



# President Speak...



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## Dear Members,

The IPA activities at various places and interaction with the Regulators and Industry personnel in recent past has made IPA more visible and vibrant in representing the Government and other agencies on various issues pertaining to Pharmacy Profession, particularly Indian Pharma Industry. IPA acknowledge the recent decision of the Government to increase the validity of the WHO - GMP certification (COPP) to three years from the existing two years to the companies exporting pharmaceutical products to other countries. The decision has been welcomed by the Indian Pharma

Industry as it reduces the delay in the registration process and opined by majority of the Pharma entrepreneurs that it will boost the Pharma exports and promote ease of doing business.

IPA is a member organization of FIP, working on latest issues and FIP statements to strengthen the activities through its Advocacy group in India. The FIP new statement "Pharmacy: Gateway to care" replaces the statement "Self care including self medication - The professional role of pharmacist". The new announcement is a call for pharmacists to be fully incorporated into health systems both for the prevention and management of illness. Pharmacists need to be properly remunerated for delivery of their self - care services. It also makes a number of recommendations for pharmacy organizations and pharmacists, including that the former should ensure that rural communities have access to pharmacies and that the latter should develop and adopt standard operating procedures for quality management of self - care services such as proper documentation of medicines reconciliation, adherence support and medication management. The significance of the full involvement of pharmacists in self care should be promoted by government and insurers.

The "One - Health" approach recognizes that the health of humans, animals and eco-systems are interconnected. It is the liability of Government to demonstrate political will by

mobilizing relevant national ministries/ departments to improve the capacities of their national systems to address AMR in the "One - Health" context. Government need to develop, fund, implement, monitor and evaluate national action plans to contain AMR and formally involve all key stake holders, including pharmacists. Reassurance is required from government that all antibiotics listed in the WHO essential medicines list is available at all times and to develop a strategy for ensuring the sustainable production and registration of old antibiotics, which may help address AMR as well as compensate for serious shortages of other antibiotics. Antibiotics should also be procured in pack sizes corresponding to their usual course length. For pharmacists, the new recommendations include that they should encourage immunization generally and specifically for influenza and implement health education campaigns on the importance of protecting effectiveness of antibiotics, targeted at prescribers, patients and the veterinary and agricultural sectors.

I wish all the IPA members to work with other health care professionals to ensure that every individual receives optimal treatment. As one of the most accessible health care professionals globally, we should use our learning to protect health and prevent illness.

Dr. T. V. Narayana

## Our Mission

The Indian Pharmaceutical Association (IPA) is the national professional body of pharmacists engaged in various facets of the profession of Pharmacy. The IPA is committed to promote the highest professional and ethical standards of pharmacy, focus the image of pharmacists as competent healthcare professionals, sensitize the community, government and other on vital professional issues and support pharmaceuticals education and sciences in all aspects.

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