



Delhi Society for Promotion of Rational Use of Drugs

27th ANNUAL REPORT 2023-24

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Highlights

The following activities were undertaken by DSPRUD during the year 2023-2024:

Activities for capacity building towards implementation of Antibiotic Stewardship Program

Certificate Course on Antimicrobial Stewardship (CCAMS)

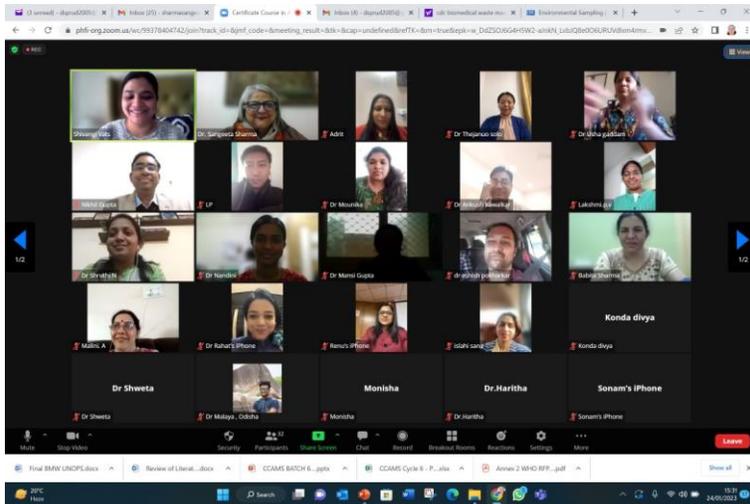
In partnership with the Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), DSPRUD has been conducting clinician training programs for antimicrobial stewardship since 2020. The technical aspects of developing the training modules and facilitating the sessions are managed by DSPRUD. These training courses consist of five modules, aimed at equipping doctors with the essential knowledge and competencies for effective antimicrobial stewardship practices.

The course curriculum comprehensively covers topics such as antibiotic resistance, principles of antimicrobial stewardship, infection control, diagnostic stewardship, and strategies for optimizing and evaluating antimicrobial stewardship programs.

Over the past years, nine batches of participants have successfully completed the training, and this year, two trainings in online mode and two additional training sessions in physical mode have been conducted. This collective effort has resulted in the formation of a skilled group comprising approximately 498 trained doctors. The details of this year's training sessions are outlined below:

- 8th Batch Training: The training for the 6th batch of participants took place from 22-26 January 2024. A total of 41 participants benefitted from the course.
- 7th Batch Training: The training for the 6th batch of participants took place from 10th July to 14th July 2023. A total of 43 participants benefitted from the course.
- Certificate course on Antimicrobial Stewardship jointly organized by Delhi Society for Promotion of Rational Use of Medicines, Public Health Foundation of India & Government of Maharashtra held on March 11-13, & March 14-16, 2024, at Nagpur, Maharashtra, training 60 doctors in total.

The course received an overwhelmingly positive response. Participants appreciated the course's well-structured content, practical approach, and relevance to real-world challenges in antimicrobial resistance.



Session by Dr. Vernika Tyagi, Batch VII



Group Photograph with Dr Sangeta Sharma, Dr Sumit Rai, Dr Renu Gupta , PHFI Team and participants



Session by Dr Anup Warrier , Batch VII

7th Batch Certificate course on Antimicrobial stewardship in collaboration with PHFI on July 10-14, 2023

Certificate Course in Antimicrobial Stewardship (CCAMS)
Batch -VII : 10th - 14th July, 2023

Course Brochure Credit hours will be awarded by DMC

[Click here to Register](#)
Last 2 Days to Register & Get Credit Hours

Course Fee
INR 8,000/- inclusive of taxes

Salient Features

- 5 Modular Course
- Integrated Case Studies
- Certification after Completion of Course
- Online Interactive Modality
- Q&A Session with Subject Matter Experts
- Quiz after Each Session

Certificate Course in Antimicrobial Stewardship

Certificate Course in Antimicrobial Stewardship (CCAMS)
Batch -VIII : 22nd - 26th Jan, 2024

Salient Features

- 5 Modular Course
- Integrated Case Studies
- Certification after Completion of Course
- Online Interactive Modality
- Q&A Session with Subject Matter Experts
- Quiz after Each Session

Eligibility Criteria
The course is open for medical graduates

Course Content

- Overview of Problem of Antibiotic Abuse & Antimicrobial Stewardship Programme
- Antimicrobial Stewardship Principles & Interventions
- Infection Prevention & Control and Diagnostic Stewardship
- Optimizing Antimicrobial Stewardship: Clinical governance approach
- Assessing AMS Programs

Course Fee
INR 9,500/- inclusive of Taxes

[Click here to Register](#)
Last Date of Enrollment 05th Jan 2024

For further information, please contact:
Program Secretariat - Certificate Course in Antimicrobial Stewardship (CCAMS)
Public Health Foundation of India, Phase 1st, 4th Floor, Lane No. 2, Sector of Asha Vihar, Saket, New Delhi-110029
Mobile: +91-8652744331, 9646903318
Email: ccams@phfi.org, www.phfi.org, www.training@phfi.org

Disclaimer: PHFI hereby declares that "Certificate Course in Antimicrobial Stewardship (CCAMS)" is a recognized medical qualification under Section 117 of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 and is awarded to eligible medical graduates who complete the course successfully. The course is designed to provide a comprehensive understanding of antimicrobial stewardship and its implementation in clinical practice. The course content has been developed jointly by PHFI, Health Foundation of India (HFI) and the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. The course is open for medical graduates who are currently practicing in India. The course is open for medical graduates who are currently practicing in India. The course is open for medical graduates who are currently practicing in India.



Diagnostic Stewardship: The future of Antimicrobial Therapy for Clinicians

DSPRUD had executed a memorandum of understanding (June 2022-May 2023) with Ms Pfizer Pvt Ltd to create a comprehensive program focused on enhancing the knowledge and skills of doctors and nurses in diagnostic stewardship as a key component of antimicrobial stewardship for online training activities. National experts in antimicrobial stewardship were selected to develop and deliver course modules. This multidisciplinary team developed the modules covering test selection, sampling techniques, microbiological testing, result interpretation, and optimizing antimicrobial prescriptions ensuring the contents were evidence-based and aligned with best practices. As part of this MOU three online programs were conducted (2 for nurses and one for doctors) during 2023-2024. One online program was conducted in 2023-24 as follow:

“Diagnostic Stewardship: The future of Antimicrobial therapy” for doctors was held from 10-14 April 2023 (online) and was attended by 240 participants.

DSPRUD again signed an MoU with MS Pfizer Pvt Ltd (June 2022-May 2023) to conduct physical training for enhancing diagnostic stewardship skills among doctors. Under this project the following activities were conducted:

- Workshop on Diagnostic Stewardship the future of antimicrobial therapy for clinicians from 21-22 July 2023 at Hyderabad in collaboration with IFCAI and Yashoda hospitals, Hitech city Hyderabad. The workshop was attended by 245 doctors.
- “Diagnostic Stewardship: The Future of Antimicrobial Therapy for Clinicians” organized by Delhi Society for Promotion of Rational Use of Medicines (DSPRUD) & Chandigarh Physician Forum, held on October 14-15, 2023, Mohali. The workshop was attended by 125 doctors.
- “Diagnostic Stewardship: The Future of Antimicrobial Therapy for Clinicians” organized by Delhi Society for Promotion of Rational Use of Medicines (DSPRUD)& Fortis Healthcare India, held on November 28-29, 2023, Delhi. The workshop was attended by 80 doctors.



