Drug Information Centre

Kishore Gnana Sam
MCOPS Manipal
Contents

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• Importance of drug information
• Systematic approach to answer drug info
• Common drug inform resources
• Searching computerised databases
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Introduction

- Fundamental responsibility of clinical pharmacist

- Unbiased, well referred, critically evaluated up to date information to on any aspect of drug use

- Patient Specific or to a group of patients

- Integration of new technology

- Changing healthcare environment
Types of drug inform queries

• Therapeutics, drug availability, optimization
• Adverse drug reactions
• Dosage and administration
• Pharmacokinetics
• Pregnancy
• Poisoning and toxicity
History

• First DIC developed in the year 1960
• University of Kentucky -1962
• USA 80% of DIC in Hospitals
• Part of hospital services provided to hospital, Pharmaceutical industry,
• “2000 Red book” >>> 109 DICs in USA
India

- India at infancy stage (15 centres)
- Karnataka State Pharmacy Council
- Trivandrum Medical College
- Ramakrishna Hospital
Requirements

- Qualified staff with continuously updated knowledge
- Unbiased information
- Not independent information
- No commercial interest
- Growth of information technology
- Growth of clinical pharmacy education
Focus on evidence based medicine

• Integrates clinical research evidence with pathophysiological rationale
• Professional expertise and patient preferences
• Develop and update therapeutic guidelines and clinical pathways.
• WHO and ICMR provides training
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of evidence</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level I</td>
<td>Data from randomized trials with low false-positive and low false-negative errors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level II</td>
<td>Data from randomized trials with high false-positive or high false-negative errors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level III</td>
<td>Data from nonrandomized concurrent cohort studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level IV</td>
<td>Data from nonrandomized cohort studies with historical controls</td>
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<tr>
<td>Level V</td>
<td>Data from anecdotal case series</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strength of recommendation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grade A</td>
<td>Supported by level I evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade B</td>
<td>Supported by level II evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grade C</td>
<td>Supported by level III, IV, or V evidence</td>
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Approach to answering DI queries

• Analyse the type of drug information
• Understand the background of the question
• Understand the real need of the physician
• Follow systematic approach

Intro by (Watanabe et al., 1975)
Steps of Modified Systematic Approach

1. Secure demographics of requestor
2. Obtain background
3. Categorise question
4. Conduct search
5. Perform evaluation
6. Provide the response
7. Conduct follow-up and documentation
Drug information resources

- Textbooks, newsletters, journals,
- Newsletters, microfiche reader,
- Optical discs,
- Computer systems
- Tertiary resources >>> Secondary resources >>> Primary resources
Tertiary resources

- AHFS- Drug information Book; Australian Medicine Handbook; Meylers side effect of drugs
- Avery’s Drug Treatment
- Basic skills in interpreting Lab data
- Drug information handbook
- Drug interactions Stockley/ Facts and comparison
- Handbook of injectables
- Harrisons Principles of Internal Medicine
- Martindale, Pharmacopoeias, Physicians desk ref
- Merck index, Merck manual,
- BNF, USP, Australian formulary
Secondary sources

- Medline
- International Pharmaceutical Abstracts
- Chemical Abstracts
- IOWA drug Information Service
- DRUGDEX
- Martindale
- POISINDEX
Alternative other resources

- Local drug lists
- National formulary
- Hospital formulary
- Phone calls to manufacturer, medical shops, government and national organisations, drug information centers
- Internet, Medscape
- Cochrane meta analysis
Searching computerised databases

- Keywords
- Standard names of drugs
- Boolean operators
Conclusion

- Pharmacists role expanding
- Clinical training have developed role
- New technologies and resources
- Increasing ease of access of information
- Leading role in pharmaceutical care
Thank you!