

Vaccine Development update

By Dr. Mayank

Because of the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, the vaccine development process has witnessed a drastic change. Considering it, and as of now, more than 110 COVID-19 vaccines are under clinical development and about 200 are in preclinical trials. The COVID-19 vaccine development strategy majorly includes the use of inactivated virus, protein subunit, RNA as well as the use of viral vector, that can facilitate the immune response. Several vaccines such as Moderna COVID-19 vaccine Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, ZyCoV-D, Oxford–AstraZeneca, Sputnik V, Sinopharm BIBP, CoronaVac, Covaxin, and many others are currently in use and scientists are still trying to develop the improved version of the same. Provided the fact that the large numbers of vaccines are developed in a short period of time, we are witnessing its manufactured at a tremendous pace. However, we are still facing some major issues that include emergence of mutations in SARS-CoV-2 and distribution aspect of already developed vaccines.

The efficacy of the existing vaccines always remained doubtful against the mutant variant of the virus. Therefore, by using these vaccines we may or may not be able to control the propagation of the disease. Hence, chances of first wave, second wave, third wave and so on, still exists. However, such form of partial efficacy status of already existing vaccines against the emerging mutations is still important, as it will help us in reducing the hazardous effect of SARS-CoV-2 to a minimal level. Considering all these discussions, we have focus on distribution and high-speed vaccination aspect to the best possible optimum level, not only in particular country, but also in globe. Hence, we are ambitious, that with high-speed vaccine development and vaccination of the common population, we will witness the end of the current pandemic very soon. And don't forget the herd immunity add-on, i.e., a master vaccine.

FDA approved drugs update

By Dr. Paranjeet Kaur

The FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER) aids the pharmaceutical industry at every step of the process when it comes to develop novel medications and therapeutic biological products.

FDA Granted Accelerated Approval for Aduhelm (aducanumab-awwa) for the treatment of Alzheimer's Disease. It is an amyloid beta-directed monoclonal antibody that targets aggregated forms of amyloid beta found in the brain of people with Alzheimer's disease to reduce its buildup. Later in July 2021, another drug came into a picture to reduce the risk of kidney and heart complications in chronic kidney disease associated with type 2 diabetes called as Kerendia (finerenone). In addition to this, FDA approved Skytrofa (lonapeg somatropin-tcgd), ensuring to treat short stature due to inadequate secretion of endogenous growth hormone. Followed with another molecule, approved in September 2021, known as Quilpta, to prevent episodic migraines. Further, another moiety to treat Philadelphia chromosome-positive chronic myeloid leukemia, has been approved by FDA as Scemblix. In December, 2021, Vyvgart came into picture for the management of generalized Myasthenia gravis. Despite the disruptions caused by COVID-19, the FDA's CDER approved several novel therapeutics in 2021.

Accreditation and Rankings

School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Lovely Professional University ranked 23 in the prestigious NIRF Rankings 2021 by Ministry of Education, Government of India. LPU has moved ahead by 6 positions as compared to the NIRF 2020 Rankings.



Year by year, LPU has been consistently proving to be among the best educational institution for young students across the world. Even the prestigious Times Higher Education, World University Rankings 2022 ranked Lovely Professional University 8th in Clinical & Health subject. With this, we are ranked in 601+ band, sharing the league with Texas State University, USA and AMU, India.

Placement & Internships

In the Bachelor of Pharmacy programme 42 students being successful in 2020-2021. Ms. Shalini Tripathi (B. Pharm.) was placed in Artech.

Many students from the Master of Pharmacy programme were placed in 2020-2021. Mr. Sumir Kapoor (M. Pharm.) was offered the highest salary package of INR 5.4 lakhs per annum by Continuum Solution India. The recruiters that visited the campus were IQVIA, Innodata India Pvt. Ltd., Continuum India, Parexel, Overseas Healthcare, MWIDM, Aimil Pharma, Cordlife Sciences India, Alkem laboratories, Artech, Wipro, IDS Info tech.