**Diagnostic stewardship Workshops at Mohali (October 14-15, 2023), Hyderabad (Jul 21-22, 2023).
Around 530 doctors attended**

These programs received highly positive feedback. Participants reported enhanced knowledge and skills, appreciating the expert faculty and high-quality, evidence-based content. They valued the practical insights and strategies directly applicable in clinical practice. Overall, the programs effectively improved diagnostic stewardship knowledge and skills among doctors.



Diagnostic stewardship Workshops at Delhi (November 28-29, 2023)

Diagnostic Stewardship: The future of Antimicrobial Therapy for Nurses

Errors in the diagnostic process can compromise treatment, lead to unnecessary antimicrobial use (AMU), and heighten the risk of antimicrobial resistance (AMR). To address this, programs were introduced by DSPRUD to enhance nurses' understanding of diagnostic stewardship, focusing on test selection, specimen handling, and recognizing critical alerts from diagnostic reports. Nurses are essential in the diagnostic pathway, where their expertise in selecting appropriate tests and handling specimens correctly is vital for preserving pathogen viability and preventing contamination. This requires strict adherence to key microbiological principles, such as collecting specimens based on clinical indications, doing so before administering antimicrobials, maintaining aseptic techniques, collecting adequate amounts, and ensuring timely transport and proper storage. By equipping nurses with these skills, the programs aim to improve diagnostic accuracy, enhance patient safety, and contribute to the global fight against AMR.

DSPRUD participated in the following programs:

1. Diagnostic stewardship: A cornerstone of Quality Nursing Care Practices” & Antimicrobial Stewardship: Research Strategies and Continuous Improvement in the conference “The Future of Nursing Research: Harnessing the Power of Digital Tools in Nursing Research” organized by College of Nursing, AIIMS, New Delhi & Clinical

Nursing Research Society – North Zone on 25 October 2023 at AIIMS, Delhi. (Dr. Sangeeta Sharma and Dr. Renu Gupta).

2. Empowering nurses for effective diagnostic stewardship at 9th national webinar from north zone CNRS held on 25 July 2023. (Dr. Sangeeta Sharma and Dr. Renu Gupta).

Diagnostic Stewardship Programs for Nurses

The image displays a Zoom meeting interface on the left and a webinar poster on the right. The Zoom meeting shows four participants in a grid, with 'Kamlesh Sharma' at the bottom. The poster is for the '#9 National Webinar on Empowering Nurses for Effective Diagnostic Stewardship' held on 25th July 2023 from 6:00pm to 7:00pm. It lists the Organizing Chairperson (Dr. Latha Venkatesan), Organizing Secretary (Mr. Jayant & Gideon), and two speakers (Dr. Sangeetha Sharma and Dr. Renu Gupta). It also lists several EC Members including Prof. Dr. Kamlesh Kumar Sharma, Dr. Smiti Arora, Dr. Atul Goel, Dr. Anshu Venkatesan, Dr. Sangeetha Sharma, and Ms. Maryline Fimal.

Representation of DSPRUD in National Technical Expert Group tasked with developing the National Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) Guidelines and revising treatment guidelines

Dr. Sangeeta Sharma has been nominated as the member of the National Technical Expert Group tasked with developing the National Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) Guidelines and revising treatment guidelines. The group's first meeting, chaired by Prof. (Dr.) Atul Goel, DGHS & Director of NCDC, MoHFW, took place on 24th and 25th August 2023 at NCDC, New Delhi. The Terms of Reference included discussing and planning the development of National AMS Guidelines for healthcare facilities in India and reviewing and proposing revisions to the 2016 national treatment guidelines to establish AMS programs at the health facility level.

Dr. Sangeeta Sharma, representing DSPRUD, shared the initiatives taken towards capacity building of healthcare professionals to promote judicious use of antimicrobials. She appraised the participants about the Standard Treatment guidelines and Standard Operating

Procedures (SOPs) for infection control developed and released by DSPRUD. Inadequate clinical training/ experience/ awareness and hesitancy to change have been roadblocks from the prescribers' perspective, and she recommended an integrated IPC, diagnostic and antimicrobial stewardship approach.

Technical Expert Group National Stewardship Guidelines Development



Representation & participation of DSPRUD in various forum on AMR

3. Member, Expert Group, National Guidelines for Antimicrobial Stewardship, National Centre for Disease Control, Government of India, Since August 2023. (Dr. Sangeeta Sharma)
4. Member, Technical Working Group, GARP-India, Since March 2023. (Dr. Sangeeta Sharma)
5. Panellist in “Navigating Local Landscapes: Perspectives on Antimicrobial Stewardship for Sustainable Impact” in National AMR Conclave”, organized by Americares, on February 21, 2024, at New Delhi. (Dr. Sangeeta Sharma)
6. Invited Speaker for “Integrated stewardship to combat AMR” at the National Conference of Indian Association of Medical Microbiologists (MICROCON 2023) held at Lucknow on November 24, 2023. (Dr. Renu Gupta)
7. Invited Speaker for “Factors accelerating AMR” on World AMR Awareness Week, 2023 at University College of Medical Sciences, Delhi on November 22, 2023. (Dr. Renu Gupta)

8. Invited Speaker for “Diagnostic stewardship to combat AMR” on World AMR Awareness Week, 2023 at Post Graduate Super-specialty children Hospital, Noida on November 21, 2023. (Dr. Renu Gupta)
9. Panellist in ‘Preventing Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), through One Health approach’ on World AMR Awareness Week, 2023 organized by FAO on November 24, 2023, at New Delhi. (Dr. Sangeeta Sharma)
10. Participated in CSE-WHO national stakeholder consultation on ‘One Health Action to Prevent and Contain AMR in Indian States and UTs’, November 20, 2023, at New Delhi. (Dr. Sangeeta Sharma)
11. Speaker “One Health” in 17th virtual IC Innovator CLUB meeting, July 28, 2023. (Dr. Sangeeta Sharma)
12. Faculty for “Pharmacovigilance” in the Orientation & Induction programme for GDMOs organized by NTPC India, on July 28, 2023, at Dadri. (Dr. Sangeeta Sharma).
13. Faculty for Educational workshop on Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) organized by Superheroes against Superbugs (SaS) at Department of Chemistry, Gurugram University, on Gurugram 14 March 2024. (Dr. Sangeeta Sharma)

