

Common Drugs Use and Counseling Tips for Pharmacists.

Generic	Trade names	Therapeutic use	Classification	Counseling tips
SULFAMETHOXAZOLE + TRIMETHOPRIM	Bactrim, Bactrim DS, Septra, Septra DS, etc	Anti-infective	Sulfonamide antibacterial	>Finish course as prescribed. >Take with plenty of water. >Increases sensitivity to sunlight. >Increased risk of hypoglycemia if taken with other sulfonylureas. >Severe life-threatening skin reactions possible.
NITROFURANTOIN	Martifur, Nifas, Niftra, Furadantin, Unifast, etc	Anti-infective	Other antibiotic	>Take with food to enhance absorption. >May cause peripheral neuropathy or pulmonary fibrosis. >Shake suspension thoroughly.
ATORVASTATIN	Ativas, atocor, Lipitor, Alvastatin, Atchol, etc.	Cardiovascular	Antihyperlipidemic - HMG CoA reductase inhibitor	>Pregnancy category X. >Myopathy is a serious reaction; dis- continue immediately and report any signs (muscle pain, brown urine) to MD and/or RPh. >May be taken at any time of day. >Avoid excessive alcohol and grape- fruit juice. Some CYP 3A4 interac- tions.
ENALAPRIL	Enam, Amtas E, Canvas, Enapril, etc.	Cardiovascular	ACE Inhibitor, antihypertensive	>Pregnancy category D. >May cause a dry cough, first-dose hypotension (especially in Chronic Heart Failure and hypervolemia) and hyperkalemia (avoid salt substitutes). >Angioedema is a serious reaction; discontinue immediately and medical intervention may be necessary. >Drug has renoprotective properties, but may also cause acute renal failure; monitor serum creatinine and disconti- nue if >30% increase.
AMIODARONE	Aldarone, Amipace, Cordarone, Amiopin, etc.	Cardiovascular	Antiarrhythmic	>Many drug interactions, complicated by extremely long half life of 40-50 days. >Hepatic and pulmonary damage possi- ble; notify MD if jaundice, dark urine or trouble breathing occur. >May cause thyroid problems, hypoten- sion, bradycardia, ocular disease and exacerbate arrhythmia. >Have regular ophthalmic visits. May cause skin to turn bluish-grey in colour.

DISCLAIMER: The newsletter intends to provide updated and reliable information on medicines and related issues to the general public and attempts to equip the healthcare professionals to have better decision making and recommendation of usage of drugs to the patients. The healthcare professionals are however encouraged to validate the contents. None of the people engaged with the publication of the newsletter nor the organization shall be responsible for liability for any damage incurred as a result of the use of the contents of this publication. The brand names of different medicines, mentioned are for illustration purpose only and the newsletter does not endorse them.

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WORLD
PHARMACISTS
DAY
September 25
"Pharmacist:
Caring For You"



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na I neih chuan):

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Editorial

The International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) has designated the 25th September as the annual World Pharmacists Day. "Pharmacists: Caring for you" is the theme of this year's World Pharmacists Day. The Mizoram State Pharmacy Council also observed this day at I & PR Auditorium, Treasury Square, Aizawl. While celebrating this day, I hope that pharmacists in your area are available to help and provide guidance to you in a correct and more effective use of prescription medicines and over the counter (OTC) drugs as well.

Pharmacists in different areas are working on new drug discovery and development of better and safer drugs for patients around the world. The role of pharmacists has evolved from that of a provider of medicines or compounders to provider of care. The pharmaceutical care that a pharmacist provides to the patients can be of vital role for the better outcome of pharmacological therapies given to the patients. Not just the improvement of the therapeutic efficacy, pharmacists' involvement in patient care can minimize the unwanted and unintended adverse effects of drugs and undesirable drug-drug interactions that may pose another problem on the patients' health. All these ultimately strive to improve the patients' quality of life.

This issue of the Drug Information Bulletin contains information on safety alerts, the new drugs approved by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) Government of India and counseling points of few selected medicines. Make use of the knowledge of pharmacists around you to know the drugs action, safety alerts, the correct use of drugs and any drug related problems. "Pharmacists: Caring For You".

