

CME programme on haemovigilance concludes

Kangra, May 17

To apprise healthcare professionals of the importance of haemovigilance, a Continuing Medical Education (CME) programme was organised at the Dr Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College (DRPGMC), Tanda, for blood bank and pharmacovigilance personnel from the state. It was meant to address the need of reporting of adverse events due to blood transfusion.



Participants at the CME on haemovigilance held at the DRPGMC, Tanda, in Kangra. Photo: Ashok Raina

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Dr Dinesh Kansal, Head, Department of Pharmacology, DRPGMC, Tanda, today said the Tanda college and Pharmacovigilance Centre and Department of Transfusion Medicine, PGIMER, Chandigarh, jointly organised the CME on haemovigilance which concluded last night at the Sobha Singh auditorium here.

Dr Surinder Singh, Director, National Institute of Biologicals, and former Drug Controller General of India, in his introductory speech, said the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, recently started the Haemovigilance Programme of India which was launched on December 10, 2012, by the National Institute of Biologicals across the country under the Pharmacovigilance Programme of India (PvPI) to monitor adverse events following blood transfusion.

Dr HK Dhawan, Assistant Professor at Department of Transfusion Medicine, PGIMER, Chandigarh, highlighted the importance of this newly introduced concept of haemovigilance and how it could be implemented in the hospital set-up.

Dr Bal Chander, Assistant Professor at Department of Pathology, DRPGMC, talked about the terminology being used in reporting and gave an informative talk on investigation of transfusion-related adverse events. This was followed by a talk by Akanksha Bisht, member secretary, Haemovigilance Programme of India, on reporting of serious transfusion-related adverse reactions. Basics of haemovigilance, along with the software used for reporting of severe adverse events, were demonstrated.

The CME concluded with a panel discussion of pharmacovigilance groups on the action plan for reporting blood transfusion reactions. The panel comprised Dr Dinesh Sood, Dr Sanjeev Chaudhary, Dr Vikram Mahajan, Dr Rajeev Tuli, Dr SS Dogra, Dr Dinesh Kansal, Dr Vikrant Kanwar, all from the DRPGMC, Tanda, and Dr ML Kaushal, Head of Transfusion Medicine, IGMC, Shimla, who suggested ways to harmonise the working of pharmacovigilance and haemovigilance hand in hand.

Kansal said the CME programme was attended by around 330 participants from the state.