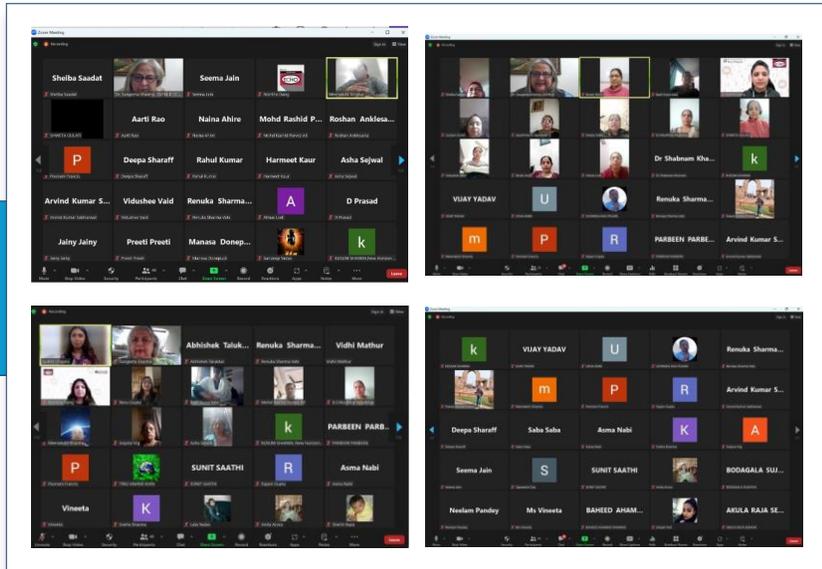
Public education

Targeted Campaign to Raise Awareness about AMR among School Teachers

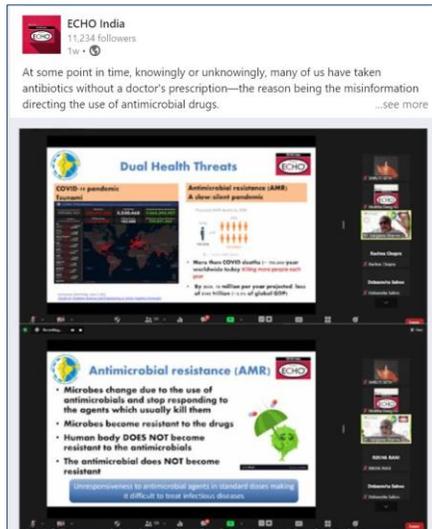
Second Online campaign on “Campaign to Raise Awareness about Antimicrobials among School teachers’ on 2024 in collaboration with ECHO India and DSPRUD.

This 3-month-long online campaign was dedicated to raising awareness about AMR among schoolteachers from Delhi schools was organized from February-May 2024 in collaboration with ECHO India. The primary focus of the campaign was to equip teachers with valuable knowledge and practices related to AMR and its impact on society. A total of 154 schoolteachers registered in the program.

DSPRUD- ECHO AMR Campaign 2024



Targeted antibiotic awareness campaign with Schoolteachers & School Children – ECHO India & CSE



Mass media campaign

Antimicrobial puzzle: Action and awareness is the key
 Misuse and overuse of antibiotics, poor infection prevention, and lack of sanitation, all contribute to the alarming rise of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR)

Antimicrobial resistance is a global public health crisis. The World Health Organization (WHO) has declared it one of the top 10 global health threats for 2019. The rise of AMR is a direct result of the overuse and misuse of antibiotics, which have been used since the 1940s. This has led to the development of resistant strains of bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites, making infections harder to treat. The consequences are dire, with millions of people dying each year from preventable infections. To combat this crisis, a multi-pronged approach is needed, focusing on infection prevention, antibiotic stewardship, and research into new drugs. Public awareness is a crucial part of this effort, as individuals can play a role in reducing the spread of AMR by using antibiotics responsibly and practicing good hygiene.

[Antimicrobial puzzle: Action and awareness is the key \(dailypioneer.com\)](#) Nov 7, 2023

Unifying Health: Preserving Antibiotics
 Sunday, 13 August 2023 | Sangeeta Sharma



Dr. Sangeeta Sharma says antibiotics work against bacteria only, not viruses like the common cold or flu as many believe. By not demanding antibiotics at the OT or when visiting doctors, a patient can play a pivotal role in advancing the responsible antibiotic use and help combat one of the most pressing global challenges: antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

In our interconnected world, the health of humans, animals, the environment, and our food sources are all intertwined. This concept, known as 'One Health', has gained significant recognition as a key strategy to combat one of the most pressing global challenges: antimicrobial resistance (AMR).

Imagine a big puzzle where all the pieces fit together to make a complete picture. One Health is like that puzzle. It's a way of thinking about how the health of people, animals, and the environment are all connected.

The health of humans isn't just about us - it's also linked to the health of animals and the world around us. For example, if animals get sick, it can affect us too. And if the environment, like air, water, and soil, becomes polluted or unhealthy, it can make everyone sick, including humans and animals.

The profound interdependence between human health, animal health, and the environment is undeniable. The health of animals, the food we consume, and the quality of our environment directly impact our well-being.

[Unifying Health: Preserving Antibiotics \(dailypioneer.com\)](#) Aug 13, 2023



Securing antibiotics for future generations

Antibiotics, essential to public health, need to act now to address this issue and prevent a potential public health crisis.

Overuse of antibiotics is a major contributor to the rising threat of antimicrobial resistance (AMR). AMR occurs when bacteria, viruses, fungi, and parasites become resistant to the drugs that were once able to treat them. The misuse of antibiotics has led to a global public health crisis, with millions of people dying each year from preventable infections. To combat this crisis, a multi-pronged approach is needed, focusing on infection prevention, antibiotic stewardship, and research into new drugs. Public awareness is a crucial part of this effort, as individuals can play a role in reducing the spread of AMR by using antibiotics responsibly and practicing good hygiene.

[Securing antibiotics for future generations \(dailypioneer.com\)](#)



Time to Unravel the Antimicrobial Puzzle

Despite medical advancements, a silent threat of Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) has been steadily gaining ground. As the efficacy of antibiotics and other antimicrobial drugs wanes, we are confronted with a serious challenge to our health and well-being. It is time we understand the gravity of this situation and take collective action, suggests Dr. Sangeeta Sharma.

India faces a significant burden from infectious diseases and ranks second in global antibiotic consumption, increasing by 4% from 2019 to 2020. Misuse and abuse of antibiotics is a key driver for development of AMR. From over-the-counter availability and self-medication by the patients, the patients' lack of awareness, antibiotic resistance, and the overuse of antibiotics, all these factors contribute to the rising threat of AMR. The consequences are dire, with millions of people dying each year from preventable infections. To combat this crisis, a multi-pronged approach is needed, focusing on infection prevention, antibiotic stewardship, and research into new drugs. Public awareness is a crucial part of this effort, as individuals can play a role in reducing the spread of AMR by using antibiotics responsibly and practicing good hygiene.

[Time to Unravel the Antimicrobial Puzzle \(dailypioneer.com\)](#) Nov 5, 2023

Mass Print Media Campaign 2023

Patients as Partners: Elevating Healthcare Safety

September 17 marks Patient Safety Day, a global event among the healthcare community. This year's theme, 'Engaging Patients for Patient Safety', underscores the vital role patients play in ensuring safer and more collaborative healthcare experiences for all, says **DR SANGEETA SHARMA**.

