children) and care of the elderly.

Pharmacy a complete profession: Pharmacists reflect on every sector of society in the form of

Artists – designing a drug dosage form,

Lawyer – having fair knowledge of laws and legislation about the drug

Engineer - having sound technical knowledge

Entrepreneur - with sound knowledge of management, accounting, marketing, Counseling

Health professional - having fair knowledge regarding health.

As pharmacists deals with the every issue regarding health of the society and built superior health care system, constantly endeavor and elaborate his knowledge with ethics. Thus, pharmacists are the one and only well qualified and practitioner that provides backbone that strengthens the health care of the nation.

Conclusion

Pharmacists is the first person of health care system by playing various roles like academic pharmacists, industrial pharmacist, community pharmacists, clinical pharmacists, hospital pharmacists, veterinary pharma-cists etc. All pharmacists working in different fields of the profession are directly or indirectly related to nation's health. Finally pharmacists are responsible for insuring that "Right drug to right patient at right time in right dose through right route in right way." So that pharmacists is an integral part of health care system.

Conflicts of Interested: None**Source of Support: Nil****References**

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