

AUSHADH SANDESH

Vol.-XIX | OCTOBER, 2024

A Bi-monthly e-Newsletter

दवा वही

दाम सही



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About NPPA...

The National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), an independent body of experts in the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, Department of Pharmaceuticals was constituted by the Government of India vide resolution published in the Gazette of India No. 159 dated 29.08.97. The functions of NPPA, inter-alia, includes fixation and revision of prices of scheduled formulations under the Drugs Prices Control Order (DPCO), as well as monitoring and enforcement of prices. NPPA also provides inputs to Government on pharmaceutical policy and issues related to affordability, availability and accessibility of medicines.

The Authority is a multi-member body consisting of a Chairperson, a Member Secretary and three ex-officio members. Two of the three ex-officio members are from Department of Economic Affairs and Department of Expenditure respectively and third member is Drug Controller General of India.

The Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 (DPCO, 2013) was notified on 15.05.2013 under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (EC Act, 1955) and is based on the broad guidelines of the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Policy (NPPP), 2012. The three key principles of the NPPP-2012 are as below:

- Essentiality of Drugs:** The regulation of prices of drugs is on the basis of essentiality of drugs as per the medicines under NLEM-2011, NLEM-2015 and NLEM-2022 as amended vide S.O. 5249 dated 11.11.2022 has been incorporated as the First Schedule of DPCO 2013.
- Control of Formulations prices only:** The prices of formulations only are to be regulated and not the prices of the Bulk Drugs and the resulting formulations as adopted in the Drug Policy 1994.
- Market Based Pricing:** The ceiling prices of medicines are fixed on Market Based Pricing (MBP) methodology.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Dr Vinod Kotwal, Member Secretary
Shri Sanjay Kumar, Adviser
Shri G. L. Gupta, Director
Shri Pallav Kumar Chittej, Deputy Director

DISCLAIMER:

This is an initiative by NPPA to report current events and affairs related to Pharmaceutical industry and the NPPA. This newsletter has been curated purely for informative purposes and do not reflect the official policy or position of NPPA. This newsletter is not intended to be used for any commercial/ official purposes.

You can also give your suggestions/ feedback at: monitoring-nppa@gov.in



From CHAIRMAN'S DESK



Dr Arunish Chawla, IAS
Chairman
National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority
Department of Pharmaceutical
Ministry of Chemical and Fertilizers
Government of India

It is with immense pleasure I present to you the Nineteenth issue of the NPPA bi-monthly e-Newsletter, the AUSHADH SANDESH. Our objective of bringing out the newsletter remains steadfast - to disseminate information that caters to the diverse interests of our stakeholders, thereby fostering informed decision-making and collaboration within the pharmaceutical and med-tech landscape.

I am happy to note that an insightful article titled "Use of Artificial Intelligence in Pharmaceuticals " has been contributed by Shri S. Swaminathan, CEO, GS1 India. Artificial intelligence (AI) is poised to become the next revolutionary force, heralded as the defining technology of present and future. AI technologies, such as machine learning (ML), natural language processing (NLP), and generative AI, are being integrated to streamline processes, reduce costs, and improve patient outcomes. I extend my gratitude to Shri Swaminathan for his insightful article.

In continuation of our webinar series, one hundred and sixteen (116) State and District level Events/ Seminars were organized by 22 PMRUs in their respective States/ UTs viz. Puducherry, Jharkhand, Ladakh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Arunachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Kerala, Jammu & Kashmir, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, KIIT, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Mizoram, Odisha, Rajasthan PMRUs. These events were aimed at imparting awareness among people about the role of NPPA in making the Drugs affordable and available for all; promotion and use of Pharma Sahi Daam App & IPDMS 2.0; and carrying out monitoring of prices of medicines through PMRUs.