School of Pharmaceutical Sciences has identified several great internship and On-the-Job Training (OJT) programs offered by reputable government entities as well as pharmaceutical companies in order to provide students with fantastic employment prospects. Two M. Pharm. (Pharmaceutics) students have been selected for a one-year internship at the Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), Defence Research Development Organization (DRDO), Delhi, which is managed under the Ministry of Defence, Government of India. In addition, one M. Pharm. (Pharmaceutics) student has been chosen for OJT at Wipro Ltd. as a Pharmacovigilance Associate, while another student from the same department was hired by Cognizant as a Trainee-Junior Data Analyst

Approvals

The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC), National Coordination Centre (NCC) - Pharmacovigilance Programme of India (PvPI), Ghaziabad has approved LIT (Pharmacy) as an Adverse Drug Reactions Monitoring Centre under PvPI.

CPCSEA approved the animal house facility of Lovely Institute of Technology (Pharmacy) for research for commercial purpose, in house breeding and breeding for the purpose of trade of small animals.

Co-curricular Activities

World Pharmacist Day 2021

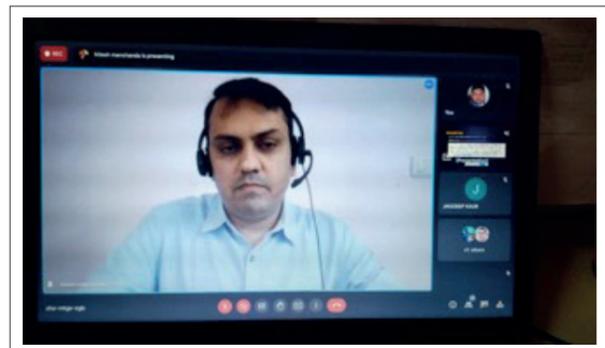
World's Pharmacist Day 2021 was celebrated by School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, LPU on 25th September, 2021, on virtual platform. "Pharmacy: Always trusted for your health" was the theme of 2021 World Pharmacists Day. This theme aims to promote awareness about the importance and role of a pharmacist to show how pharmacists contribute to a world where everyone benefits from access to safe, effective, quality and affordable medicines and health technologies, as well as from pharmaceutical care services. On this day various activities are organized that promote and advocate the role of pharmacist in improving healthcare in every corner. More than 700 students of B.Pharmacy, M.Pharmacy and Ph.D. students attended the event.

The event started with the welcome address of Er. H.R SINGLA Director General LPU and followed by guest lecture from Mr. Sambhit Dash, Vice president-MamaEarth. Mr. Vivek Sharma from Astrazeneca; Dr. Qushmua Alzahrani (university of the region of Joinville, UNIVILLE), Brazil also interacted with the students and motivated them.



Mr. Sandeep Kumar (QA associate at IDT Australia Limited), Ms. Lipika Chandwani (Pharmacist at COVID-19 Isolation center, Jalandhar), Mr. Akashdeep Singh (Canada) were also present.

A Guest Lecture on "AN OVERVIEW AND IMPORTANCE OF THE CLINICAL TRIAL DISCLOSURE"



The speaker of this Guest Lecture was Dr Hitesh Manchanda, Senior Manager, Kinapse-A Syneos Health Company, Gurgaon. The session was very interactive and the main aim of this Guest Lecture was to spread the knowledge about importance of clinical trial disclosures. He also discussed about its various type's application with the help of different examples.



A Guest Lecture on "AWARENESS ABOUT PROFESSION IN MEDICAL SCRIBE AND CAREER ABROAD"

A Guest Lecture on "Awareness about profession in Medical Scribe and Career Abroad" was organized by the School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, LPU. The speaker of this Guest Lecture was Ms Manmeet Kaur, Group Manager at medical college of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI. Ms Manmeet Kaur is also shared her views regarding the career opportunity that can be made by learning this high-end technology, how a student can bag a job easily if he/she can get the knowledge by learning about medical scribe. She also explained how health sector has a huge demand with the help of different examples.

A Guest Lecture on "APPLICATION OF DATA ANALYTICS TOOL FOR PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES & CHEMICAL SCIENCES"



Dr. Mandar Bodas, Solutions Consultant, Elsevier discussed the Application of data analytics tools. The aim of this lecture was to create the awareness of the knowledge about various tools and technique used in

pharmaceutical and chemical sciences to develop different platforms which is very popular and required in research.

