

GOOD MANUFACTURING PRACTICES IN HOMOEOPATHY

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Homoeopathic system of Medicine is going to be the largest accepted health care system throughout the world. It is safe, simple, non toxic, natural and economical. As we all are from the manufacturing field, we know that what is happening in the field of manufacturing of Homoeopathic Medicines. Since I am a Homoeopathic Practitioner, in my day to day practice the quality and the effectiveness of the medicines I prescribe to my patients is very important. In these circumstances quality medicines being the main tool for practice, G.M.P. should be introduced as part of the law but before implementing the law Government has to interact with large scale and small scale manufacturers.

My suggestions for implementing good G.M.P. are as follows :

1.
 - a. Manufacturing premises (this includes selection of the plot, construction of the building, size of the building, ventilation of the building and cleanliness of the surroundings.
 - b. The Manufacturing area should be dust free.
 - c. Cubicles should be provided for tableting globules and for back potencies.
 - d. Minimum area should not be less than 2000 sq. ft. for the manufacturing unit. Separate sections must be provided for alcoholic and non alcoholic products.
2. Raw Materials
 - a. Alcohol - Government should bring necessary rules for making extra neutral Alcohol (E.N.A.) as the basic raw material. Minimum standard and price should be maintained.
 - b. Purification column or fractional distillation columns should be provided for removal of fused oil anddehydes.

- c. Herbs - Government should take initiative to start with incorporating the Government departments who deal with herbs. And an All India Level Committee including Pharmaceutical specialist to secure good reliable Herbs at reasonable prices should be made available to the manufacturer. Departments like C.C.R.H. and H.P.L. should be made responsible for the assurance of the quality of the herb. Only then the standard will go up.
- d. Chemicals - Even though used in small quantities this area also needs a centralised supply scheme incorporating the expertise of C.C.R.H. and H.P.L.
- e. Lactose - Government should take initial initiative for production of Lactose in India. As good quality Lactose with I.P.B.P. grade is not freely available in India. Main supply is imported from Holland, the prices are fluctuating and the Government should reduce the duty of Lactose as it is a raw material for manufacturing of tablets and triturations.
- f. Nosodes - the provision for supply of back potencies of these types of medicines taken from diseased products should be entrusted to H.P.L. by charging a price for the same.
- g. Sarcodes - As these are quantity wise less used, the back potencies can also be supplied by H.P.L. by charging a price.
- h. Sugar - Good Pharmaceutical grade sugar should be made available to manufacturer fixing a quota for each manufacturer.

Recommendations

1. Government should take immediate steps incorporating C.C.R.H. and H.P.L. to start a back potency and herb supplying co-operative society including the manufacturers.
2. Recommendations for the changes in the Drugs and the Cosmetics Act should be initiated by the Government.
3. Separate drugs control department for Homoeopathy should be started in all States.