NPPA along with all the PMRU participated in the Swachhata hi Sewa programme during 17.09.2024 to 02.10.2024 and undertook various activities viz., Swachhata Pledge in office; installation of a selfie point for encouraging public engagement; Essay/Poem competition on swachhata; plantation of about 30 trees under "Ek Pedh Maa Ke Naam" in the premises of YMCA. In addition, Safai Mitra Suraksha Shivirs were also organized where one-time disposable multi use gloves and nose masks were distributed to the Safai karmis deployed for cleanliness in the premises of NPPA and YMCA.

Like every year, this year too use of Hindi /promotion fortnight in September and Vigilance Awareness Week-2024 in October were successfully organized in the office of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority. During this event, various competitions were organized in which staff participated enthusiastically.

NPPA wishes good health to all its readers; stay safe, stay healthy.

With best wishes

(Dr. Arunish Chawla)

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IN PHARMACEUTICALS

(By Shri S.Swaminathan, CEO, GS1 India)

Overview of AI and its importance in the Pharmaceutical Industry



Introduction

Artificial intelligence (AI) is poised to become the next revolutionary force, heralded as the defining technology of present and future. It has the potential to fundamentally transform both our lifestyles and business practices. The various industry sectors are experiencing an unprecedented level of excitement and optimism, as AI's impact spans across all sectors.

In the pharmaceutical industry, AI is enhancing efficiency, accuracy, and innovation across various stages of drug development and distribution. AI technologies, such as machine learning (ML), natural language processing (NLP), and generative AI, are being integrated to streamline processes, reduce costs, and improve patient outcomes.

AI is revolutionizing the Pharmaceutical Sector by accelerating drug discovery, enhancing clinical trials, and optimizing supply chain management. AI can quickly identify potential drug candidates, predict trial outcomes, and monitor patient responses in real-time, leading to more efficient and successful trials. Additionally, AI improves predictive analytics for better trend forecasting and inventory management. It also ensures regulatory compliance by automating documentation and monitoring processes, thereby enhancing the quality of pharmaceutical products.

The integration of AI in the pharmaceutical industry is not just a technological advancement but a strategic imperative that promises to transform healthcare delivery and patient care. By leveraging AI, pharmaceutical companies can achieve significant improvements in efficiency and patient outcomes, ultimately contributing to a more sustainable and effective healthcare system.

Application of AI in Drug Discovery

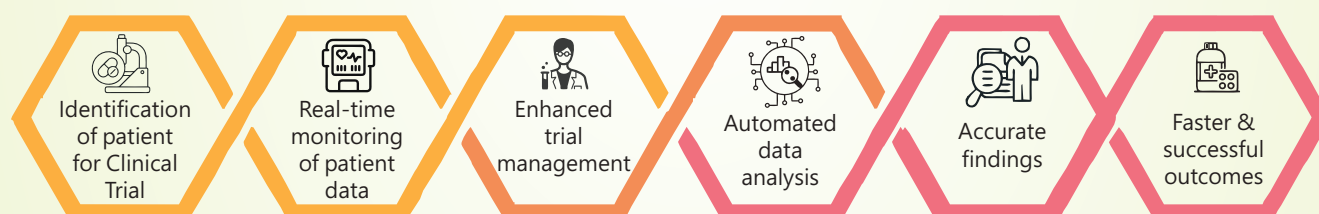
Drug discovery is recognized as an expensive and lengthy process with low success rates. The development of a new drug typically spans over a decade. The success rate of advancing a drug from clinical trials to market is notably low. Over the past decade, significant transformations in drug discovery have been driven by advancements in AI. AI applications in this field include virtual screening, de novo drug design, retrosynthesis, reaction prediction, and de novo protein design, which can be categorized into predictive and generative tasks. The integration of AI into drug discovery allows pharmaceutical companies to discover new therapeutic targets and develop innovative treatments that were previously unimaginable.