SAFETY ALERT:

Fluoroquinolone Antibacterial Drugs for Systemic Use: Warnings Updated Due to Disabling Side Effects.

The US FDA approved changes to the labels of fluoroquinolone antibacterial drugs for systemic use. These medicines are associated with disabling and potentially permanent side effects of the tendons, muscles, joints, nerves, and central nervous system that can occur together in the same patient. FDA has determined that fluoroquinolones should be reserved for use in patients who have no other treatment options for acute bacterial sinusitis, acute exacerbation of chronic bronchitis, and uncomplicated urinary tract infections because the risk of these serious side effects generally outweighs the benefits in these patients. FDA is continuing to assess safety issues with fluoroquinolones as part of FDA's usual ongoing review of drugs and will update the public if additional actions are needed. Some signs and symptoms of serious side effects include unusual joint or tendon pain, muscle weakness, a "pins and needles" tingling or prickling sensation, numbness in the arms or legs, confusion, and hallucinations.

Health care professionals should not prescribe systemic fluoroquinolones to patients who have other treatment options for acute bacterial sinusitis (ABS), acute bacterial exacerbation of chronic bronchitis (ABECB), and uncomplicated urinary tract infections (UTI) because the risks outweigh the benefits in these patients. Stop fluoroquinolone treatment immediately if a patient reports serious side effects, and switch to a non-fluoroquinolone antibacterial drug to complete the patient's treatment course.

Reference: Drug Safety Communications, US FDA, 26 July 2016 (www.fda.gov)

Khawvel puma pharmacist-te inzawmkhawm pawl International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) chuan kum tin September ni 25 hi "Khawvel Pharmacist-te Ni" atan a hmang thin a. Kaminah hian he ni pual a thupui chu "Pharmacists: Caring for you" ("Pharmacists: I Hriselna Atan") thi niin, Mizoram State Pharmacy Council pawhin he ni pual hian I & PR Auditorium, Treasury Square, Aizawl hun a hmang a ve a. I damdawi hman, doctor chawh emaw, doctor chawh kherlo a I lei thin (OTC drugs)-te dik leh tha zawka i hman ngei theihna atan I vela a pharmacist-ten an pulh ngei ka ka beisei.

Hman hrang hrang a Pharmacists te hian damdawi tha hnuhchhuah kawngah leh khawvel puma damlo te tan damdawi tha zawk leh him zawk a awm theihna turin hna an thawk reng a, tun hma a damdawi siama chawhpawhlthu, damdawi pe chhuaktu ni mai tawhlo in, tunah chuan damlo te enkawlu leh damdawiin tha taka damlo te hna a thawh theihna tur hnuhawktu pawminawh an ni chho ta zel a. Damdawiin mihring a thidamma kawnga a hnuhawh mai baka, damdawi ngawnghalo, damdawi cikawp emaw damdawi leh chaw thonkhat cikawp awanga harsatna awmtheite titim turin pharmacist te hian hna tangkat tak an thawk thin a ni. Heng an hnuhawh in a tum bulpui ber chu damlo te hrisel zawk leh num nuam zawk an neih theihna atan a ni.

Tun tum a kan Drug Information chanchinbua hian damdawi hman chungchanga fimkhur ngahna te, India ram sawkara damdawi hana thunetu sang CDSCO in damdawi tha ranchung hman theih tura a pawm tharie leh damdawi thenkhat a hriat tur pawminawhte tarlan a ni. Damdawi dik tak leh him zawka I hman theih na'n pharmacist-te thamma hmang tangkat thin ang che. "Pharmacist: I Hriselna Atan"

Ovarian Cancer Screening Tests: Safety Communication - FDA Recommends Against Use.

The US FDA is alerting women about the risks associated with the use of tests being marketed as ovarian cancer screening tests. Despite extensive research and published studies, there are currently no screening tests for ovarian cancer that are sensitive enough to reliably screen for ovarian cancer without a high number of inaccurate results.

Numerous companies have marketed tests that claim to screen for and detect ovarian cancer. FDA is concerned that women and their physicians may be misled by such claims and rely on inaccurate results to make treatment decisions.

Based on the FDA's review of available clinical data from ovarian cancer screening trials and recommendations from healthcare professional societies and the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force, available data do not demonstrate that currently available ovarian cancer screening tests are accurate and reliable in screening asymptomatic women for early ovarian cancer. The result of the test may show false-positive results or false-negative results.

