Report on world Pharmacist Day 2013

L. J. INSTITUTE OF PHARMACY
Lok Jagruti Kendra, Ahmedabad.
L.J.Institute of Pharmacy

World Pharmacists’ Day Celebration

25th September 2013

L.J.Institute of Pharmacy celebrated World Pharmacists’ Day on 28th September 2013 (the actual World Pharmacists’ Day is on 25th September but due to torrential rain on that day, it was decided to celebrate it on 28th September, 2013) at the L.J. Campus, off. Sarkhej-Gandhinagar road, Ahmedabad with immense grandeur.

Various banners and posters, portraying various aspects of pharmacy and health care issues, were prepared and displayed in the campus.
The students of B.Pharm and M.Pharm displayed and explained the following aspects to all the students and the guests present.

Handouts giving basic information on first aid and emergency medicines for situations like shock, burns, heart attack and poisoning etc. were distributed. It also contained basic drugs which should be present at home (e.g. drugs for basic problems like fever, burns, diarrhoea, vomiting, pain, allergy etc).

The students and members of faculty then took the Pharmacist’s Oath collectively to remind their role towards the society and health care system.
Students, wearing green ribbons and aprons with banners in the hand, started a rally which went through all the institutes within the campus.
Following the rally was a small skit enacted by the students, which was based on a true story, in the institute regarding the importance of a pharmacist and how a pharmacist and a doctor both are essential for appropriate diagnosis as well as correct treatment of any disease. It portrayed how a doctor diagnoses a disease or a problem and recommends tests and medication to any patient, but a pharmacist can explain correctly all the aspects of treatment like effects and side effects of the drugs, time of medication, route, dose, drug interactions etc. A pharmacist can only explain all these aspects to all patients, which is very essential to get the optimum effect of any treatment and hence the role of pharmacist in the health care system should be emphasized and not be underrated which is prevailing in the society.
Furthermore the function proceeded with a very informative session which was inaugurated by a speech by the Director Dr. Pundarikakshudu sir. He very correctly explained the significance of a pharmacist in the society and the health care team. He also emphasized the importance, role and responsibilities of being a pharmacist and how each one should strive towards achieving excellence in the field both personally and professionally.
The session was continued by Dr. Shreeraj Shah, Associate Professor, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Technology, wherein he briefly told the history behind the celebration. At the 2009 Council meeting of the FIP (International Pharmaceutical Federation) Congress in Istanbul, Turkey, the Turkish Pharmacists Association suggested to annually celebrate a World Pharmacists’ Day, to be organised on September 25 (the day that FIP was founded in 1912). The FIP is the global federation of national associations of pharmacists and pharmaceutical scientists and is in official relations with the World Health Organization (WHO). Through its 127 Member Organisations, FIP represents and serves more than three million practitioners and scientists around the world. Throughout its 100 year history, FIP's priorities have expanded both literally and figuratively to meet the needs and expectations of the profession in expanding healthcare services and integrating emerging pharmaceutical developments. He also focused on the main pain point of pharmacy profession which is ‘lack of awareness’ and discussed how to overcome it. He concluded after suggesting various ways of celebrating the day for the society.

The concluding part of the session was taken up by Mr. Shailendra Bhatt, Asst Professor, Dept of Pharmacology which was highly enjoyed by all, as he explained giving very practical and day to day examples, what is the current perspective of every individual for a pharmacist and what measures are to be taken to improvise our responsibilities in the
society as pharmacists. He also explained the scope of different disciplines of pharmacy and the role of pharmacist in community.

The function further continued with a Pharma-Quiz, conducted very humorously by Mr. Hardik Shah and Ms. Kaushika Patel, for the students in which 6 teams of Sem I, Sem III, Sem V and Sem VII B.Pharm and Sem I and Sem III M.Pharm participated. The quiz comprised of questions, not pertaining to, technical aspects of pharmacy but based on the general pharma knowledge. The students as well as faculties got to learn many facts and trivia of pharmacy in a fun frolicked way. It was a classical example of a Gujarati saying “Gyaan sathe gammat”
The session was concluded by a vote of thanks by Dr. Aashish Panchal, Asst Professor, Dept of Pharmacology, wherein he thanked Dr. Manish Shah, Vice-President of LJK, Director Sir, Pharma Awareness Committee, Quiz Committee, all the student volunteers and all the students for their enthusiastic participation and making the occasion such a grand success.
The event was covered by local media. “Gujarat Samachar”, A Gujarati daily printed the news in the Gujarat Samachar Plus in the Sunday edition on 29th September, 2013.