Use of AI in Clinical Trials

AI is transforming clinical trials by enhancing their productivity and effectiveness. AI optimises trial design by predicting outcomes and identifying the most suitable dosages and patient populations. AI enhances patient recruitment by swiftly analysing medical records and social media data to identify eligible participants. During clinical trials, AI provides real-time monitoring of patient data, allowing for timely adjustments and better overall trial management. Additionally, AI automates data analysis, reducing the time required to interpret results and increasing the accuracy of findings.

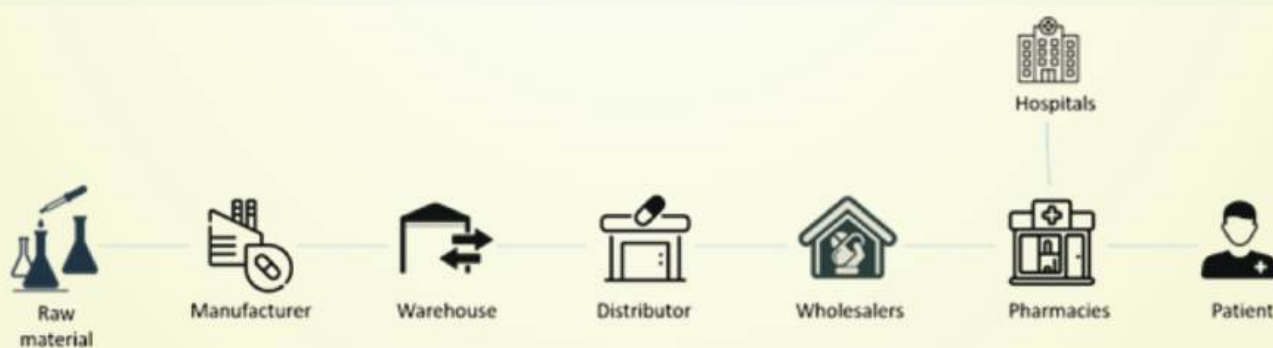
These advancements also enhance the likelihood of successful outcomes, ultimately enabling the development of safer and more effective therapeutic solutions.

Using AI in Clinical Trials



Enhancing Production Processes and Supply Chain Efficiency through AI

AI is transforming production processes and supply chain management in the pharmaceutical industry by optimizing operations and enhancing decision-making. By analyzing large datasets in real-time, AI can



predict demand, manage inventory, and streamline logistics, leading to more efficient production schedules, reduced waste, and timely product delivery. This technology also boosts supply chain visibility, helping companies address bottlenecks and inefficiencies quickly. Leveraging AI ensures a steady supply of high-quality products, creating a resilient supply chain crucial for maintaining essential medications.

Real world use cases of Implementations of AI by Industry

There are real-world implementations that highlight the critical role of AI in improving drug development, safety, and patient care in the pharmaceutical industry. The practical benefits achieved through AI integration underscore its importance in advancing the healthcare sector.

The 2024 Nobel Prize for Chemistry has been awarded to David Baker, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, Demis Hassabis and John M. Jumper of Google DeepMind, London UK. David Baker has succeeded with the almost impossible feat of building entirely new kinds of proteins. Demis Hassabis and John Jumper have developed an AI model to solve a 50-year-old problem: predicting proteins' complex structures.

In another notable instance, a drug called DSP-1181 was developed using AI in just 12 months, compared to the typical 4.5 years required by traditional methods. This represents a time reduction of over 75%. DSP-1181, currently being investigated as a treatment for obsessive-compulsive disorder (OCD) is the first to be created entirely by AI and has entered clinical trials. This showcases AI's potential to accelerate drug discovery and bring new treatments to market faster.

Another example involves the development of an AI platform called "plai" in 2018. This platform aggregates internal data to support decision-making across the drug development process, leading to more efficient discovery and development of new drugs.

Additionally, a report from the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF) indicates that AI can reduce the time it takes to synthesise and screen new drugs by 40-50% compared to traditional methods. This time reduction can save pharmaceutical companies up to \$26 billion annually in research costs.