A Guest Lecture on "MEDICATION ERRORS, PHARMACOVIGILANCE & PATIENT SAFETY"

Dr. Gagandeep Kwatra, Professor and Head of Department, Pharmacology at Christian Medical College, Ludhiana, gave a talk on "Medication mistakes, pharmacovigilance, and patient safety". The goal of this Guest lecture is to expand students' awareness of pharmaco-vigilance, which plays an important role in patient safety. This lecture also encouraged students to explore more on medication errors. This talk was valuable not just to pharmacy students, but also to the general public, as millions of people use pharmaceuticals without realizing the risk they are in.

A Guest Lecture on "VARIOUS VIRTUAL PLATFORMS FOR HEALTH COLLABORATION"

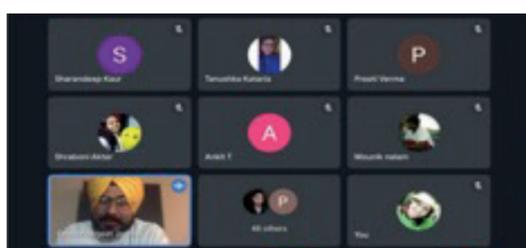
The speaker of this Guest Lecture was Mr. Vineet Rastogi, Founder and Managing Director, Healium.io, Mumbai. The session was very interactive, most of the students were very interested to learn about different virtual platforms used by health industry. Dr. Vineet Rastogi also shared his views regarding the ecosystem of his organization that innovatively capture diverse healthcare needs of the populations, including the hitherto undiscovered & at times, un-serviceable ones, by connecting all stakeholders in the Healthcare sector.

National Pharmacovigilance week 17-23 September 2021

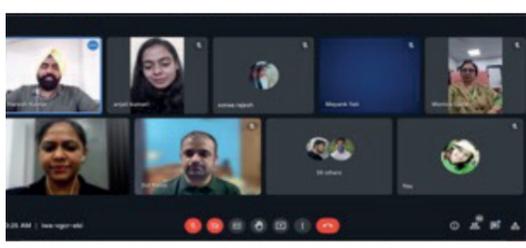
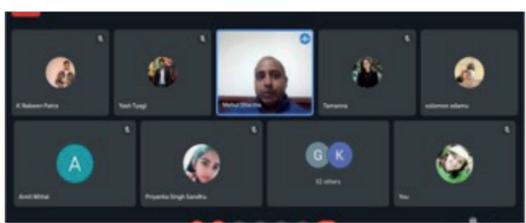
School of Pharmaceutical Sciences has been approved as an Adverse Drug Reactions Monitoring Centre under PvPI by the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC). From Sept. 17-23, 2021 the National Pharmacovigilance Week event was celebrated with the theme "Pharmacovigilance: A Step toward Patient Safety". More than 500 students participated in various cultural events such as animation, poster making, and essay writing on the occasion.

Hand-holding by Alumni

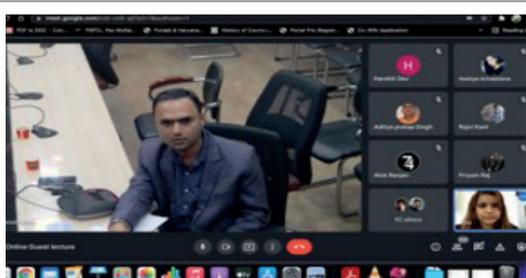
An interactive session was conducted on the topic of "Current trends in Pharma sector" by alumni Mr. Deepinderjit Singh, working as Scientist at Thermo Fisher Scientific, Canada. More than 70+ students attended the session. Students gain knowledge about the career opportunities in the Pharma sector and awareness about the pharmaceutical market current trends.



On the eve of "World Pharmacist Day," online session was conducted by alumni Sandeep Kumar, QA Associate at IDT, Australia on the topic Product development, testing, investigations, method development. This session explored the career opportunities in the Pharma sector and Future potential of pharmaceutical companies. Another webinar was conducted on the topic "Monitored KPIs & behavioural metrics across engagement & acquisition" by Mr. Sidharth Raina, working as Product manager, Fidelity International, Delhi-NCR. He explored the career opportunities in the Pharma sector and students enjoyed this session.



An Interactive session with our alumnus Mr. Munish Kakkar, working as a Drug Inspector in CDSCO, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, was conducted on the topic of "Powers of Drug Inspectors, topic of "Powers of Drug Inspectors, licensing authority and controlling authority". Students gained knowledge about roles and responsibilities of drug inspector.



