

**Report on ‘Asia Pacific Pharmacovigilance Training Courses’
Conducted Under MoU Between JSS University, Mysuru &
Uppsala Monitoring Centre (UMC), Sweden**

JSS College of Pharmacy, a constituent college of JSS AHER (formerly known as JSS University), Mysuru (www.jssuni.edu.in) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with WHO International Drug Monitoring Program located at Uppsala, Sweden (www.who-umc.org) to conduct pharmacovigilance training in Asia, carrying out their common goal of pharmacovigilance capacity building for the Asia region. Through the collaboration, a yearly training course was conducted including education on the scientific principles of pharmacovigilance and training on best practices in pharmacovigilance based on global experiences, adapted to local needs. The pharmacovigilance capacity building focused on training needs of the national pharmacovigilance systems in the region and emphasized on the importance of compliance with global standards. The training program was conducted regularly on a yearly basis for Asia Region. The two weeks training programs were consecutively conducted from the year 2015 to 2018 (16 to 27th February 2015, 18 to 29th January 2016 and 16th to 28th January 2017 and January 29 – February 9, 2018) at JSS College of Pharmacy, Mysuru.

Health authorities, academicians and healthcare professionals from different parts of Asia region were participated in these training programs and was limited to 30 participants per training session as selected by the WHO. Professionals working in the area of drug safety from WHO International Drug Monitoring Program from Uppsala (Uppsala Monitoring Center), Sweden, WHO Headquarters from Geneva and other European & Asian countries and faculties of JSS College of Pharmacy, Mysuru participated as trainers/speakers.

A total of 93 participants from various countries located in Asia Pacific region with different professional background benefited from the Asia Pacific Pharmacovigilance Training Courses. The details of training course participants are given below.

Year	No. Participants	No. Countries represented
2015	12	8 (India, Vanuatu, Philippines, Bhutan, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Sudan, Bangladesh)
2016	16	9 (Cambodia, Uganda, Sri Lanka, Ethiopia, Nepal, Lao PDR, China, India, Bhutan)
2017	32	16 (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Indonesia, Sierra Leone, Guyana, Sri Lanka, Zimbabwe, Switzerland, Kenya, Panama, Nepal, Sweden, South Africa, Sudan)
2018	33	11 (India, Tanzania, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Kenya, Myanmar, Timor Leste, Thailand, Congo)

All the participants expressed that the training course helped them to gain more knowledge on spontaneous reporting of adverse events, data management & analysis tools, signal detection, causality assessment, communications in pharmacovigilance, pharmacovigilance methods, pharmacoepidemiology and regulatory aspects of pharmacovigilance and vaccine pharmacovigilance. The knowledge and skills gained helped them to initiate or further strengthen the Pharmacovigilance activities in their respective country or organization. Also, the interactions with the participants and the resources persons from different parts of the world could be utilized for future international collaboration and building a global pharmacovigilance network which would help them to improve the safe and quality use of medicines both at regional and global level.

The coordinators of the training programs were Dr. G Parthasarathi, Dean, Global Engagements, JSS University, Mysuru (gparthasarathi@jssuni.edu.in) and Ms. Jennifer Wall, Pharmacovigilance Officer, Global Services - Uppsala Monitoring Centre, WHO Collaborating Centre for International Drug Monitoring (Jennifer.Wall@who-umc.org).

The detailed report on each of the four Asia Pacific Pharmacovigilance Training Course is enclosed.
