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DOI:10.15254/H.J.D.Med.8.2016.153

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EDITORIAL

The Many Tentacles of Knowledge Asymmetry in Healthcare

Prof.M K Unnikrishnan

DOI:10.15254/H.J.D.Med.8.2016.12

The other day, I was invited to participate in the National convention on Medicine and Law at Mumbai to deliberate on violence against doctors. The brochure ominously asserted that “75% of doctors have faced violence at work”

Why has this antipathy towards doctors become so commonplace? Is it from the seeds of suspicion planted by Google-driven health information systems retrieved from the internet? Or is it the mounting expectations of the ‘informed’ patient with insurance cover and cash? Could it be the corporatization of healthcare that places profit before patient care? Or is it lack of personalized attention? Or a sense of being swindled by unnecessary diagnostic tests and avoidable hospital admissions?

Must be a combination of all of the above, in addition to even more reasons peculiar to India. The healthcare system is particularly vulnerable to exploitation because of ‘knowledge asymmetry.’ When we want to buy a car, we decide what car we need, what additional fittings it should adorn, and when we should take delivery. No such freedom exists when it comes to our own health. We have no idea what vaccinations or diagnostic tests we need, what medicines we should buy or what surgeries we have to go through. The knowledge intensive nature of healthcare typically creates a conflict of interest between the ignorant patients and well-informed, profit-seeking health care providers. Trust alone can bridge this divide.....

A Cost effective HPLC method for the analysis of Curcuminoids

Radha A, P.Ragavendran, Alex Thomas, D.Suresh Kumar*

DOI:10.15254/H.J.D.Med.8.2016.152

ABSTRACT

Plan: Validation of a method for the HPLC estimation of curcuminoids

Preface: Many methods are available for the assay of curcumin, the major pigment in turmeric rhizomes. These include direct fluorimetric, spectroscopic and HPLC methods. HPLC analysis of compounds is expensive, as HPLC grade water and solvents are used. Considering the expensive nature of solvents used in HPLC analysis, there is a need to develop cost-effective methods for the estimation of compounds using HPLC.

Methodology: We modified a recently-reported HPLC method for the estimation of curcuminoids. The modified method was validated and found to be accurate, precise, specific, reproducible, and rugged.

Outcome: This cost-effective method can be utilized for the speedy and routine HPLC estimation of curcuminoids.

Key words

Curcuminoids, HPLC validation, turmeric, Cost-effective method

Article citation

Radha A., P. Ragavendran, Alex Thomas, D. Suresh Kumar. A Cost Effective HPLC Method for the Analysis of Curcuminoids .Hygeia.J.D.Med 2016; 8(1):1-15. Available from <http://www.hygeiajournal.com>. DOI: 10.15254/H.J.D.Med.8.2016.152.

Dosage adjustments of potentially hepatotoxic medications in patients with liver dysfunction Manjula Devi A.S*, Senthilvel.N, Dhanu Josey, Divya Ann Jetto, Evelyn Harold, Mabel Elizabeth V.K

DOI: 10.15254/H.J.D.Med.8.2016.153

ABSTRACT

Plan: To assess the incidence of inappropriate dosing of drugs having side effects like hepatotoxicity in hospitalized patients with hepatic impairment.

Preface: Inappropriate dosing in patients with liver dysfunction can cause toxicity or ineffective therapy.

Method: The degree of hepatic impairment was calculated using Child-Pugh classification which incorporates five variables to assess the severity of liver disease: total bilirubin, serum albumin, prothrombin time, the presence of encephalopathy and the presence of ascites. The dose of all drugs with potential hepatotoxicity was evaluated using the published drug dosing guidelines and the dosing interval was increased or the total dose was reduced when necessary.

Outcome: Four hundred and twenty nine drugs in 50 patients were evaluated, of which, most of the drugs requiring dose adjustment were antihypertensives followed by antidiabetics. Major type of error identified was under dosing followed by overdosing and contraindications. About 27.58% of the drugs were to be avoided in hepatic impairment as per the available evidences.

