

SHREENATH
PHARMA
MAGAZINE

Volume 1, Issue 11, April 2020



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About Us

Shreenath Pharmamagazine started in 2019 with a vision of bridging the gap between academic institutes and industries. The magazine is a monthly publication. This publication is devoted to science and practice of pharmacy in all its branches. The main guiding force behind this publication is Mr. Janak Jalundhwala who envisioned a platform for budding pharmacists to showcase their innovative research and strategic minds to small, medium and big size industries.



Shreenath Pharmamagazine offers a unique blend of pharma news, interviews, case studies, comments on critical issues faced by pharmaceutical industries. The magazine would also list out important upcoming events which will be beneficial for delegates from industries as well as academics. Our broad editorial lense along with the philosophy of advisory board to deliver sharp, informed and entertaining coverage from pharmaceutical institutes and industries allows pharammagazine to communicate on matters most relevant to the readers.

Small and medium sized pharmaceutical manufacturing industries not having a full scale R and D facility of their own also face many hurdles which can be resolved by academic research. This magazine serves as a medium to communicate the requirements of the industries to the academicians. It also would communicate research works conducted in various institutes to the industries. The magazine would include not just research but also some interviews and articles by the various pharmacists. The highlights would also include upcoming pharma events and some latest news. It will also have some fun activities like brain teasers and jokes. It also features campus news from various pharmaceutical institutes.

This magazine is distributed complimentary online by emails and social medias like LiknedIn and Facebook. It will also be available on the website (www.shreenathpharmamagazine.com) It is distributed to all the subscribers, members of Associations like Tarapur Industrial Manufacturers Association (TIMA), Indian Pharmaceutical Association – Students' Forum, Pharmocracy. It is also circulated to offices of Indian Pharmaceutical Association, Indian Drug manufacturers Association and Pharmaceutical institutes based in and around Mumbai.



From the Editor's Desk

Dear Readers,

During this pandemic times where most of the nations are under lockdown, the Indian pharma companies have stepped up to meet the needs of not just domestic requirement but also grateful requests from neighbouring countries and all major countries around the world. Industry has been doing this with skeletal work force, serious supply chain disruptions and cash flow issues. The hospital and community pharmacists have also been contributing towards serving the health care system. All the pharmacists are doing us proud!

This special issue has interview with Mr. Shyam Pratapwar, Drug Inspector, Maharashtra FDA sharing his experience in putting his efforts to help all pharmaceutical industries function in the region of Boisar. It also reads about concerns floating on the air surrounding us along with how this pandemic stands to affect us, what we should learn from it and what lies ahead. We have some experts in our column "by invitation" with opinions and advices. A drug in the limelight - Hydroxychloroquine is the molecule of the month. This issue helps you understand how different associations are serving the public health by sharing the activities of Indian Pharmaceutical Association - Maharashtra State Branch (IPA- MSB). There are various webinars being organised for industrial pharmacists and I attended one of them - 'Covid-19 Pandemic : Time to Collaborate, Co-operate and Innovate to face challenges' which was organised on a zoom meeting with 450+ participants.

Wishing all the readers to stay safe and explore your productivity in this digital world!

Reminder – June will be a special issue on Good Manufacturing Practices and we request contributions from all of you. Please visit www.shreenathpharmamagazine.com for more information.

Happy Reading!

Forum Gandhi (Jalundhwala)

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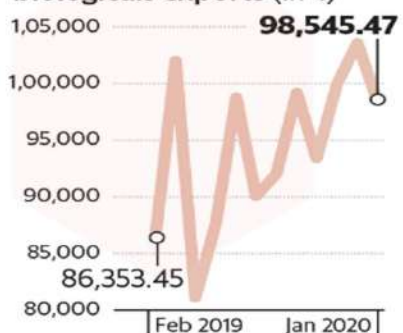
Pharma to act as healing agent for poor India exports

India can emerge as an alternative to China for the manufacture of cost-efficient and quality products. India accounts for 10% of global pharmaceutical production by volume, but only 1.5% by value. The discrepancy highlights the relatively low prices but high demand for Indian pharma items globally. With the world taking note of India's recent export of antimalarial drugs to the US, the industry can develop as a major exporter of affordable drugs.

