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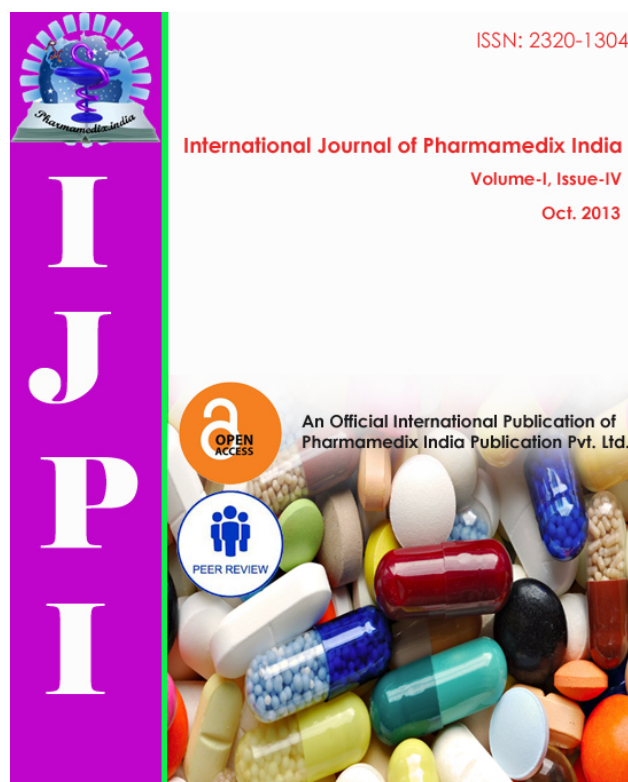
“Changes in profession of pharmacy in India during last two decades”

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The profession of pharmacy in India has been changed significantly during last two decades. Pharmacy has evolved from the practice of preparing, preserving, compounding, and dispensing of the drugs to a patient oriented practice of caring and counseling and clinical practice. The coming era will be of consumer or customer. Hence, the pharmacy student must be competent in pharmacy practice.

The pharmacist must understand not only the biological and chemical characteristics of the drug and its formulations, but also pharmacist has to understand system of health care professionals. After graduating from pharmacy, the pharmacist must demonstrate that he/she has the competency to practice pharmacy.

A competent pharmacist must be able to confer with physician about the treatment and care of his patient. He must be able to ensure optimum drug therapy. He must be aware of the therapeutic actions of medicines, their composition, dosage regime, potential limitations of the dosage forms, factor affecting release of the drug from dosage form, toxicity, adverse reactions, drug-drug interactions, etc. He must be able to analyze the report of a clinical trial, able to prepare summary from the available data for clinical practice. He must be aware of stability characteristics and storage requirements of drug and drug products and legal limitations on procurement, storage, distribution and sale of drugs, aware of the approved use of drug as specified by FDA authorities, etc. The competency in pharma profession can only be achieved by imparting and achieving quality education and performing the due intensive training.

My friends, it is nice that every pharmacy student may be on right path of pharmacy profession, at right place and in right hands. But, it is not sufficient in the era of patent and global competition. The earlier centuries were known as Centuries of Mechanical, Technical, Electronics, etc. The present century is known as century of knowledge. Success can only be achieved by hard work, positive attitude and competent updated knowledge.

The esteemed team of Pharmamedix has started the "Knowledge Yagna" for the welfare, development and upliftment of pharmacy profession by dedicated publication of reputed global standards.

My intention was no to criticize or favor any one. Pardon me if feeling of any one is hurt. But as Ex-Dean, Director and Professor, as a care taker of pharmacy profession, I tried to present true realities for the benefits of our students, the future galaxy of pharmacist.

Wishing All of You Good Luck and Thank You All.

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