

GMCH Chandigarh Celebrated 6th National Pharmacovigilance Week

The Department of Pharmacology and the Pharmacovigilance (PV) Committee, Government Medical College and Hospital (GMCH), Sector 32, Chandigarh, celebrated the 6th National Pharmacovigilance Week from 17th to 23rd September 2026. The week was observed under the aegis of the Pharmacovigilance Programme of India (PvPI), Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.

This year's theme, "Promoting Rational Use of Medicines through Pharmacovigilance: A Step Towards Safer Healthcare," highlights a simple message that medicines must be used correctly, in the right dose and only when needed, and any unwanted or harmful effect after taking a medicine should be reported. Such reporting helps identify drug-related problems early and makes treatment safer for everyone.

The function was graced by Prof. Ravneet Kaur, Director Principal, GMCH, Prof. Vishal Guglani, Medical Superintendent. A series of activities was held during the week to engage different groups of healthcare professionals and students:

- Pharmacovigilance quiz for postgraduate (MD) students
- Survey among doctors to assess awareness regarding Pharmacovigilance and reporting practices
- Poster making competition for Nursing Officers on the theme
- Rangoli making competition for B.Sc. and allied sciences students on Pharmacovigilance

The dignitaries appreciated the enthusiastic participation and stressed the role of every healthcare worker in detecting and reporting adverse drug reactions. They urged doctors, nurses, pharmacists and patients to report any suspected adverse drug reaction to the AMC at GMCH, or directly through the PvPI toll-free helpline 1800-180-3024 or the ADR PvPI mobile app. Winners of the competitions were felicitated with certificates. The programme concluded with a vote of thanks. The celebrations were organised by Dr. Sangeeta Bhanwra, Professor, Department of Pharmacology and Coordinator, ADR Monitoring Centre (AMC), GMCH, along with the PV Committee and the Department of Pharmacology. She informed that the reporting has increased in the last year as many reports were being received from Radiation oncology department also besides other clinical departments including medicine and pediatrics. Last year 75 ADRs were received and submitted to the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission from GMCH Chandigarh.