PHARMACOVIGILANCE: FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF PHARMACOLOGY

71th Workshop

PHARMACOVIGILANCE: FUTURE PERSPECTIVES

ERICE-SICILY: 28 JUNE - 2 JULY 2006

Sponsored by the: • Italian Ministry of Education, University and Scientific Research • Sicilian Regional Government International Association for Clinical Pharmacology and Therapeutics (IACPT) • International Society of Pharmacovigilance (ISOP) • Reference Centre for Education and Communication within the WHO Programme for International Drug Monitoring

PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP

Pharmacovigilance may be defined as the process of evaluating and improving the safety of marketed medicines. It is generally accepted that safety can only be achieved by the work of an independent organization with adequate resources. The workshop will start with the discussion on the current situation to arrive to the definition of what will be the future challenges and perspective of pharmacovigilance. Pharmacovigilance as a discipline requires the engagement of all the parties involved in the field. The workshop will cover the role of the different player involved in pharmacovigilance. The workshop will focus on which is the best method to identify and study adverse drug reactions and on which experience needs to be extended in clinical practice. However there is a big discussion whether the existing spontaneous reporting systems are reliable or not. It is generally accepted that safety can only be achieved by the work of an independent organization with adequate resources. The workshop will start with the discussion on the current situation to arrive to the definition of what will be the future challenges and perspective of pharmacovigilance. Pharmacovigilance as a discipline requires the engagement of all the parties involved in the field. The workshop will cover the role of the different player involved in pharmacovigilance. The workshop will focus on which is the best method to identify and study adverse drug reactions and on which experience needs to be extended in clinical practice. However there is a big discussion whether the existing spontaneous reporting systems are reliable or not.

APPLICATIONS

Persons wishing to attend the Workshop should apply in writing to:

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They should specify:

i) Date and place of birth, together with present nationality;
ii) Affiliation;
iii) Address, e-mail address.

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DIRECTORS OF THE SCHOOL

LECTURERS

• A. BRECKENRIDGE, MHRA, London, UK
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• G. DE CARLI, GSK, Verona, I
• A. DODOO, National PV Centre, Accra, Ghana
• B. EDWARDS, Johnson & Johnson, London, UK
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• J. JONES, The Degge Group, Arlington, VA, USA
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POETIC TOUCH

According to legend, Erice, son of Venus and Neptune, founded a small town on top of a mountain (750 metres above sea level) more than three thousand years ago. The founder of modern history — i.e. the recording of events in a methodical and chronological sequence as they really happened without reference to mythical causes — the great Thucydides (~500 B.C.), writing about events connected with the conquest of Troy (~1183 B.C.) said: «After the fall of Troy some Trojans on their escape from the Achaei arrived in Sicily by boat and as they settled near the border with the Sicaniains all together they were named Elymi: these towns were Segesta and Erice.» This inspired Virgil to describe the arrival of the Trojan royal family in Erice and the burial of Anchise, by his son Enea, on the coast below Erice. Homer (~1000 B.C.), Theocritus (~300 B.C.), Polybius (~200 B.C.), Virgil (~50 B.C.), Horace (~20 B.C.), and others have celebrated this magnificent spot in Sicily in their poems. During seven centuries (XIII-XIX) the town of Erice was under the leadership of a local oligarchy, whose wisdom assured a long period of cultural development and economic prosperity which in turn gave rise to the many churches, monasteries and private palaces which you see today.

In Erice you can admire the Castle of Venus, the Cyclopean Walls (~800 B.C.) and the Gothic Cathedral (~1300 A.D.). Erice is at present a mixture of ancient and medieval architecture. Other masterpieces of ancient civilization are to be found in the neighbourhood: at Motya (Phoenician), Segesta (Elymian), and Selinunte (Greek). On the Aegadian Islands — theatre of the decisive naval battle of the first Punic War (264-241 B.C.) — suggestive neolithic and paleolithic vestiges are still visible: the grottoes of Favignana, the carvings and murals of Levanzo. Splendid beaches are to be found at San Vito Lo Capo, Scopello, and Cornino, and a wild and rocky coast around Monte Cofano: all at less than one hour’s drive from Erice.

More information about the «Ettore Majorana» Foundation and Centre for Scientific Culture can be found on the WWW at the following address: http://www.ccsem.infn.it