Window of opportunity

Even as India's export growth was just 2.91% in Feb, one avenue of opportunity is pharma products, which account for 10% of global production by volume but only 1.5% by value, indicating their low prices but high demand abroad.

Drug formulations and biologicals exports (in ₹)



Total export growth (year-on-year in %)



Quarterly trade balance (in ₹)



Source: Commerce ministry, RBI

Reference: <https://www.livemint.com/news/india/pharma-could-be-a-balm-for-india-s-bruised-exports-11586889915065.html>

Pharma industry produces 20 crore hydroxychloroquine tablets this month

With the surge in demand for hydroxychloroquine, an anti-malarial drug deemed to be useful in dealing with COVID-19, the pharmaceutical industry has produced 20 crore HCQ tablets this month.

Several countries have requested India for the supply of the said drug even as the globally confirmed cases of the virus, which originated in China's Wuhan last year, has surpassed 1.5 million. India has cleared the first list of 13 countries for hydroxychloroquine which includes the USA, Spain, Germany, Bahrain, Brazil, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Maldives, and Bangladesh.

Reference: <https://www.livemint.com/companies/news/pharma-industry-produces-20-crore-hydroxychloroquine-tablets-this-month-zydus-cadila-ceo-11586598827131.html>

Cipla receives final approval for generic version of Proventil

Cipla Limited announced that it has received final approval for its Abbreviated New Drug Application (ANDA) for Albuterol Sulfate Inhalation Aerosol 90mcg (base)/actuation, from the United States Food and Drug Administration (US FDA). Cipla's Albuterol Sulfate Inhalation Aerosol 90mcg (base)/actuation, is the first AB-rated generic therapeutic equivalent version of Merck Sharp & Dohme Corp's Proventil® HFA Inhalation Aerosol. It is used for treatment of acute episodes of bronchospasm or prevention of asthmatic symptoms.

Reference:<https://www.pharmatutor.org/pharma-news/2020/cipla-receives-final-approval-for-generic-version-of-proventil>

6 COVID-19 Drugs Identified

An international team of researchers has tested more than 10,000 compounds to identify six drug candidates that may help treat COVID-19. The research, involving University of Queensland scientist Professor Luke Guddat, tested the efficacy of approved drugs, drug candidates in clinical trials and other compounds. Professor Guddat said the project targeted the main COVID-19 virus enzyme, known as the main protease or Mpro, which plays a pivotal role in mediating viral replication. "This makes it an attractive drug target for this virus, and as people don't naturally have this enzyme, compounds that target it are likely to have low toxicity."

Reference:<https://www.worldpharmanews.com/research/5211-covid-19-drug-lead-treatments-identified>

Coronavirus vaccine likely by September, says Pune's Serum Institute

Vaccine major Serum Institute of India today said it plans to start production of the COVID-19 vaccine developed by Oxford University in the next two to three weeks and hopes to bring it to the market by October if the human clinical trials are successful. The Pune-based company has partnered with Oxford University as one of the seven global institutions manufacturing the vaccine.

"Our team has been working closely with Dr Hill from Oxford University, and we are expecting to initiate production of the vaccine in 2-3 weeks and produce 5 million doses per month for the first 6 months, following which, we hope to scale up production to 10 million doses per month," Serum Institute India (SII) CEO Adar Poonawalla said.

Reference:<https://www.livemint.com/news/india/pune-s-serum-institute-to-start-making-coronavirus-vaccine-that-is-under-trial-11587889621799.html>

