

Zone 1 Postgraduate Zonal CME on "Current Trends in Pharmacotherapy of Tuberculosis"

Introduction: The Department of Pharmacology, in collaboration with the Department of Pulmonology & public health experts on Tuberculosis, recently organized a Zone-1 Postgraduate Zonal CME on "Current Trends in Pharmacotherapy of Tuberculosis."

Event Overview:

- **CME Title:** Current Trends in Pharmacotherapy of Tuberculosis
- **Date:** 10th December, 2023
- **Venue:** E-Lecture Gallery, Panagal Building, Andhra Medical College

Objectives: The primary objectives of the CME were:

1. To update postgraduate students with the latest advancements in the chemoprophylaxis and pharmacotherapy of tuberculosis
2. To facilitate knowledge exchange and discussions among medical professionals on best practices in tuberculosis treatment
3. To foster collaboration between the Departments of Pharmacology and Pulmonology along with public health organisations for comprehensive patient care

Program Highlights:

1. **Inaugural Address:** The CME began with an inaugural address by – Dr. R. Sunil Kumar ^{MD}, Professor & Head, Department of Pulmonology, Andhra Medical College & Superintendent, Government Hospital for Chest and Communicable Diseases, Visakhapatnam, as well as Dr. D. Syamala ^{MD}, Professor & Head, Department of Pharmacology, Andhra Medical College – emphasizing the importance of staying abreast of evolving pharmacotherapeutic strategies in combating tuberculosis.
2. **Expert Lectures:** Renowned experts in the field of Pharmacology, Pulmonology, as well as Public Health, delivered insightful lectures on topics such as:
 - Recent Guidelines and Preventive therapy for Tuberculosis
 - Treatment of Multi-Drug Resistant Tuberculosis, Extensively Drug Resistant Tuberculosis & Mycobacterium Avium Complex (MAC)
 - Management of Adverse Drug Reactions to Anti-Tubercular drugs
 - Newer Drugs in Tuberculosis
 - Drugs repurposed for use in Mycobacterial Infections
 - Adverse drug reactions and their management
3. **Interactive Session:** the CME concluded with an interactive session on drug interactions & Adverse Drug Reactions (ADR) associated with anti-tubercular drugs and their reporting, with active participation from all the postgraduates from various institutes. Interactive Q&A sessions after every talk provided a platform for participants to engage with speakers, share experiences, and seek clarification on complex topics.

Collaboration with the Department of Pulmonology & public health expert on Tuberculosis: The collaboration between the Department of Pharmacology and the Department of Pulmonology, along with WHO field consultant for NTEP, facilitated a holistic approach to the CME. The public health expert, Dr. Ushma Dharod ^{MBBS, MPH,} outlined the preventive measures highlighting the importance of chemoprophylaxis of tuberculosis. Pulmonology experts shared clinical insights, ensuring a well-rounded understanding of tuberculosis treatment from both pharmacological and clinical perspectives.

Participant Feedback: Feedback from postgraduate students was overwhelmingly positive. Participants appreciated the relevance of the topics, the expertise of the speakers, and the interactive nature of the CME, which encouraged active participation and networking.

Future Initiatives: The success of this CME has paved the way for future collaborative initiatives between the Departments of Pharmacology and Pulmonology as well as the World Health Organisation, in a collective effort to achieve the goal of National Tuberculosis Elimination Program, of rapid decline in burden of TB, morbidity and mortality while working towards elimination of TB in India by 2025, and realise its vision of a TB-Free India with zero deaths, disease and poverty due to tuberculosis. Plans include regular updates on emerging trends, joint research projects, and further educational events to enrich the learning experience for medical students and contribute to the betterment of national health.

Conclusion: The Zone 1 Postgraduate Zonal CME on "Current Trends in Pharmacotherapy of Tuberculosis" stands as a testament to the Department of Pharmacology's commitment to continuous medical education and interdisciplinary collaboration. The college looks forward to building on this success to further advance medical knowledge and improve patient care and disease outcome.



POSTGRADUATE ZONAL CME



DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACOLOGY
ANDHRA MEDICAL COLLEGE, VISAKHAPATNAM



INVITES ZONE-1 POSTGRADUATES TO CME ON

CURRENT TRENDS IN PHARMACOTHERAPY OF TUBERCULOSIS

















Studies on the effect of tuberculosis

Historical trials on risk groups as well as the general population have documented a marked effect on reductions in incidence of active disease among those treated, as well as on prevalence of latent TB infection (LTBI) in populations where massive roll-out of TPT has previously taken place.

- The trials demonstrated a 27-95% reduction in incidence of active TB among those receiving preventive treatment compared with placebo, with effect depending somewhat on length of treatment but mostly on adherence.
- The historical trials on preventive treatment for LTBI have documented that large-scale TPT is possible and effective even in high-burden populations.

















