Medical & Regulatory

Druggists from Nagpur get trained in using drug licensing software, The Times of India

Having been at loggerheads for several months, the druggists and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of the state have now agreed on a few things. One of them is using a software for drug licensing. A one-day workshop to train pharmacists working in medical shops to use 'extended licensing node'- xln India software was recently held in the city. The workshop was inaugurated by state FDA commissioner Dr Harshadeep Kamble. It was jointly organized by FDA Nagpur division, National Informatics Centre of government of India, Vidarbha Drug Manufacturers Association and Maharashtra State Chemist and Druggist Association (MSDCA), Nagpur Zone. FDA joint commissioner OS Sadhwani, joint commissioner of Nagpur division Ashok Giri and MSDCA president Nagpure were prominently present.

Karnataka drugs control department sets up price monitoring cell following NPPA directive, Pharmabiz.com

The Karnataka drugs control department has set up price monitoring cell following the directive from the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA). The price monitoring cell is located within the department premises and is manned by three officials. These include the additional drugs controller, deputy drugs controller and assistant drugs controller. The creation of the cell strengthens the infrastructure and make the monitoring of drug prices effective. The officials would now keep close tabs on the overcharging by pharma companies and will now swoop down on violators selling drugs at exorbitant prices. Ever since the price monitoring cell was established a couple of weeks ago, there were no instances of overcharging reported so far. The last incident of over pricing came in June 2014, with GSK's drug Crocin Advance, Karnataka drugs controller Raghurama Bhandary told Pharmabiz.

Choppy waters, Express Pharma

Antibiotic resistance is a much talked about topic, however, the road to developing newer antibiotics is tough. As pathogens continue to evolve, new antibiotics need to be discovered, researched and a robust pipeline developed. The development of antibiotics, particularly progression of drug candidates from discovery to human trials, is notoriously difficult. Data reveals why only 12 new antibiotics have been approved since 2000 and just four of these are first-in-class.

Other News on Pharma

Patients scramble as life-saving albumin injection supply dries up again, DNA India

Life-saving drug Albumin is in short supply in the city again. Four months after dna reported about albumin injection shortage, patients of kidney diseases, acute liver failure and burn injuries are running pillar to post to get the injection. "The drug has been in short supply for the last few months. On an average, we prescribe this injection to around 10 patients. Due to its non-availability, we have to advise orally administered doses of protein to the patient," said Dr Jatin Kothari, nephrologist at PD Hinduja Hospital in Mahim. He added that on an average the hospital used to buy 100 vials of the injection in a month. "The purchase of albumin injection varies from hospital to hospital, depending on the type of diseases treated and condition of the patients seen by the hospital," said Kothari.

Industry welcomes Centre's move to set up National Medical Device Authority' under draft NMDP-2015, Pharmabiz.com

The medical device industry has welcomed the draft National Medical Device Policy (NMDP) 2015 for the sector stating that it will certainly create favourable market conditions for their growth. Experts also credited the Centre's move to set up an autonomous body 'National Medical Device Authority' (NMDA) for regulating and facilitating the demands of the sector under a single authority, i.e DoP as a strategic move to bring in semblance to the industry. The industry feels that in all it is an ideal policy, however warned that for the industry to benefit from all the promised provisions the Centre needs to ensure proper and timely implementation of the same.