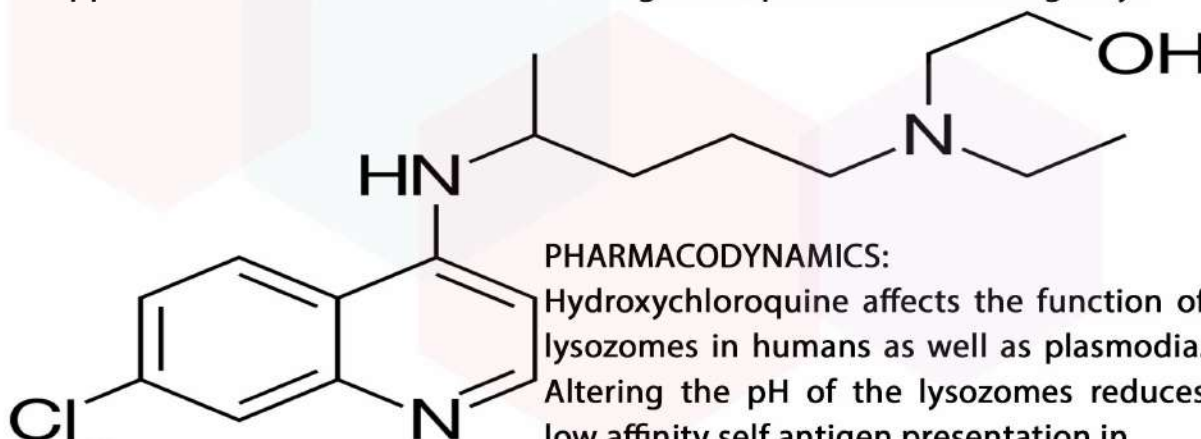
-As reported by S.Bhatia

MOLECULE OF THE MONTH

HYDROXCHLOROQUINE

Hydroxychloroquine is a racemic mixture consisting of an R and S enantiomer. Hydroxychloroquine is an aminoquinoline like chloroquine. It is a commonly prescribed medication in the treatment of uncomplicated malaria, rheumatoid arthritis, chronic discoid lupus erythematosus, and systemic lupus erythematosus. Hydroxychloroquine is also used for the prophylaxis of malaria in regions where chloroquine resistance is unlikely. It was developed during World War II as a derivative of quinacrine with less severe side effects. Chloroquine and hydroxychloroquine are both being investigated for the treatment of SARS-CoV-2. Hydroxychloroquine was granted FDA approval on 18 April 1955.

Due to COVID-19, the FDA has issued an emergency use authorization for hydroxychloroquine and chloroquine. This authorization allows for the unapproved use of these medications in light of a public health emergency.



PHARMACODYNAMICS:

Hydroxychloroquine affects the function of lysosomes in humans as well as plasmodia. Altering the pH of the lysosomes reduces low affinity self antigen presentation in autoimmune diseases and interferes with the ability of plasmodia to proteolyse hemoglobin for their energy requirements. Hydroxychloroquine has a long duration of action as it may be taken on a weekly basis for some indications. Hydroxychloroquine may lead to severe hypoglycemia and so diabetic patients are advised to monitor their blood glucose levels. Hydroxychloroquine is not effective against malaria in areas where chloroquine resistance has been reported.

MECHANISM OF ACTION :

The exact mechanisms of hydroxychloroquine are unknown. It has been shown that hydroxychloroquine accumulates in the lysosomes of the malaria parasite, raising the pH of the vacuole. This activity interferes with the parasite's ability to proteolyse hemoglobin, preventing the normal growth and replication of the parasite.

Hydroxychloroquine can also interfere with the action of parasitic heme polymerase, allowing for the accumulation of the toxic product beta-hematin. Hydroxychloroquine accumulation in human organelles also raise their pH, which inhibits antigen processing, prevents the alpha and beta chains of the major histocompatibility complex (MHC) class II from dimerizing, inhibits antigen presentation of the cell, and reduces the inflammatory response. Elevated pH in the vesicles may alter the recycling of MHC complexes so that only the high affinity complexes are presented on the cell surface. Self peptides bind to MHC complexes with low affinity and so they will be less likely to be presented to autoimmune T cells. Hydroxychloroquine may also reduce the release of cytokines like interleukin-1 and tumor necrosis factor. The raised pH in endosomes, prevent virus particles (such as SARS-CoV and SARS-CoV-2) from utilizing their activity for fusion and entry into the cell. Hydroxychloroquine inhibits terminal glycosylation of ACE2, the receptor that SARS-CoV and SARS-CoV-2 target for cell entry. ACE2 that is not in the glycosylated state may less efficiently interact with the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein, further inhibiting viral entry.