Dr. Sangeeta Sharma, Professor & Head, Neurophysiology, Institute of Human Behaviour & Allied Sciences (IHBAS) & President, Delhi Society for Promotion of Rational Use of Drugs (DSPRUD), emphasizes the importance of patient engagement in healthcare. She notes that patients are no longer passive recipients of care but active partners in their own health. By educating patients on proper medication use, infection prevention, and the importance of following medical advice, healthcare providers can significantly reduce the risk of errors and improve patient outcomes. This collaborative approach is essential for addressing the growing threat of antimicrobial resistance and ensuring the long-term effectiveness of our healthcare system.

[Patients as Partners: Elevating Healthcare Safety \(dailypioneer.com\)](#) Sep 17, 2023

Read the full article at www.thegraymatternews.com

THE GRAY MATTER
 NEWS & OPINION

Preserving the Effectiveness of Antibiotics: A Collective Commitment to Safeguarding Modern Medicine

Dr. Sangeeta Sharma
 Professor & Head, Neurophysiology, Institute of Human Behaviour & Allied Sciences (IHBAS) & President, Delhi Society for Promotion of Rational Use of Drugs (DSPRUD)

HANDLE ANTIMICROBIALS WITH CARE

Current Issue Download Print Archives

DownToEarth जानक दू अर्थ

Antimicrobial Awareness Week 2021: Recent initiatives of DSPRUD towards AMR containment

DSPRUD, a non-government organisation since 1996, has been working at various levels and contributing from policy to the grass root level with diverse stakeholders on AMR.

DSPRUD played an instrumental role in the development of a multi-sectoral and multi-jurisdictional State Action Plan to Combat AMR in Delhi (SAP-CARD) in January 2020 with contribution from over 120 experts from the human and non-human sectors. With this, Delhi became the third state to develop its own state action plan after Kerala and Madhya Pradesh. Besides, DSPRUD has been representing at the national level in National Working Groups on AMR.

Building capacity
 initiatives tackling AMR, including state action plans, can only be fully exploited at the macro level by building the critical capacity for implementation of antimicrobial stewardship (AMS) interventions. These should be well integrated with infection prevention & control (IPC) at the hospital level. The Society has been at the forefront of conducting training programmes for doctors, pharmacists and nurses to build skills for implementation of the AMS programme (AMSP).

Training on Antimicrobial Consumption (AMC) Tool and Point Prevalence Sampling (PPS) Methodology
 DSPRUD is actively engaged in developing capacity using AMC tools developed by the World Health Organization for the national surveillance sites (30 sites) under the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC).

Nurses as champions for IPC & AMS interventions
 Nurses being the largest workforce and in position as team leaders, can significantly contribute to the success of the AMSP. But their potential is less recognized and utilized. Nurse-led AMS interventions can significantly improve antibiotic use practices by questioning an antimicrobial order, timely switching from IV to oral antibiotics or timely removal of catheters, etc.

Developing Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) A Point-of-Care Clinical Support Tool
 Our latest edition (2021), is a comprehensive evidence-based ready-reckoner covering 330 priority diseases developed and reviewed by a large number of experts. It includes a section on AMS interventions and provides stepwise treatment of infectious diseases along with pearls for AMS. We are also conducting monthly online workshops in collaboration with ECHO India to train clinicians 'when not to use antibiotics'.

Patient | Public education | Community awareness
 DSPRUD has been actively working to design and implement community education programmes focusing on various aspects of antibiotic use by addressing individuals' misconceptions about antimicrobial treatment, self-medication and poor adherence.

AMR awareness among school children in Delhi?
 Dr. Sangeeta Sharma, Professor & Head, Neurophysiology, Institute of Human Behaviour & Allied Sciences (IHBAS) & President, Delhi Society for Promotion of Rational Use of Drugs (DSPRUD), emphasizes the importance of patient engagement in healthcare. She notes that patients are no longer passive recipients of care but active partners in their own health. By educating patients on proper medication use, infection prevention, and the importance of following medical advice, healthcare providers can significantly reduce the risk of errors and improve patient outcomes. This collaborative approach is essential for addressing the growing threat of antimicrobial resistance and ensuring the long-term effectiveness of our healthcare system.

One Health Action to Prevent and Contain AMR in Indian States and Union Territories

AMR Awareness Week: Educating teachers and students on antimicrobial use, resistance (downtoearth.org.in) Nov 19, 2023

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DownToEarth जानक दू अर्थ

AMR Awareness Week: Educating teachers and students on antimicrobial use, resistance

Educating children on antimicrobial use instils responsible habits and attitudes early on, shaping the behaviour of future patients and caregivers

By Sangeeta Sharma, Renu Gupta, Aditi, Vineta Babbari, Nishtha Dang, Sandeep Bhatia
 Published Sunday 19 November 2023

Many of us, at some point in time, knowingly or unknowingly, have taken antibiotics without a doctor's prescription. Reason being misconceptions about the use of antimicrobial drugs.

In our rapidly advancing world, a silent menace, Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), is on the rise. AMR stands as a critical global health issue, worsened by the excessive use and misuse of antibiotics, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

When antibiotics are not taken as prescribed or when they are used when not needed, bacteria can adapt and become resistant, making future infections harder to treat. With the diminishing effectiveness of antibiotics, our health faces a significant threat.

If AMR is not addressed urgently, we might enter a post-antibiotic era where even minor infections could become deadly which could once be treated with antibiotics, leading to prolonged illness, increased healthcare costs, and a higher risk of spreading diseases to others. It is imperative that we recognize the seriousness of this situation and unite for collective action.

Antimicrobials are recommended only for treatment of bacterial infections and most of the viral illnesses like the common cold or flu are self-limited. However, these antibiotics are sometimes over-prescribed for viral infections either themselves or on demand of patient's leading to unnecessary prescriptions.

Additionally, individuals might self-medicate by taking leftover antimicrobials from previous prescriptions or sharing them with others, and do not complete the full course. Such practices not only fail to cure the current illness but also contribute significantly to the development of antimicrobial resistance.

Beyond human health, antimicrobials are also used in agriculture, livestock, and aquaculture, contributing to their widespread presence in the environment.

AMR Awareness Week: Educating teachers and students on antimicrobial use, resistance (downtoearth.org.in) Nov 19, 2023

Dissemination and capacity building towards implementation of Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs) with NHSRC

Monthly Webinar NHSRC DSPRUD series for Implementing Standard Treatment Guidelines since 2023.

In collaboration with the National Health Systems Resource Centre (NHSRC), DSPRUD embarked on a significant initiative aimed on promoting the rational use of drugs, ensuring medication safety, safe prescribing practices, and facilitating the nationwide implementation of Standard Treatment Guidelines.

Beginning September 2022, DSPRUD successfully organized a series of comprehensive training sessions on the second Saturday of each month and delved into various critical facets of rational medicine usage. Esteemed and knowledgeable faculty members were meticulously identified to lead these sessions, ensuring high-quality and impactful learning experiences.

The training topics encompassed a wide spectrum of healthcare concerns, catering to the diverse needs of healthcare providers (doctors, nurses, quality officers, Community Health Officers). Each session included pre- and post-tests, and the feedback received has been highly positive.

