

JSS Academy of Higher Education & Research, Mysuru (Deemed to be University – Accredited 'A+' Grade by NAAC)

JSS College of Pharmacy, Ooty

(An ISO 9001:2015 Certified Institution)

Department of Pharmacy Practice

A Brief Report on Invited Impact Pharmacy Lecture Series 2022 - Lecture 1

(New connections and learning)

Date: 19.12.2022

Name of the presenter: Dr Vijay Suppiah Senior Lecturer in Pharmacy Uni SA Clinical and Health Sciences University of South Australia

Title of the presentation:

Risks associated with psychotropic polypharmacy in a hospitalized patient cohort

Program Organized by:
Dept. of Pharmacy Practice &
Pharmacy Education Unit
ISS College of Pharmacy, Ooty

New Connections and learning: Pharmacy Practice- "Learning in the flow of work"

Making learning is a part of everyday work – and everyone's experience at work differs of course and it multiplies at different places. Internship training for Pharm D students is an opportunity to learn new and provide service to the needy patient population. To enhance their learning experience, the institute has created new connections and learning opportunity at various practice settings. Our students are very excited to be at new practice site(s) to learn and demonstrate/shape their competencies.

Dr Vijay Suppiah is a pharmacy academic with research interests in pharmacogenomics in multimorbidity, especially in mental disorders. His research projects are based on patients' genetic make-up in informing medication choices mainly in cancer and mental health. Additionally, he is also interested in the use of and long-term effects of psychotropic educations across the lifespan.

Dr Vijay ardently started his presentation on Risks associated with psychotropic polypharmacy in hospitalized patients and mentioned about the common side effect associated with typical and traditional use of anti-psychotic drugs; sedation. Dr Vijay then emphasized the fact of increasing prevalence of psychiatric disorders like depression and anxiety among the Australians and the common drugs used to treat the same. Even though the common side effects are effectively managed either by the patients themselves or by the health care providers, Dr Vijay mentioned that QT prolongation in ECG of patients taking such drugs was generally over looked and it was the need of the hour to diagnose such patients in the early stages. QT prolongation is a heart rhythm disorder that can potentially cause fast, chaotic heartbeats. Long QT syndrome can be inherited or caused by a medication or condition. It often goes undiagnosed or is misdiagnosed. People with this condition may not develop symptoms for a long time. When symptoms do occur, they can be severe and may include sudden fainting, seizures or even sudden death.

Dr Vijay eventually summarized the studies done by his team to identify the patients on anti-psychotics who may be at higher risk for developing QT Prolongation. He also emphasized about various enzymatic predisposing factors that may either way affect the QT prolongation induced by such drugs. The study summaries were really an additional information to the student participants of this webinar and the session was concluded by Dr S Ponnusankar after an interesting Q/A session.

There were nearly 60 above participants who were fruitfully benefited with this lecture.





