

Transformation of Drug and Poison Information Services with Information Technology

INTRODUCTION

In the last few years there has been increased utilization of smartphone technology by general public as well as healthcare professionals. Now smartphones have totally replaced the functionality of a pager, cell phone and a PDA (Personal Digital Assistance).



Applications

One of the key features for increasing usage of smartphones is the ability to use applications, commonly termed as Apps. More than 85% of healthcare practitioners are using smartphone and nearly half of them are using smartphone apps in their day to day practice. There are wide range of healthcare smartphone apps, providing extensive information to support clinical decision making and better patient care. Today, healthcare apps have better usage comparing any other source of information.

Drug and Poison Information Centre: An Overview

Drug Information Centres (DIC) are the places where registered pharmacists provide any drug related information to healthcare professionals and to public for better patient care. The services shall include collecting, reviewing, evaluating, indexing and distributing information on drugs to health care workers, this allows access to clinical experiences, libraries, research facilities and educational activities.

The main function of Drug Information Centre is to provide written and / or verbal information or advice related to drugs or therapy to health care providers, organizations, committees, patients and to public in response to their request to help better patient care by all means. WHO supports independent drug information centres as a core component of national programs to promote better healthcare to all. University of Kentucky Medical Centre opened first DIC in 1962.

Transformation of the Drug and poison information service with Information Technology

We transformed the process of the functioning of DIC through information technology essentially involving two Apps the Drug Info Service App (Available in Google Play store for Android Phones) and WEB app that works as backend platform for Android App (available in the Drug and Poison Information Centre, Clinical Pharmacy Services, Government Headquarters Hospital, Ooty). Involving information technology (Web App and smartphone App) can hasten the process of the systematic approach for answering the queries.

This concept is first of its kind in India (also probably first in any English-spoken nations), although the concept of Drug and Poison Information centres is already available in various States and State Pharmacy Councils the Android App & Web App version (transformation of the process) for the same is not available. Consequently, Our DIC functions by an innovative and fascinating approach to improve the practicing of reliable, fast, evidence-based and up-to-date services.

WHY ANDROID PLATFORM?

1. Android powers hundreds of millions of mobile devices in more than 190 countries around the world
2. It's the largest installed base of any mobile platform and grows fast. Every day more than 1 million new android devices are activated worldwide
3. In India, Android was found to have maximum number of users, the number of medical apps was also high in android

LAUNCHING OF THE TOOLS FOR TRANSFORMATION (TFT)

The transformation process was launched during the Awards, Annual Day Celebrations & Alumni Meet 2017 held on 22 April 2017 at JSS College of Pharmacy, Ooty by the Hon' Vice Chancellor Dr. B Suresh in the presence of Chief Guest Dr. Rakesh Kumar Sharma, (Director, Défense food Research Laboratory, Mysuru) and Guests of Honor; Dr. N. Gopalan (Scientist 'F' & Joint Director Défense Food Research Laboratory Mysuru), Dr S. Balasubramaniyam (RMO District Govt Head Quarters Hospital, Ooty), Dr S Balasubramanian (Director – Research, Jagadguru Sri Shivarathresshwara University, Mysuru), Mr T. Satish (Chief General Manager – Corporate Support, Tablets (India) Ltd Chennai) and Mr Jayapraksh Narayan (JPWINKA Pharma Consultants, Hosur)



Launch Photos

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WHAT NEXT?



2017-2018

>2019



Networking of DICs in
India



Development of AI to
help Admin to provide
swift response

Conclusively, our DIC revolutionized the complete nature process of the DIC service and setup with information technology and will continue to build as a cornerstone in the pharmaceutical care through encouraging innovation research, communication, and cooperation between the other healthcare providers for tailoring the answer to the individual patient.

Furthermore, we would like to thank JSS University Mysuru and our collaborator Indian Pharmaceutical Association Nilgiris Branch.

We are DIC Team, committed to provide FAST, RELIABLE AND EVIDENCE BASED responses and services not only at the national level but even to the international enquire.