METABOLISM AND EXCRETION :

Hydroxychloroquine is N-dealkylated by CYP3A4 to the active metabolite desethylhydroxychloroquine, as well as the inactive metabolites desethylchloroquine and bidesethylchloroquine. 40-50% of hydroxychloroquine is excreted renally, while only 16-21% of a dose is excreted in the urine as unchanged drug. 5% of a dose is sloughed off in skin and 24-25% is eliminated through the feces.

TOXICITY :

Patients experiencing an overdose may present with headache, drowsiness, visual disturbances, cardiovascular collapse, convulsions, hypokalemia, rhythm and conduction disorders including QT prolongation, torsades de pointes, ventricular tachycardia, and ventricular fibrillation. This may progress to sudden respiratory and cardiac arrest.

Reference: https://www.google.com/search?q=hydroxychloroquine&sxsrf=ALeKk00ROOMJB0TKg_izkfhMGA9RBspJg:1588529941051&source=lnms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ved=2ahUKewjpteeWp5jpAhXWXSsKHfLZC7EQ_AUoAnoECBkQBA&biw=1536&bih=754#imgsrc=dvgGWqJqepOpWM

-A.Magdum

Way to extract colour from black

Scientists have developed a way of extracting a richer palette of colours from the available spectrum by harnessing disordered patterns inspired by nature that would typically be seen as black. Colours that we see in nature often come from nanoscale patterns that reflect light back in particular ways. A butterfly's wing, for example, might appear blue because tiny grooves in the surface of the wing cause only blue light to be reflected.

When surfaces appear black or white, however, it's often because the nanoscale structures are completely disordered, causing all the light to be either absorbed or reflected. A team of researchers led by the University of Birmingham has now found a way to control the way light passes through these disordered surfaces to produce vivid colours.

The team, which includes colleagues in Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich, Germany, and Nanjing University in China, has compared the method to techniques that artists have exploited for centuries. Among the most famous examples of this is the fourth-century Roman Lycurgus Cup, made from glass that appears green when light shines on it from the front, but red when light shines through it from behind.

In a modern advance, the research team demonstrated a way of finely controlling this effect to produce extraordinarily precise colour reproduction. Their results are published. The different colours in the image are represented in different thicknesses of a transparent material - such as glass - on a lithographic plate. On top of this, the researchers deposited the disordered layer - in this case made of random clusters of gold nanoparticles. Finally, beneath this layer, the team placed a mirrored to form a transparent cavity. The cavity is able to trap particles of light, or photons, inside.

The photons behave like waves inside the cavity, resonating at different frequencies beneath the lithographic surface and releasing different colours according to the length of each wave. By using this technique, the team was able to reproduce a Chinese water colour painting with exquisite colour accuracy. Lead researcher, Professor Shuang Zhang, explains: "The different ways in which nature can produce colour are really fascinating. If we can harness them effectively, we can open up a treasure trove of richer, more vivid colours than we have yet seen."

Reference: https://www.myscience.org/news/2020/way_to_extract_colour_from_black-2020-Birmingham

We are only Human

To support the ongoing battle against COVID-19, several measures have been undertaken by The Indian Pharmaceutical Association-Maharashtra State Branch (IPA-MSB). IPA-MSB's Bombay College of Pharmacy (BCP) also contributed in this endeavour under College Social Responsibility activities.

IPA-MSB has supported opening of a Community Clinic, which is first of its kind, jointly with Prabhat Charitable Trust and Om Gagangiri Occupational Health Services, along with mobile van facility for digital X-ray and blood sample collection at Ghansoli, Navi Mumbai. Mr. Satish Shah Vice President, IPA-MSB and the Council Members Mr. Vijaykumar Ghadge and Mr. Sureshkumar Chaudhary have been



instrumental in providing medicines and other related materials like face masks and sanitizers worth twentyfive thousand rupees. Eight Community Clinics have been opened till end of April jointly with Indian Medical Association and Ghatkopar Medical Association at eight localities at Ghatkopar, Mumbai. Medicines and other related materials like face masks, sanitizers, infrared thermometers worth three lakh rupees were provided.