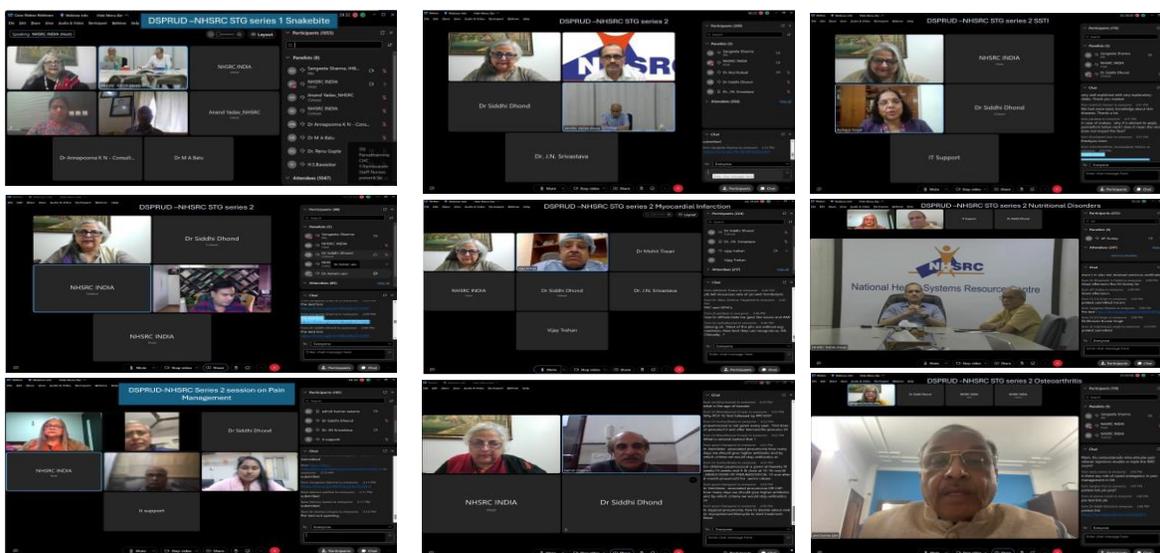
This collaborative effort between DSPRUD and NHSRC has significantly contributed to the professional development of healthcare providers and approximately 4294 participants have attended the programme. By addressing crucial aspects of rational drug use, medication safety, and guideline adherence, the initiative has fortified the healthcare sector's ability to provide safe, effective, and evidence-based care to patients.

Sr. No.	Date	Topic	Resource person	No. of Participants
1.	15 Apr 2023	Burns	Dr Arun Goel Former Director Professor, Department of Plastic Surgery MAMC, New Delhi	624
2.	20 May 2023	Post-operative care of Cataract	Dr Jolly Rastogi, Director Professor, Department of Ophthalmology, GTB Hospital, Delhi	191

3.	17 Jun 2023	Resuscitation-CPR	Dr Babita Gupta, Professor, Department of Anaesthesiology, JPN Trauma Centre, AIIMS, New Delhi	877
4.	15 Jul 2023	Poisoning	Dr Jamshed Nayar, Professor, Department of Emergency Medicine, AIIMS, New Delhi	253
5.	19 Aug 2023	Trauma	Dr Amit Gupta, Professor & Head, Department of Surgery, AIIMS Trauma Centre, New Delhi	224
6.	16 Sep 2023	Dengue Fever	Dr Mala Chhabra, Consultant, Microbiology, ABVIMS & RML Hospital, New Delhi Dr Piyush Jain, Professor, Dept. of Medicine, ABVIMS & RML Hospital, New Delhi	524
7.	21 Oct 2023	Emergency Management of Ischemic Heart Disease in Primary Health Facilities	Dr Mohit Tiwari, Consultant, Cardiology, Fortis Healthcare, Shalimar Bagh, New Delhi Dr VK Trehan, Chairman, Cardiology, Maharaja Agrasen Hospital and Former Director- Professor, Dept. of Cardiology, GB Pant Hospital, New Delhi	481
8.	18 Nov 2023	Managing Birth Asphyxia	Dr Ashish, Professor, Department of Paediatrics, LN Hospital, New Delhi	184
9.	16 Dec 2023	Approach to Managing Respiratory Disease	Dr KK Chopra, Director, New Delhi TB Centre, New Delhi	159
10.	20 Jan 2024	Pain Management in Terminal Care	Dr Ashok Kumar Saxena Professor, Department of Anaesthesiology, GTB Hospital, Delhi	219

11.	17 Feb 2024	Skin Infections	Dr Archana Singal, Director Professor & Head, Department of Dermatology, UCMS, Delhi	353
12.	16 Mar 2024	Musculoskeletal Disorder	Dr Anil Jain Director Professor, Dept. of Orthopedics, UCMS, New Delhi	205

DSPRUD NHSRC STGs Series 1 2023- 2024

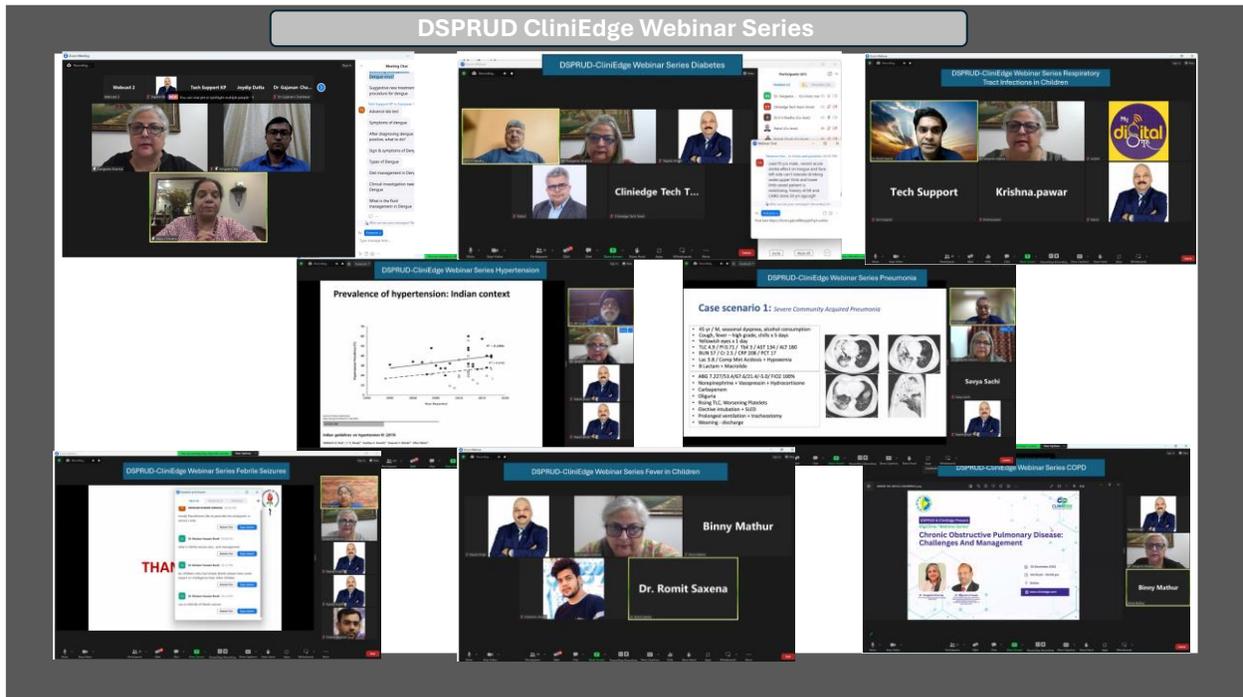


Monthly Webinar Series with CliniEdge to Implement STGs

In collaboration with the CliniEdge, DSPRUD embarked on a significant initiative aimed on promoting the rational use of drugs, ensuring medication safety, safe prescribing practices, and facilitating the nationwide implementation of Standard Treatment Guidelines. Beginning July 2023 8 monthly sessions were held during the year. Each session delved into various critical facets of management of the common priority diseases where standardization in management approach is needed. Esteemed and knowledgeable faculty members were identified to lead these sessions, ensuring high-quality and impactful learning experiences.

