



ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS, INCLUDING SJS, TEN

EVALUATION OF CUTANEOUS ADVERSE DRUG REACTIONS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DERMATOLOGY AT A QUATERNARY CARE HOSPITAL IN SOUTH INDIA

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Introduction: Cutaneous adverse drug reactions (CADR) are a major problem in drug therapy and is one of the leading causes of morbidity and mortality in health care. The burden of CADR is resulting in switching or discontinuation of drugs as well as medication non-adherence. It is essential to evaluate and report CADR to strengthen pharmacovigilance.

Objective: The purpose of the study was to evaluate causality, severity and preventability of CADR.

Materials and Methods: A prospective, observational study of patients diagnosed with CADR was carried out over a period of one year in the Department of Dermatology at a quaternary care hospital in South India. The diagnosis of CADR was made based on detailed history, clinical features and correlation between the intake of suspected offending drug and the onset of symptoms. The suspected CADR were evaluated for causality by WHO-UMC causality and Naranjo's scale, severity by Hartwig and Siegel scale, and preventability by Schumock and Thornton criteria.

Result: 51 patients were enrolled in the study. Most commonly manifested CADR was acneiform eruption (21.56%) followed by maculopapular rash (19.6%). Most common offending drug group was antimicrobial agents (33.3%) followed by steroids (21.56%). WHO-UMC scale rated 94.12% of CADR as probable and 5.88% as certain. Naranjo's causality scale showed 96.09% of CADR as probable and 3.92% as possible. Hartwig and Siegel scale marked 60.78% as moderate, 31.37% as mild and 7.8% as severe CADR. According to Schumock and Thornton criteria 94.12% of CADR were not preventable and 5.88% were definitely preventable.

Conclusions: Awareness about CADR is essential for early detection and prevention. The healthcare system should promote mandatory reporting of CADR for ensuring safe drug use and patient care.