IPA-MSB also demonstrated efforts to support the Corona health warriors. 50,000 Hydroxychloroquine Tablets were received from Sun Pharma Ltd. and The Pharmaceutical Wholesalers Association, with coordinated efforts, for distribution to Municipal Corporation's health workers at Mumbai and Navi Mumbai. The branch has also aided in arranging four blood donation

camps with Mobile Blood Donation Facility. Timely availability of 400+ units of blood benefited to ailing patients and 130 Thalassaemic Major children for maintaining their haemoglobin level and boosting their immunity during this critical period. Ms. Manjiri Gharat, Chairman, Community Pharmacy Division-IPA,



delivered a talk in a webinar organised by Cipla Ltd. for Practising Pharmacists on 'Safety of Pharmacist & Responsible use of medicines', on 20th April 2020 which was attended by more than 3,200 Practising Pharmacists across India.

To ensure good health of all students of IPA MSB's BCP, IPA-MSB staff Ms. Anitha and Ms. Komal have enquired numerous times with students and their parents about their health and assured them of providing any aid, if needed. The BCP management has also created a class wise group of students along with their parents on WhatsApp for sharing information quickly and effectively. IPA-MSB's staff Ms. Swati has been coordinating with parents and students to ensure effective communication of directives from government and other agencies.

On announcement of lockdown, the BCP management has ensured enforcement of proper measures on campus to prevent any infection. The management has also successfully accommodated all



45 labourers involved in construction of the IPA building. The migrant workers from Bihar, UP, West Bengal, Jharkhand, etc. have been provided with proper facilities related to stay at IPA building with social distancing and food. Counselling is being provided to them in a simple language and periodic interactive sessions are conducted about dos and don'ts to prevent Covid 19 infection and to raise awareness. Proper quarantine measures and facilities including bedding, pedestal fans were provided to the laborers. One of the laborers showing malaria symptoms was provided proper treatment. To prevent further such cases, mosquito repellent cream was provided to everyone in campus. Furthermore, to boost their immunity levels, they are given lemon water and hot turmeric water twice a day.

The security and housekeeping personnel have been provided accommodation in campus. The campus has been frequently sanitized using fogging technique and all personnel have been provided with face masks and individual hand sanitizer bottles. Everyone staying on campus is being monitored periodically

The personnel are supported financially to buy personal hygiene materials. Mr. Prashant Dongre, Ph.D. Student, Mr. Anil Shetye IPA-MSB staff and Mr. Nachare and Mr. Mahesh, security personnel have ensured smooth operations and maintenance in BCP campus. The team also helped people in surrounding localities to maintain social distancing while buying vegetables and grocery from local vendors.



Cipla

MAHARASHTRA STATE BRANCH

Cipla in collaboration with IPA presents

Webinar For Retail Pharmacists

TOPIC

- Self-Care of Pharmacists
- Responsible use of medicines

DATE: 20th April, 2020 TIME: 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm

SPEAKER

Manjiri Gharat
Vice President - The Indian Pharmaceutical Association (IPA)
Chairperson - Community Pharmacy Division (CPD)
Vice President - IP-CPS

[Click here to access webinar](#)

Disclaimer: This webinar is intended strictly for Pharmacists or health care professionals only and for their use only. It is a knowledge and education initiative by Cipla in association with Indian Pharmaceutical Association.

IPA-MSB's BCP has also undertaken various academic initiatives to support its staff, faculty and students during the lockdown period. The faculties and students are using the various digital tools from the licensed version of Microsoft 365 to aid visualization-based learning. In the current scenario, to improve awareness of students about COVID-19 infection, online assignments have been undertaken under the English Vinglish session, an initiative started to improve soft skills of the students. Few of the students have contributed by preparing hand sanitizer using WHO formula and cloth face masks which were distributed by them to needy persons.