The FDA recommends patients to be aware that there is currently no safe and effective ovarian cancer screening test and talk to their doctor about ways to reduce the risk of developing ovarian cancer, especially if there is a family history of ovarian cancer, or have the BRCA1 or BRCA2 genetic mutations.

The FDA also alert the physicians not to recommend or use tests that claim to screen for ovarian cancer in the general population of women. Be aware that testing higher risk asymptomatic patients for ovarian cancer has no proven benefit and is not a substitute for preventive actions that may reduce their risk.

Reference: Drug Safety Communications, US FDA, 7 September 2016 (www.fda.gov)

LIST OF NEW DRUGS APPROVED FROM 01-01-2016 to TILL DATE BY CDSCO

S.No	Name Of Drugs	Indication	Date of issue
1.	Nintedanib soft Gelatin Capsule 100/150mg	For the treatment of Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis (IPF).	11.03.16
2.	Cisatracurium Besylate Bulk & 2mg/ml injection.	As an adjunct to general anaesthesia, to facilitate tracheal intubation and to provide skeletal muscle relaxation during surgery.	14.03.16
3.	Fomepizole Bulk & 1.5gm/Anipoule.	As an antidote for Ethylene glycol or Methanol used poisoning or for use in suspected Ethylene glycol or Methanol ingestion, either alone or in combination with hemodialysis.	14.03.16
4.	Tofacitinib Tablets 5 mg	For the treatment of adult patients with moderately to severely active rheumatoid arthritis who have had an inadequate response or intolerance to Methotrexate. It may be used as monotherapy or in combination with methotrexate or other nonbiologic disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs)	01.04.16
5.	CeftarolineFosamil Injection 600 mg/Vial.	For the treatment of adult (≥ 18 years of age) patients with community-acquired pneumonia	09.05.2016
6.	Panobinostat Hard Gelatin Capsules 10mg/15mg/20mg (Panobinostat lactate)	In combination with bortezomib and dexamethasone, is indicated for the treatment of patients with multiple myeloma, who have received at least 1 prior therapy	27.05.2016
7.	Bepotastine Besilate Bulk & Bepotastine Besilate 1.5%w/v Ophthalmic solution	For the treatment of itching associated with allergic conjunctivitis	08.06.16
8.	Ibutilide Bulk & amp; Ibutilide Fumarate Injection. 0.1mg/ml	For the rapid conversion of atrial fibrillation or atrial flutter of recent onset to sinus rhythm. Patient with atrial arrhythmias of longer duration are less likely to respond to Ibutilide Fumarate Injection. The effectiveness of Ibutilide has not been determined in patients with arrhythmias of more than 90 days in duration	10.06.16
9.	Acotiamide Hydrochloride Bulk & Tablet 100mg	For the treatment of bloating after meals, epigastric bloating and early satiety in functional dyspepsia	06.07.2016
10.	Sacubutril+ Valsartan film coated tablets 50mg/100 mg/200mg	To reduce the risk of cardiovascular death and hospitalization for heart failure in patients with chronic heart failure (NYHA Class II-IV) and reduced ejection fraction	14.07.2016
11.	Lurasidone Hydrochloride Bulk & Lurasidone Hydrochloride Tablets 40mg/80mg	For the treatment of Patients with Schizophrenia	18.07.2016
12.	Fenticonazole Nitrate Vaginal Capsule 600 mg	For the treatment of vulvovaginal candidiasis	10.08.2016
13.	Palbociclib Capsules 75mg/100mg/125 mg	Palbociclib is a kinase inhibitor indicated in combination with Letrozole for the treatment of postmenopausal women with estrogen receptor (ER)-Positive, human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2)-Negative advanced breast cancer as initial endocrine-based therapy for their metastatic disease.	11.08.2016
14.	Milogrigne Hydrochloride 2.5 mg tablet	For the treatment of symptomatic orthostatic hypotension	02.09.2016
15.	Phospholipids fraction from Bovine Lung (surfactant) 50 mg/vial.	Preventive use in premature neonates with a high risk of respiratory Distress Syndrome.	12.09.2016