Greetings from Drug Information Bulletin!

It is my proud privilege to write the editorial at a historical moment – the completion of 16 years of publication of this Drug Information Bulletin. The weekly bulletin started its journey in April 2007, brought out by the Drug Information Centre (DIC), IPA, Bengal Branch and is now a bi weekly bulletin jointly published by Drug Information Centre, IPA- Bengal Branch & Regulatory Affairs Division (RAD), IPA. As far as my knowledge, this is the first of its kind of bulletin serving its readers from all spheres of the society like- Pharmacists, Doctors, Nurses, health workers, NGOs, and general public worldwide. It has received reach accolades and great appreciation from most of the readers due to its content and its regular publication. Initially it was started to serve IPA members then receiving request from other professional stake holders, as well as request from other countries the bulletin marched ahead. Presently we have readers from different countries all over the world and different strata of the society.

Some hospitals and educational institutes are forwarding this bulletin among their faculty members and keeping hard copies in their libraries with our prior permission so that students can read this. A number of Drug Information Centers are reproducing this with our permission both in Govt. and private sector.

This is a free service to anybody and everybody, and any person / institute interested in drug information, and we have never accepted any donation or advertisement from anybody for this publication to keep our voice unbiased.

This has been possible due to help and co operation from all of our readers and mentors. Hope this bulletin will continue its service to the society with help from all of you in future too! Greetings to all.

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Secretary, Ministry of H & FW requested health Secretaries of all States for issuing direction to the Drugs Controllers to ensure the Use of authentic IP, IPRS and Impurity Standard.
WHO Director General declares end to COVID-19 as a global health emergency on 5th May 2023

WHO chief said that corona virus – first made a public health emergency of international concern by the WHO chief on 30 January, 2020 - was here to stay: “It is still killing and it is still changing. The risk remains of new variants emerging that cause new surges in cases and deaths.” He said that for the past year, the WHO-led Emergency Committee had been carefully...
examining the data, on the right time to lower the alarm.
For over 12 months, the pandemic “has been on a downward trend”, he said, with immunity increasing due to the highly effective vaccines developed in record time to fight the disease, and infections. Death rates have decreased and the pressure on once overwhelmed health systems has eased.
“This trend has allowed most countries to return to life as we knew it before COVID-19", Tedros added.
But he reflected that the impact of the pandemic had “exposed political fault lines, within and between nations. It has eroded trust between people, governments and institutions, fuelled by a torrent of mis- and disinformation.”
He also noted the enormous damage inflicted on all aspects of global life by the virus, including enormous economic upheaval, “erasing trillions from GDP, disrupting travel and trade, shuttering businesses, and plunging millions into poverty.”
He reminded that as he was speaking, thousands around the world continue to fight for their lives in intensive care, and millions more, will live for the foreseeable future, “with the debilitating effects” of post-COVID conditions, or so-called “long COVID”.
The WHO chief said that at one level, the end of the emergency was a moment to celebrate, and he paid tribute to the “incredible skill and selfless dedication of health and care workers” worldwide.

Rajasthan’s Right to Health Care Act await final approval

State Government of Rajasthan has passed the Rajasthan Right to Health Care Act 2022 in the Assembly, making it the first state to do so in India. The bill gives every resident of the state the right to avail free Out Patient Department (OPD) services and In Patient Department (IPD) services at all public health facilities. Additionally, similar healthcare services will be provided free of cost at select private facilities. The bill guarantees 20 rights to the residents of the state and is based on Article 47 and the expanded definition of Article 21 of the Indian Constitution. This step is considered as one major step towards Universal Health Care.

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The Newsletter intends to provide updated and reliable information on medicines and other related issues in an attempt to equip healthcare professionals to take informed decision in recommending medicines to the patients. However, they are encouraged to validate the contents. None of the people associated with the publication of the Newsletter nor the organization shall be responsible for any liability for any damage incurred as a result of use of contents of this publication.
The brand names of medicines, if mentioned, are for illustration only and the Newsletter does not endorse them.