Emerging Trends and Future Applications

The pharmaceutical industry is witnessing several emerging trends in the application of AI, which promises to reshape its future. One significant trend is the increasing use of machine learning and deep learning to analyze complex biological data, leading to more accurate predictions in drug discovery and development. These technologies are also being used to enhance precision medicine, tailoring treatments to individual patients based on their genetic profiles and other personal data.

Another emerging trend is the integration of AI with big data analytics to improve decision-making processes across the pharmaceutical value chain. This includes optimizing clinical trial designs, predicting patient responses, and managing supply chains more efficiently.

Looking ahead, the future applications of AI in pharmaceuticals are vast. AI is expected to play a crucial role in automating routine tasks, such as data entry and analysis, freeing up human resources for more strategic activities. The development of AI-powered diagnostic tools will also enable earlier and more accurate disease detection, improving patient outcomes.

As AI continues to evolve, its applications in the pharmaceutical industry will expand, offering new opportunities to enhance healthcare delivery and patient care.

Conclusion

The integration of AI in the pharmaceutical industry is ushering in a new era of innovation and proficiency. AI is transforming every facet of the industry, from drug discovery to supply chain management. AI not only reduces costs and improves patient outcomes but also speeds up bringing new treatments to market. Its role in personalized medicine and digital therapeutics is particularly significant. To harness AI's full potential, strategic investments in talent, data, and innovation are essential, along with ethical and responsible practices. As AI evolves, it will continue to enhance healthcare delivery and patient care, ultimately contributing to a more effective and sustainable healthcare system.



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REGULATORY NEWS

News related to pricing of drugs

1. Ceiling prices of 926 formulations are effective as on date of which ceiling prices for 742 scheduled formulations have been fixed / refixed under National List of Essential Medicines, 2022 as follows:

Therapeutic Category	No. of Medicines	No. of Formulations
Anti-infective Medicines	62	169
Anticancer Medicines	59	119
Neurological Disorder Medicines	18	59
Psychiatric Disorder Medicines	14	41
Cardiovascular Medicines	25	59
HIV Management Medicines	20	23
Analgesics, Antipyretics, Non-steroidal Anti-inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs)	11	24
Anti-Diabetic drugs	8	11
Hormones, other Endocrine Medicines and Contraceptives	16	33
Others	106	204
Unique Drugs / Formulations	321*	742

*Some medicines are listed in various sections. The medicines are counted in both sections, but the formulation is counted only once in one of the sections.

2. Retail prices for 3046 (approx.) new drugs have been fixed under DPCO, 2013 till 04th November 2024. As on 04th November, 259 Authority meetings have been conducted of which 127 have been conducted under DPCO 2013. The details of the recent meetings are given as below:

Meeting No.	Held on	Prices Approved & Notified
258th (overall) & 126th Meeting under DPCO 2013	09.09.2024	(i) Retail prices for 62 formulations notified vide S.O. 3867(E) dated 10.09.2024. (ii) Revision of Ceiling price of 1 scheduled formulation Chloroquine Tablet 150 mg from Rs.1.17 to Rs. 1.33 per tablet under Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 2013 based on review order of DoP, 31015/30/2023-Pricing dated 28.05.2024. The price is notified vide SO 3868 (E) dated 10.09.2024
259th (overall) & 127th Meeting under DPCO 2013	08.10.2024	(i) Retail prices for 20 formulations notified vide S.O. 4497(E) dated 14.10.2024.