The training topics encompassed a wide spectrum of healthcare concerns, catering to the diverse needs of healthcare professionals from all over India. To assess the impact of the session pre- and post-tests were conducted, and the feedback received has been highly positive. The programme has been accredited by Delhi Medical Council.

This collaborative effort between DSPRUD and NHSRC has significantly contributed to the professional development of healthcare providers and approximately 2633 participants registered 1102 attended the sessions and credit hours were issued to 1046 participants who attended through the session and undertook pre and post-test. Details of the sessions and the experts are given below. By addressing crucial aspects of management of common diseases and, the initiative not only highlighted inappropriate practices but also helped in building capacity of the healthcare providers with safe, effective, and up-to-date evidence-based care to patients.

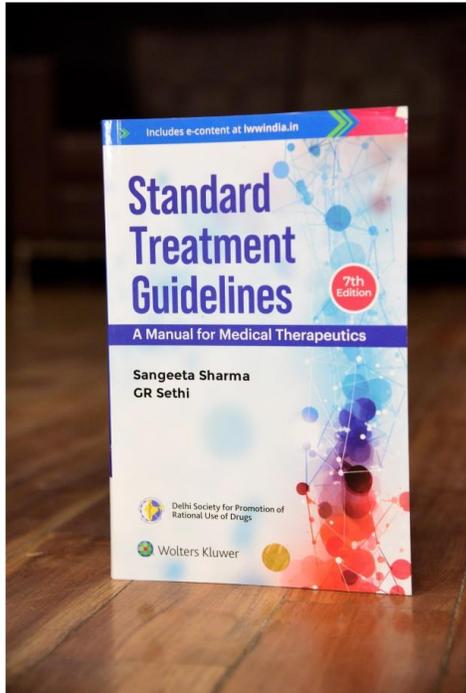


	Date	Topic	Resource person(s)
1.	29 July 23	Need for standardized management of Dengue. Dengue: Testing Guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sangeeta Sharma, Professor & Head, Neuropsychopharmacology, IHBAS • Dr Mala Chhabra, Consultant, Dept of Microbiology, RML Hospital and Former Additional Director, NCDC, Delhi.

		Management of Dengue & Severe Dengue: Essentials for Practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Ashutosh Biswas, Executive Director, AIIMS, Bhubaneswar & Former Professor of Medicines, AIIMS, New Delhi. • Dr. Anupam Dey, Additional Professor, Dept. of Medicine, AIIMS, Bhubaneswar
2.	2 September 23	Fever in Children	Dr. Romit Saxena, Maulana Azad Medical College & associated LNJP Hospital, New Delhi
3.	7 October 23	Febrile Seizures: Risks, evaluation, prognosis, and management	Dr. Anju Aggarwal, Professor, Department of Paediatrics, University College of Medical Sciences & Associated GTB Hospital, Delhi
4.	4 November 23	Approach to Management of Upper Respiratory Tract Infections in Children	Dr. Romit Saxena, Maulana Azad Medical College & associated LNJP Hospital, New Delhi
5.	2 December 23	Diagnosing & treating COPD challenges	Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Director Medical Education & Head, Pulmonary Medicine, Vice Chairman, National Task Force NTEP/RNTCP, India, Senior Vice Chair, UP, Tuberculosis Association
6.	6 January 24	Hypertension: potential risks involved in the misdiagnosis & guidelines for managing hypertension	Dr. NP Singh, Consultant Max Hospital & Former Director Professor, Department of Medicine, LN Hospital, New Delhi.
7.	3 February 24	Pneumonia in adults: Diagnosis & management	Dr. Amit Mandal, Pulmonologist, Fortis Health Care Mohali.
8.	2 March 24	Diabetes Mellitus Type 2: Current guidelines	Dr. SV Madhu, Director, Centre for Metabolic & Endocrine Diseases. & Professor, Department of Endocrinology, GTB Hospital, Delhi.

Publications

Standard Treatment Guidelines: A Manual for Medical Therapeutics. Sangeeta Sharma, GR Sethi (eds), Publisher Delhi Society for Promotion of Rational Use of Drugs and Wolters Kluwer Health, Delhi, 7th edition 2024.



The seventh edition of the Standard Treatment Guidelines is an invaluable resource for healthcare professionals, designed to enhance clinical decision-making and patient care across various healthcare settings. This comprehensive manual covers over 350 diseases across 11 specialties, incorporating insights from more than 70 experts and reviewed by over 200 external specialists. It provides a user-friendly, up-to-date reference that supports busy clinicians in delivering evidence-based care, from primary health to tertiary care centers. The book includes detailed, stepwise treatment protocols, criteria for assessing therapy response, and strategies for step-down therapy, ensuring that clinicians can make informed decisions efficiently.

Additionally, the book features a new app with a searchable engine to facilitate quick access to critical information. The content reflects the latest evidence-based practices, including updates in areas such as hypertension, sepsis, and trauma, as well as new sections on palliative care and psychiatric emergencies. It also integrates antimicrobial stewardship principles and addresses ethical and legal considerations, medication safety, and prescription writing. Notably, the 'Patient Education' section empowers both patients and doctors to make well-informed decisions.

Rated above 4.4 out of 5 on e-book platforms such as Amazon and google, this guide is an essential tool for general practitioners, medical students, postgraduates, and specialists, helping to minimize clinical variations, enhance care quality, and improve patient safety.

International Projects undertaken

1. External Reviewer Standard Treatment Guidelines for Primary Health Care, Myanmar. WHO Country Office Timor Leste & WHO SEARO Sep 2023-Oct 2023.

In November and December 2023, DSPRUD was entrusted by the WHO Country Office Timor Leste and WHO SEARO to provide an external review of the Standard Treatment Guidelines (STGs). Dr. Sangeeta Sharma, renowned for her expertise in this area, led the review and recommended updates to the STGs. The comprehensive review encompassed 290 diseases and 48 annexures in the compendium. Key decisions and changes included the rearrangement of sections and diseases for better organization, infrastructure-based recommendations, and harmonization with international best practices and WHO guidelines.

Substantial suggestions were made to improve the general outline and approach of the STGs. These included adding a section explaining the concept and development process of STGs, expanding the criteria for medicine inclusion, and renaming chapters for clarity. The reproductive health section was reorganized to provide trimester-wise guidance, and pathways or algorithms were suggested to aid decision-making. A comprehensive approach to symptom management was emphasized, including emergency management for diseases with limited diagnostics. Other significant updates involved the management of chronic ailments at the primary care level, with a focus on stabilization and referral for acute conditions.