बृहन्मुंबई महानगरपालिका

COMMUNITY CLINIC

Indian Medical Association (IMA)
Ghatkopar Medical Association (GMA)
IPAMSBS Bombay College of Pharmacy - Autonomous

वेळ: दुपारी १२.०० ते दुपारी २.०० वा.

स्थळ: समाज मंदिर हॉल, शिवाजी टेक्निकल शाळे समोर, पंतनगर, घाटकोपर (पूर्व) मुंबई - ४०० ०७५.

आपली नम्र: **राखी जाधव** गटनेते/नगरसेविका संपर्क: 9820035419

BY INVITATION

Pharma MSMEs hit by cash crunch despite movement of drugs during COVID-19 pandemic

*Nandita Vijay, Economic Expert,
Bengaluru*

The Indian pharma industry, especially the MSME (micro small and medium enterprise) sector, has been hit hard by cash crunch following the lockdown imposed by the Central government to contain the spread of COVID-19.

Though the government has taken many steps to alleviate the problems of the sector like relaxing EMI terms, interest rates and changing the definition of NPAs (non performing assets), a lot more needs to be done, according to pharma industry leaders who deliberated at a webinar organized by Messe Muenchen and Indian Pharma Machinery Manufacturers Association (IPMMA).

According to Dr. Viranchi Shah, director, Saga Laboratories and chairman, IDMA Gujarat state board, the government should ensure availability of liquidity and consider immediate refund of GST and income tax. The companies for their part are trying to tide over the crisis by generating secondary sales, where they are moving pharma products from the distributor to the retailers to activate the cash cycles. Those in exports have started moving containers as most ports are functional, though not in full capacity. Hence, there is visible movement of pharmaceuticals, Shah noted.

Now companies need to sustain the momentum of the supply chain because only with the movement of goods there will be flow of cash. It is only if companies are open for business that money will come. The industry needs funds and hence it needs to ensure that the cash cycle is continued, he added.

Paresh Chawla, managing director, Alpa Laboratories and chairman, IDMA MP state board noted that the companies need to put in place an internal exercise to reduce the process time of batches. For this, systems need to be put in place along with regulatory reviews. Shortening the process time will help companies create additional cash flow during this pandemic.

The pandemic has brought to the fore the reality of India's over-dependence on China for APIs (active pharmaceutical ingredients) and intermediates. While the government has already announced a Rs. 9,940 crore package to boost the API segment, it needs to provide a similar assistance for formulations too, said Chawla.

Kaushik Desai, advisor, IPMMA said that the government support is evident because over the last 3 weeks, a slew of circulars were issued primarily to ensure availability of medicines and smooth running of pharma plants with an uninterrupted supply chain and more are expected.

The industry chiefs also noted that the key learning from this pandemic of such a magnitude is the need for an immediate robust business continuity plan as it is difficult to comprehend the path forward.

The MSMEs among others need to assess the risks at every stage and focus on automation, digitization and prioritization by maximizing the available human resources, said Shirish Belapure, senior technical advisor, Indian Pharmaceutical Alliance.

On a concluding note, Mahendra Mehta, president, IPMMA, said that COVID-19 has brought the whole world to a grinding halt. Currently, there is no ready formula to offset the scenario. Extensive collaboration by the industry and government is paramount. Since the whole world is watching India on how it is tackling this pandemic, the country is now looking up at the pharma industry for seamless supply of medicines.

