



Health care system in bangladesh

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ABSTRACT

Pharmacists are healthcare professionals who practice in pharmacy, the field of health sciences focusing on safe and effective medication use. The role of pharmacist has shifted from the classical “lick, stick and pour” dispensary role, to being an integrated member of the health care team directly involved in patient care. But, in our country pharmacists are mainly engaged with manufacturing of drugs, which is secondary responsibility of pharmacist.

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Introduction

Pharmacists undergo university level education to understand biochemical mechanisms of action of drugs, drug uses and therapeutic roles, side effects, potential drug interactions and monitoring parameters. This is mated to education in anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, pharmacology as well as clinical pharmacology. Professional interpretation and communication of this specialized knowledge to patients, physicians and other health care providers are functions which pharmacists provide, and are central to the provision of safe and effective drug therapy (1,2).

New sectors and challenges for pharmacist in Bangladesh

α) New sectors

1. Hospital and Clinical Pharmacy.
2. Community Pharmacy.
3. Retail and Chain Pharmacy.
4. Pharma Sales Promotion.
5. API and excipients based plants.

6. Herbal and food industries.
7. Chemical and cosmetic industries.

Pharmacists in all over the world are working in almost all the above areas, but unfortunately, none has been yet opened in our country. Introduction of some above areas may create huge job opportunity for pharmacists in future.

β) Challenges

1. Job crisis in the pharmaceutical industries.
2. Eligibility problem of Bangladeshi pharmacists in abroad.
3. WHO/TRIPS patent exemption for Bangladeshi Pharmaceuticals: suspension or renewal-possible influence on pharmacy profession.

Most of the pharmacists in the countries like USA, UK, Canada, India, Saudi Arabia, Australia etc., are working in hospital pharmacy, community pharmacy and clinical pharmacy; on the contrary, these potential aspects of pharmacy profession have not yet been introduced in Bangladesh.

1. Introduction of Hospital Pharmacy-the sooner the better for the betterment of public health.
2. Emphasis should be given on community pharmacy practice and clinical pharmacy.
3. Pharmacists should work as Drug Promoters.

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4. Introduction to 6 years Pharm.D course.
5. Appointment for pharmacists as health inspector or drug inspector.
6. Pharmacy course curriculum modification which may be based on drug control and monitoring, clinical pharmacy, rational use of drugs , drug information, adverse drug reactions, retail pharmacy practice etc.
7. Qualifying examination for the professional registration of pharmacists by the Pharmacy Council of Bangladesh.

In conclusion, pharmacy deals with the manufacturing, handling, proper utilization, dispensing & administration of life saving drugs. Thus, the role of pharmacists will never be ended as long as drugs will exist in this world. Almost 100% of pharmacists work in industry. So, the nation & its people are not getting proper medication

services from pharmacists. Scientific advances always lead to new drug products. The number of older people is growing, and older people use more prescription medicines than younger people. As healthcare continues to become more complex and as more people take multiple medications, more pharmacists will be needed to counsel patients on how to use their medications safely. So, it is for the interest of patients that hospital and community pharmacy should be introduced in Bangladesh as soon as possible (3).

References

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