

PP147

Review on Role of Pharmacist During COVID -19

Manisha*, Dr. C.P.S Verma, Pooja Kaushal

Laureate Institute of Pharmacy Kathog, Distt. Kangra, H.P.

*Corresponding Author

ABSTRACT

Coronavirus was identified as the infectious agent responsible for a generally mild but sometimes severe and even life-threatening disease, termed as “Coronavirus Disease 2019” (COVID-19). The coronavirus has caused a dramatic toll of deaths and imposed a severe burden, both from a societal and economic point of view. COVID-19 has challenged health systems, straining and overwhelming healthcare facilities and settings including hospital and community pharmacies. On the other hand, COVID-19 has propelled several changes. During the last decades, pharmacy has shifted from being products-based and patient-facing to being services-based and patient-centred. Pharmacies have transitioned from being compounding centres devoted to the manipulation of Material medica to pharmaceutical centres, clinical pharmacies and fully integrated “medical-pharmaceutical networks” providing a significant range of non-prescribing services. Moreover, roles, duties and responsibilities of pharmacists have paralleled such historical changes and have known a gradual expansion, incorporated new skills, and reflected new societal demands and challenges. The COVID-19 outbreak has unearthed new opportunities for pharmacists: community and hospital pharmacists have, indeed, played a key role during the COVID-19 pandemic, suggesting that a fully integrated, inter-sectoral and inter-professional collaboration is necessary to face crises and public health emergencies. Preliminary, emerging evidence seems to suggest that, probably, a new era in the history of pharmacies has begun, with community pharmacists acquiring more professional standing, being authentic heroes and frontline health workers.

Keywords: Medicine, pharmacists, COVID-19, Emergency, patient, component, specialized, pandemic