Research Achievements

School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Lovely Professional University was credited the various achievements in the field of research during year 2021. Total 93 scientific papers have been published by faculty members and students with 276 cumulative impact factor. Among these published articles, more than 16 articles are in journals having impact factor more than 5. Some of the faculty members and students also published 20 book chapters with reputed publishers like Elsevier, Springer, Taylor & Francis Groups etc. Dr. Ashish Suttee and Dr. Pardeep Sharma are faculty members who had delivered the oral presentation in international conferences (ICAMSE-2021 and Material Today). Our School has received four Indian patents. These patents are granted on "Media For In Vitro Dissolution Testing of Polysaccharide Based Colon Targeted Formulations and Method" (Dr. Monica Gulati, Dr. Sachin Kumar Singh), "An Oral Pharmaceutical Composition for Alpha-Amylase Inhibition" (Dr. Gopal Lal Khatik, Dr. Manish Vyas, Dr. Navneet Khurana), "A Novel Pharmaceutical Formulation for Antiarthritic Activity" (Dr. Bhupinder Kapoor) and "A Process for Making Nano formulation of Polypeptide-K (Dr. Sachin Kumar Singh, Dr. Monica Gulati, Dr. Bhupinder Kapoor, Dr. Bimlesh Kumar, Dr. Sheetu Wadhwa, Dr. Narendra Kumar Pandey). Fifty more ideas have been filed in Indian patent office in 2021.



MOU/ Collaborations

Eight MOUs were signed with different organizations (Healium.io; Univille, Brazil; LSSSDC Sector Skill Council of India; GGSCOP Yamuna Nagar Haryana; Eminent Physician, USA; CMC, Ludhiana; NIMS Hospital, Jaipur; ISF College of Pharmacy, Moga) for collaborative works in future.

Industrial Projects

The school is working on three industrial projects for the development of novel formulation of nutraceuticals and evaluation of same formulation by Jagsonpal Pharm. Ltd. Faculty members and students are also working on two projects for the development of certain nutraceuticals and cosmeceuticals from A+ Plus Pvt Ltd.

Accolades in GPAT/other exams

Our student Ankita Sood qualified the NIPER entrance exam with 11th rank. Six students were able to clear the GPAT exam.



Faculty Development Programme

A Short-Term Course on Scientific Writing and Communication 2.0 was organized from July 26 - August 02, 2021 by School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Human Resource Development Center (HRDC), and Society of Pharmaceutical Education & Research (SPER). The main objective of this one-week faculty development programme is to acquaint the participants with scientific writing and publications in high impact journals. FDP was helpful for the faculty, mentors and new researchers.

A five days symposium has also been conducted on "Women Empowerment & Gender Justice: Addressing the Equality Challenges" during 23rd August 2021 to 27th August 2021 in collaboration with Guru Gobind Singh College of Pharmacy, Yamuna Nagar.

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Disclaimer

Opinions expressed are of authors and does not necessarily represent LPU's view/recommendations.

Vision and Mission of the University

Vision

To be a premier academic institution, recognized internationally for its contribution to industry and society through excellence in teaching, learning, research, internationalization, entrepreneurship and leadership.

Mission

- To transform education through academic rigor, practical orientation and outcome-based teaching.
- To develop and implement a relationship of cooperation between industry and academia.
- To undertake impactful research addressing local, national and global challenges.
- To prepare graduates to be lifelong learners with strong analytical and leadership skills.
- To develop global professionals and entrepreneurs with innovative spirit, tolerance and desire to make a difference to the society.

Vision and Mission of the School

Vision

To be the pre-eminent school of Pharmaceutical Sciences, known for impacting human health through innovations in teaching and learning, industry, entrepreneurship, research and leadership at global level.

Mission

- To create an academic ambience fostering the development of lifelong learners committed to advancing the profession of pharmacy
- To bridge the gap between academia and industry by imparting practical orientation, innovation and professional ethics in students
- To develop professionals and entrepreneurs trained to assume leadership roles in a dynamic health-care environment with a focus on patient care
- To create local, national and international collaborations with academia, hospitals and clinical organizations for optimum exposure of students to clinical nuances of profession
- To create research ecosystem imparting sensitization and capability of addressing local, national and global challenges