Conclusion: Drug dosing evaluation and concurrent feedback mechanism by the pharmacist can improve drug safety in patients with hepatic impairment.

Keywords: Hepatic impairment, Child- Pugh Score, Dosage adjustment, Drug safety

Article citation

Manjula Devi A.S*, Senthilvel.N, Dhanu Josey, Divya Ann Jetto, Evelyn Harold, Mabel Elizabeth V.K .Dosage adjustments of potentially hepatotoxic medications in patients with liver dysfunction. *Hygeia.J.D.Med* 2016; 8(1):16-26. Available from <http://www.hygeiajournal.com> , DOI: 10.15254/H.J.D.Med.8.2016.153

Development and Validation of a RP- UFLC method for Estimation of synthetic steroid hormone Danazol Shanmugam R*, Kirthi A, Madhuri K, Ashok Kumar C K, Lalitha Priyanka D

DOI:10.15254/H.J.D.Med.8.2016.154

ABSTRACT

Plan: Danazol is a synthetic steroid hormone with anti-estrogenic and anti-gonadotropic activities drug which acts on anterior pituitary suppressant by inhibiting the pituitary output of gonadotropins indicated for the treatment of endometriosis and benign breast disorders. The main objective of the research work was to develop simple, rapid and sensitive analytical method using RP-UFLC method for estimation of synthetic steroid hormone danazol in bulk and finished formulation.

Methodology: A simple, rapid and sensitive analytical method was developed. Separation of the chromatographic condition was done by using a mobile phase as isocratic flow with the concentration of 25 mM ammonium acetate (pH 4) and acetonitrile at the ratio of 50:50v/v. Flow rate of the mobile phase was maintained at 1 ml/min. Stationary phase used was C18 column (250 x 4.6 mm). Detection of danazol drug was carried out at 275 nm. The developed method was evaluated for the validation parameters such as specificity, sensitivity, linearity, accuracy, precision, ruggedness and robustness were performed as per the ICH guidelines.

Outcome: An optimized chromatographic condition for danazol drug was achieved and results showed good peak resolution. The developed method for the danazol can be used for the quantitative and qualitative estimation of bulk and finished formulations

Keywords: Danazol, ICH, Validation, UFLC

Article citation

Shanmugam R*, Kirthi A, Madhuri K, Ashok Kumar C K, Lalitha Priyanka Development and validation of a RP- UFLC method for estimation of synthetic steroid hormone Danazol. *Hygeia.J.D.Med* 2016; 8(1):27-34. Available from <http://www.hygeiajournal.com> , DOI: 10.15254/H.J.D.Med.8.2016.154.

A descriptive review on *Myristica fragrans* Houtt.
Honey Jose, Arya KR, Sindhu TJ, Syamjith P, Vinod KR*, Sandhya S

DOI: 10.15254/H.J.D.Med.8.2016.155

ABSTRACT

Nutmeg and mace are the two spices derived from several tree species in genus Myristica. They contain essential oil and is used therapeutically, cosmetic and culinary preparations. Several value addition products widens the commercial value of this herb. Although fifty percent shade is recommended in the initial levels, as the tree grows it can be reduced. It is better to adopt budding or grafting as there are possibility of plants seedlings to grow into male and female plants, resulting in the production of 50% unproductive male plants. The female trees start fruiting from 6 years old even though peak period is 20 years. Over dose of essential oils of nutmeg is having hallucination effects.

Key words: Chemistry, *Myristica fragrans*, Nutmeg, Pharmacology, Essential oils.

Article citation

Honey Jose, Arya KR, Sindhu TJ, Syamjith P, Vinod KR*, Sandhya S. A descriptive review on *Myristica fragrans* Houtt. *Hygeia.J.D.Med* 2016; 8(1):35-43. Available from <http://www.hygeiajournal.com>. DOI: 10.15254/H.J.D.Med.8.2016.155.

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