Reference:<http://www.pharmabiz.com/NewsDetails.aspx?aid=123679&sid=1>

BY INVITATION

A SHUTDOWN OR A RESTART

Vanita Magdum

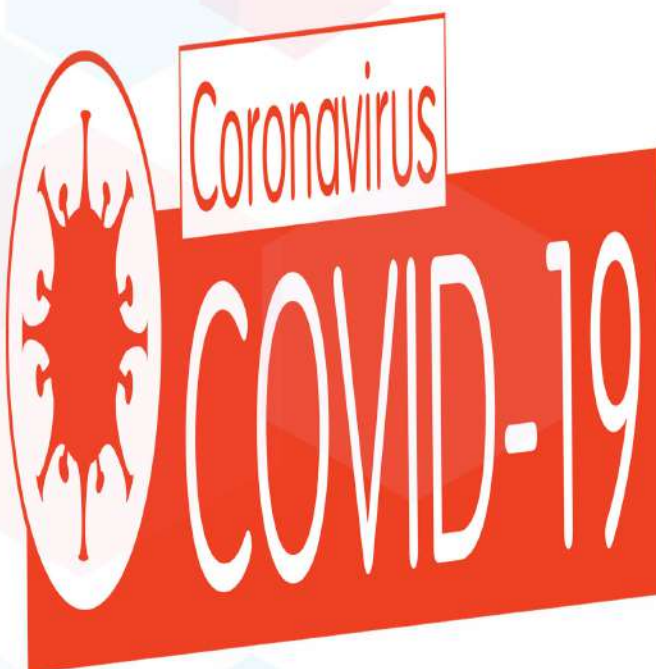
B.sc(Micro),B.M.Tech.

Diploma in Yogic Sciences.

Now this lockdown that resulted out of the corona pandemic is a world level declaration and it does pretty well seem to be working . The decision of calling a lockdown is very crucial to how the future is going to be shaped. What I would like to suggest is not to view this "situation" as an issue but accept it as an opportunity to better ourselves, to maybe take this time off and make the most of it since we dont have a busy schedule to be complaining about.

How to see the lockdown.

Now, what is this lockdown exactly, some would complain about the WorkFromHome but on the brighter side of things, we get to spend more time with our families, we dont get pushed around in the crowd, we dont get to whine about the travel as well as the travelling hours, we dont get to grumble about the cars that wont move in the traffic and all the red just flashing up in our face. Even if we want to lie, we honestly do have a lot of time at our disposal.



What to do then.

Keep ourselves active, more importantly the minds, take up tasks at home, split household chores amongst ourselves, play games, try new recipes if your taste buds are your masters, learn a new thing or catch upon an old hobby of yours... but most importantly, the body would require some form of exercise. Of course all the gyms are shut, cant jog or walk outside, no cycling, no open grounds but even still we can do some basic things at home, even in the constraint of space and thats when yoga knocks on your doors. An hour a day to the least to make the mind and body strong.

To help you concentrate and control your breathing patterns, you can meditate and practice Pranayama. Anulom-Vilom, Bhramari and Kapalbhatti help increase the lung capacity. One surely feels relaxed and light after these practices. For the flexibility of one's body and mind and of course its strength, one can practice the Asanas. Neck rotation, Butterfly with forward bend, Alternate toe touch are some basic stretching related exercises. Standing asanas like Tadasana, Hastapadasana, Chakrasana, Vrukshasana, Natarajasana, Trikonasana also can be done. Most important are the Suryanamaskars... one should do 9-12 daily.

Things to look out for would be a pleasant place with enough light and ventilation. Keep in mind your strained spots, your injuries or operated points and not to push them any further. It's important to remember that we will be doing this not to punish, but to better ourselves. The entire family shall decide on a timing to sit down together to practice Yoga so there's minimal disturbance and enough positive support to encourage us. Also, it is important to have well regulated and time bound nutrition, it is always good to maintain a clock to keep things under control. This diet should consist of numerous fruits for the fibres and leafy vegetables for the vitamins. One should consider ditching the rice if need be but never starve him/herself.

It's not long for when the lockdown is to be lifted most of us would crib about beginning the regular life we longed for. On the same afternoon we resume, but one should only not regret of not having spent time on oneself when they were social distancing.

TALK THE TALK

Mr. Shyam Pratapwar

**Drug Inspector
Boisar region, Maharashtra FDA,**



How do you describe the responsibilities of Maharashtra FDA in this pandemic situation?

FDA is entrusted by the law and society to monitor smooth supply of safe and efficacious drugs at affordable price to the patients. In current scenario, FDA is coordinating with different departments to make it easy for manufacturers and retailers/wholesalers. Smooth supply to patients is of prime importance. The lock down is crucial but we have made balance between duty and safety of ourselves and others also. FDA has set up a 24x7 covid control room at head quarters at Bandra, Mumbai. Patients and all stake holders can contact there. Every effort is made to resolve the complaints/grievances.