Updates to definitions, classifications, assessment criteria, and red flag signs (16) were made to enhance clarity, relevance, and usability. Specific updates covered areas such as antenatal care, management of hyperemesis gravidarum, bleeding in the first trimester, anemia, sepsis, asthma, hypertension, myocardial infarction, arrhythmias, rheumatic fever, gingivostomatitis, dental conditions, and screening for oral cancer. STGs for new diseases (10) were written, including fistula-in-ano, febrile seizures, epilepsy in pregnancy, glaucoma, myocardial infarction, bradycardia, insect bites and stings, scorpion bites, rat poisoning, and snakebite, were added to ensure comprehensive coverage.

This extensive review and update of the EML and STGs aim to align Myanmar's healthcare practices with global standards, ensuring better patient outcomes and effective management of diseases.

2. External Expert for Review of Essential Medicine List, Myanmar. WHO Country Office Myanmar & WHO SEARO, Nov 2023 to Dec 2023.

DSPRUD was tasked with providing pivotal direction and guidance to the national committee on the National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM). Dr. Sangeeta Sharma, renowned for her expertise in this area, led the review and recommended updates to the EMLs. Her role was to facilitate the technical committee's efforts to update the NLEM in alignment with the WHO Model List of Medicines 2023. This involved preparing technical documents for three upcoming meetings organized by the Department of Health Services and assisting in identifying a national committee of experts to select essential medicines suited to the country's context. Additionally, the consultant drafted a comprehensive report summarizing the key findings and contextually relevant recommendations to the national committee, which was shared with the World Health Organization's Country Office (WCO) in Myanmar. Several rounds of discussion on findings were held to finalize the list of essential medicines. Detailed report was submitted after incorporating feedback from the final technical workshop and the feedback from the Ministry and WCO.

DSPRUD Activities Commemorating Patient Safety Day 2023

In commemoration of Patient Safety Day 2023, the Delhi Society for Promotion of Rational Use of Drugs (DSPRUD), Delhi India organized a series of impactful events and sessions focusing on various aspects of patient safety, specifically emphasizing medication safety and management. These events brought together key stakeholders, experts, and professionals from across India, fostering knowledge exchange, collaboration, and the promotion of patient safety standards. Activities Overview:

1. **Session on Medication Safety at NIHFV's 99th Training Programme** on September 15, 2023, the session was attended by more than 30 senior hospital administrators from diverse regions of India. The event served as a platform for sharing best practices, discussing challenges, and exploring innovative solutions in medication safety management.
2. **Medication Management in Primary Health Care for State Quality Officers** organized by the National Health Systems Resource Centre (NHSRC), brought together state quality officers from all over India. The objective was to enhance the skills and knowledge of these officers in medication management, ensuring the highest standards of patient safety at primary healthcare levels nationwide.
3. **Engaging Patients for Patient Safety at Medi Safe Conference 2023:** DSPRUD actively participated in the MediSafe Con 2023 held in Kolkata, focusing on the theme of this year 'Engaging Patients for Patient Safety.' This event provided a unique

platform for healthcare providers, and experts to collaborate and discuss patient-centred approaches to healthcare, thereby enhancing overall patient safety awareness.

4. Took part in a virtual webinar titled "**Empowering Patient Engagement and Pharmacovigilance for Enhanced Patient Safety: The Crucial Role of Patients and Families**," hosted by PAIR Academy. During the event, addressed the topic of patients' comprehension regarding distinctions between medical errors, adverse events, and medical negligence.
5. **Public Awareness programmes:** On September 18, 2023, the Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences (IHBAS) organized a short play dedicated to enhancing patient safety for epilepsy patients in the outdoor department. The seminar aimed to educate patients, caregivers, about the critical aspects of patient safety in epilepsy management and raising awareness about look-alike sound-alike medicines to prevent medication errors. To empower attendees with knowledge but also encouraged open dialogue, ensuring that patients and their caregivers are well-equipped to manage epilepsy safely and effectively.

Patients and caregivers were educated on identifying and distinguishing medications that might appear similar or have similar-sounding names but serve different purposes. Practical examples and real-life case studies were shared to emphasize the importance of careful medication management. Healthcare professionals engaged directly with patients and caregivers, providing personalized guidance, and addressing concerns. The interactive format fostered a supportive environment where attendees felt comfortable discussing their challenges and seeking expert advice.

The activities organized by DSPRUD in commemoration of Patient Safety Day 2023 played a pivotal role in promoting awareness, education, and collaboration in the field of patient safety, particularly in medication management. By engaging healthcare professionals, administrators, and patients. These efforts reflect DSPRUD's commitment to fostering a culture of safety within the healthcare system and ensuring the well-being of patients nationwide.

Public Awareness Programme Patient Safety Day Sep 2023 at IHBAS



Patients as Partners: Elevating Healthcare Safety

September 17 marks Patient Safety Day, a global event uniting the healthcare community. This year's theme, 'Engaging Patients for Patient Safety,' underscores the vital role patients play in ensuring safer and more collaborative healthcare experience for all, says **DR SANGEETA SHARMA**

In the world of healthcare, keeping patients safe is a top priority. Patient safety is all about keeping you safe when you receive medical care. It's something that doctors, nurses, and patients themselves are all very concerned about and involves taking steps to make sure you don't get hurt while getting treatment. They do this by using safe practices, good communication, and by making sure everything in the healthcare system works smoothly. To achieve this, healthcare providers employ safe procedures, effective communication, and ensure the seamless functioning of every aspect within the healthcare system. Of course, there are challenges along the way. Making sure that you have access to reliable health information and improving health literacy are ongoing efforts.

In the ever-evolving landscape of healthcare and the journey towards ensuring the highest standards of care has led to a significant paradigm shift - engaging patients as active participants in their own



DR SANGEETA SHARMA

healthcare. There has been a growing recognition that patients possess unique insights into their own health, experiences, and concerns. You're not just a passive recipient of care but a vital part of your own safety and well-being. Here's how it works:

Knowledge is Power: Empowering patients with knowledge is a cornerstone of this approach. Informed patients can make better health decisions, understand treatment options, and assess risks. Healthcare providers are ensuring patients have access to accurate and simple informa-

tion through educational materials, clear explanations, and digital health data sharing.

Discuss Medications: If prescribed medications, ask about their purpose, dosage, potential side effects, and interactions with other drugs or supplements you're taking.

Prepare ahead of Time & be punctual: Write down your symptoms, concerns, and questions. Be specific about your symptoms, when they started, and any changes you've noticed. List all medications, supplements, and allergies you have. Bring any relevant medical records, test results, or a list of previous diagnoses and treatments. Have your insurance information and identification ready if necessary. Arrive on time for your appointment and discuss follow-up appointments, tests, or referrals to specialists as needed. Understand what symptoms or changes should prompt you to seek immediate medical attention.

Open Communication: Be open and honest with your healthcare provider. Provide all



relevant information. Share your concerns, lifestyle, and any recent life changes that may affect your health. If you don't understand something, ask questions for clarification.

