

National Institute of Biologicals launches Biovigilance Programme in collaboration with IPC

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Aiming to track adverse reactions and incidences associated with biologicals, the National Institute of Biologicals (NIB), in collaboration with Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC), has launched the Biovigilance Programme of India (BvPI) including Haemovigilance across the country under the IPC's Pharmacovigilance Programme of India (PvPI).

According to senior officials in the NIB, the Haemovigilance is a continuous process of data collection and analysis of transfusion-related adverse reactions in order to investigate their causes and outcomes, and prevent their occurrence or recurrence.

The major aim of the programme is to track adverse reactions/ events and incidence associated with biologicals, blood transfusion and blood product administration (Haemovigilance) as well as tissue organ and cell therapy transplantation. The programme is also aimed o help identify trends, recommend best practices and interventions required to improve patient care and safety, while reducing overall cost of the healthcare system.

Haemovigilance Programme was launched in the country on December 10, 2012. It was launched in already enrolled 60 medical colleges under PvPI as an integral part of pharmacovigilance programme of India. NIB is the coordinating centre for BvPI to collate and analyse data with respect to biologicals and haemovigilance.

Officials said that a core group and advisory committee was constituted for this purpose and the first meeting of advisory committee was held on November 29, 2012 to finalise Haemovigilance Transfusion Reaction Reporting Form (TRRF) & Guidance Document. The committee also discussed the modalities and roadmap for implementation of other terms of references.

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