What were the challenges faced by the retailers in your region (Boisar)?

There are no routine wholesalers in Boisar. Therefore supply is from wholesalers mainly at Bhyander, Virar, Nalasopara and Vasai. The transportation from these area was a huge problem. Supply to retailers had come to stand still. Shortages were rising. I contacted different wholesalers

in above mentioned areas and requested them to find out some solutions. I spoke to local police and concerned area assistant commissioner. They co-operated and we could get weekly supply of drugs from wholesalers to retailers in Boisar.

What was the scenario with availability of masks and scenario in Boisar?

In the beginning of March 2020, demand for sanitizers is suddenly increased. Schools directed their students to come only with sanitizers and masks. That created panic amongst students and parents. Sudden rise in demand could not be coped by boisar retailers. I motivated 2 dealers in Boisar to start wholesale business of sanitizers and mask. One would serve to Boisar and other to adjoining villages. They agreed and worked as decided. We could make arrangements for smooth supply to retailers but then supply to these wholesalers was again a problem. Sanitizer manufacturers from Boisar/Tarapur could not supply due to their pre occupancy of supply to Govt. which was challenging, I then contacted different manufacturers of

of Palghar, Nashik, Kolhapur. I requested them to supply sanitizers and masks to wholesalers in Boisar. At one stretch, we could get ten thousand bottles of sanitizers and regular supply thereafter. Since then there is no shortage in Boisar. Sanitizers were also supplied to retailers in Dahanu, Talasari.

Boisar being a hub of industries, what are the challenges you are facing for the smooth running of these industries? Can you describe some challenges along with the action taken by you to find it solution.

Raw Material Supply was not smooth. Suppliers in Bhiwandi and other states were either not getting permission to transport or they were reluctant (out of fear) to operate and supply materials. We tried for Permission to Suppliers and transporters by police and respective Grampanchayat for seamless supply of RMs. Industry owners pointed out a shortage of intermediates. So the manufacturers of intermediates, who were not licensee were requested to operate. We tried for relevant permissions to their workmen and transporters. Now many of KSM manufacturers have started working, though on small volumes. Due to shortage of supply, the prices of solvents and intermediates and excipients have risen sharply. Permission for the Movement of the RM and Finished Product vehicle was also an issue, so we Coordinated with police and collector office for permission to the transporter. Asked Manufacturers to take care of such employees for their food in the lockdown period.

A large force of workers and employees are involved in these activities. Also the common people of that region, what were the issues regarding them and how were they resolved?

As we all know about the directions by Govt to allow work at the capacity of only 25% employees. Accordingly less passes are issued by District administration. So we requested collector office for permission of 75 percent for pharma industry. Coordinated with Police station or MIDC Portal to issue vehicle passes also. Also we provided with access to refuelling stations to employees with valid ID cards provided by the authorities. It was brought to our notice that Gram panchayats restricted employees to go to factory and reluctance of people to join duties due to fear. And the feeling that they will get salary even if they don't work. Counselling of Sarpanch and similar members of society through BDO or Gram Vikas Adhikari. We also counselled the workmen and staff required. Also any announcement by Govt. that workers of essential services will be given incentives.

About the testing facilities?

Courier Services for the Samples movement to the Public Testing Laboratories. Permission to be given to the PTL. Public Testing laboratories to be working with full scale. Licensing to sanitizer manufacturers and medical oxygen manufacturers is made simple and faster.

Any words for our readers?

This COVID situation is unprecedented but Govt of Maharashtra has taken right decisions and right time to control the spread of virus. It is duty of every citizen to follow Govt. instructions meticulously. Negligence by any single person may cause much harm to society and efforts of Govt will fail.

Upcoming Events

PHARMACAD – M. PHARMA / MBA ENTRANCE

Admissions Open For:

- GPAT, NIPER, BITS HD, ICT, Manipal Entrance, NMIMS. (2021 / 2022)
- CAT, CMAT, MBA CET, NMAT, SNAP, XAT etc. (2021 / 2022)



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