Making Decisions Together: Instead of just being told what to do, you're encouraged to be a part of the decision-making process. You can ask questions, express your concerns, and work with your healthcare team to choose the best treatment for you. Discuss potential risks, benefits, and alternatives before a procedure or treatment and read informed consent form carefully

and get clarifications, if required. Repeat back instructions or treatment plans to confirm your understanding. This teamwork not only makes you feel more satisfied with your care but also reduces the chances of mistakes.

Speaking Up: Your voice matters. You can ask about hand hygiene, double-check your medications, and don't hesitate to speak up if something doesn't seem right. Your active involvement helps create a safer healthcare environment.

Technology's Role: Technology is playing a big role in this change. Electronic

health records and patient portals allow you to access your medical information, track your health, and communicate securely with your healthcare team. Mobile health apps and wearable devices help you monitor your health, vital signs, track symptoms, in real-time. Using medication reminder apps or pill organizers help adhere to prescribed medication regimens.

Address Mental Health Issues, if any: If you have mental health concerns, don't hesitate to bring them up. Your emotional well-being is an important part of your overall health.

Ultimately, looking ahead, the future of patient safety depends on strengthening the partnership between healthcare providers and patients like you.

The writer is a Professor & Head, Neuropsychopharmacology, Institute of Human Behaviour & Allied Sciences (IHBAS) & President, Delhi Society for Promotion of Rational Use of Drugs (DSPRUD)

Participation and Contribution to National Quality Assurance Programme

1. Faculty for QM & AHO Diploma 44th batch 2024 organized by Academy of Hospital Administration (AHA), on April 4, 2024, at Noida.
2. Resource Person for 5-Day certificate Programme on "NQAS" organized by Academy of Hospital Administration (AHA), on February 15, 2024, at Noida.
3. Faculty for Hospital and Patient safety, Post Graduate Diploma on Healthcare Quality in public health systems, A joint initiative of Centre for Hospital Management, School of Health Systems (SHSS), Tata institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai and NHSRC and MOHFW, 2023-2024, September 4-6, 2023, at Mumbai.
4. Training of Delhi Government Officials for NQAS 2023



Training of Delhi Government Officials for National Quality Assurance Standards (NQAS)

10. Representation of DSPRUD in various fora

- i. Expert Member, 24th Expert Committee on the Use of Essential Drugs, World Health Organization, April 24-28, 2023, at Geneva.
- ii. Dr. Sangeeta Sharma, Co-chair, National Committee on 'Pharma and Healthcare' Sector Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC) since March 2024.

11. Annual Accounts for 2023-2024

The annual accounts are placed before the committee.

12. Recognition/Publication/Participation

- i. Lippincott Illustrated Reviews. **Sangeeta Sharma** and Dinesh Badyal, Wolters Kluwer 2nd South Asian Edition, 2023.
- ii. **Sharma S, Gupta R, Bablani V, Bahl A.** Nurturing Tomorrow's Antibiotic Stewards: An Innovative School Campaign to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance in Delhi. Indian Journal of Public Health 68(1): pp 133-136, Jan-Mar 2024. | DOI: 10.4103/ijph.ijph_305_23

- iii. **Sangeeta Sharma**, Renu Gupta, Aditi, Vineeta Bablani, Nishtha Dang, Sandeep Bhalla. AMR Awareness Week: Educating teachers and students on antimicrobial use, resistance. Down to Earth November 19, 2023.
- iv. Namita Vilas Nasare, Ankit Bhardwaj, Vineeta Bablani, **Renu Gupta**, Suman Kushwaha, **Sangeeta Sharma**. Antimicrobial Utilization Study in a Neurology Setting. JIMA; 121, Issue-4, April 2023, pp 41-44.

Representation/Participation or Contribution of DSPRUD to Professional Associations/National or International bodies

Dr. Sangeeta Sharma

- i. Speaker in ‘Strengthening your Healthcare Facility,’ in CII Workshop on “Building Your Hospital 2.0 on November 24, 2023, at New Delhi.
- ii. Participated in the Seventh Meeting of the Asia-Pacific Network on Access to Medicines under Universal Health Coverage organized by WHO SEARO and Western Pacific Region, OECD 13-14 June 2023 in New Delhi.
- iii. Speaker “Medication Errors and its importance in Pharmacovigilance” in 26th Skill Development Programme organized by Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission, August 8, 2023.
- iv. Faculty for “Pharmacovigilance” in the Orientation & Induction programme for GDMOs organized by NTPC India, on July 28, 2023, at Dadri.
- v. Faculty for Certificate Course in Patient Safety & Communication (CCPSC) for Medical Officers, Staff Nurse & Lab Technicians, co-organized by Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI), NHSRC and Govt. of Odisha, Jul 13 & Jul 18, 2023, Bhubaneswar.
- vi. Speaker in a Workshop of the Public Procurement Agencies in WHO South-East Asia Region on improving access to medicines to speak on “Promoting rational use with prescribers” (virtual) organized by WHO SEARO. Chennai, 11-13 July 2023.
- vii. Speaker in online Webinar, “Compliance to Medications” on Smart Medication Day, “Be Vigilant of Medication error” organized by PGIMER, Chandigarh, IUPHAR, May 5, 2023.

Dr. Renu Gupta

- i. Conducted several training sessions on Quality management (Area of Concern G) and infection prevention and control (Area of Concern F) for doctors, nurses and quality managers organised by Delhi State Health Mission, Government of Delhi.
- ii. Moderated session on “Biomedical waste management” organized by My Quality Team on 30 September 2023.
- iii. “Measurement System under SaQushal Initiative” for the doctors working under Delhi Government organized by Delhi State Health Mission, Govt. of Delhi on September 14, 2023.
- iv. Conducted several training sessions on “Hospital infection control”, “Quality assurance in laboratory services” and “Biomedical waste management” for Quality managers from Northeast and Karnataka in program on Understanding Quality Management and Outcome Indicators (UQMOI) in Public Hospitals, organized by Administrative Staff College of India, Hyderabad.
- v. Chaired a session on Antifungal resistance in yeasts and molds in CME on Fungal infections held at The Park, Connaught place on August 27, 2023.
- vi. Invited to attend a consultative meeting for the finalization of NQAS standards for Integrated Public Health Laboratories (IPHL) at the National Health Systems Resource Centre, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Munirka, New Delhi, on August 22, 2023.
- vii. Internal assessor of HIV SRL at University College of Medical Sciences on July 17, 2023
- viii. External expert member of the Board of studies for the Department of Laboratory medicine at Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences, Delhi since March 2023.
- ix. Completed the following courses:
 - a. Basic course in Biomedical Research-as mandated by National Medical Commission from NPTEL National Program on Technology Enhanced Learning- December 2023
 - b. WHO Policy Guidance on Integrated antimicrobial stewardship activities – 1 Aug 2023
 - c. Refresher training in Laboratory management systems and Internal audit as per new standards released in December 2022 organized by Medical Education and Learning Point on 4-5 September 2023
 - d. Diploma in infection control offered by Infection control Academy of India (IFCAI) from June 2023.