3. Details of retail prices notified for various formulations based on the decision taken in 126th and 127th Authority Meetings are as follows:

S. No.	Therapeutic group	Total Number	Type of formulation	Retail Price Fixed Range (Rs.) (Excl. GST) per tablet/per ml
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Anti Diabetic	23	Tablet	11.05 – 20.33
2	Analgesic & anti-inflammatory	7	Tablet/ Injection/ Suspension	0.50 – 28.70
3	Anti-bacterial	9	Eye drops / Tablet	5.24 – 166.73
4	Anti-hypertensive	6	Tablet	9.65 – 14.85
5	Cardiovascular	13	Tablet / Capsule	2.54 – 14.73
6	Vitamins/Minerals/Nutrients	1	Tablet	10.00
7	Anti-Infective	7	Tablet/ Infusion/ Eye drops/ Gargle	1.51 – 161.10
8	Others	16	Tablet/ Capsule / Enema/ Suspension/ Respirator Solution	0.95 – 28.76

- NPPA has issued O.M dated 28.10.2024 directing manufacturers to reduce the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of three Anti-cancer Drugs namely Trastuzumab, Osimertinib and Durvalumab consequent to the Government Notification 30/2024 dated 23.07.2024 relating to exemption of these anti-cancer drugs from custom duty and notification no. 05/2024 dated 08.10.2024 relating to reduction of GST from 12% to 5% on these drugs.
- Recently, Department of Pharmaceuticals has issued 28 Review Orders in the month of October 2024, out of which the decision of NPPA has been upheld by DoP in 20 review orders.

News related to pricing of Medical devices

NPPA vide S.O. 4078(E) dated 15th September 2023 issued notification under Para 19 of the DPCO, 2013 regarding fixation/revision of ceiling prices of the Orthopaedic Knee Implants for Knee Replacement Systems up to 15th September 2024. This has been further extended up to 15th September 2025 vide S.O.3869(E) dated 10.09.2024.

IPDMS 2.0:

Integrated Pharmaceutical Database Management System (IPDMS) is an integrated responsive cloud-based application. It is a system for online information collection, processing and communication portal to monitor and regulate the prices of medicines and medical devices, to ensure availability and affordability of drugs and medical devices in the country. The upgraded IPDMS 2.0 was launched on 29th August, 2022 and the charts given below capture the statistics from January to October 2024:

REGULATORY NEWS

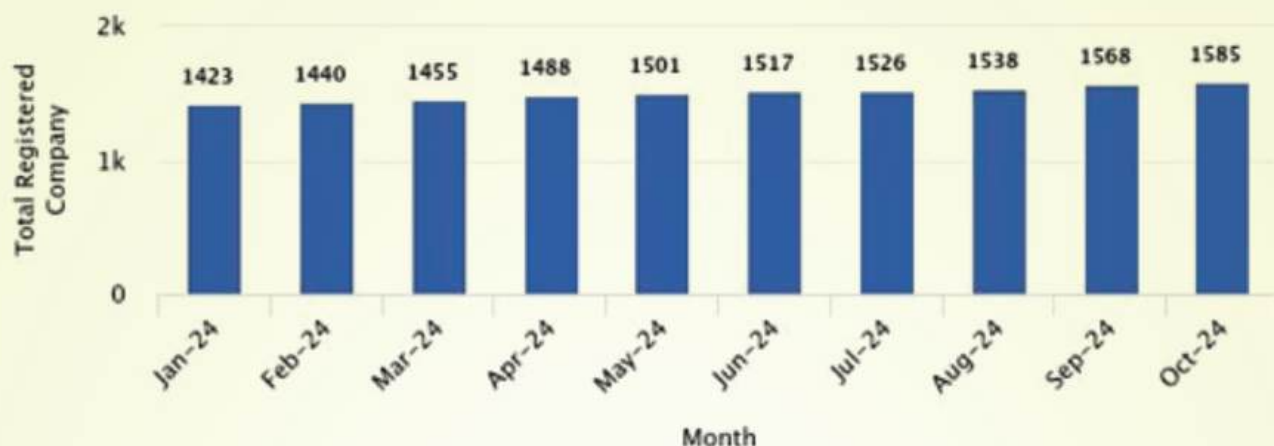


Chart1: Total number of registered companies at the end of October 2024.

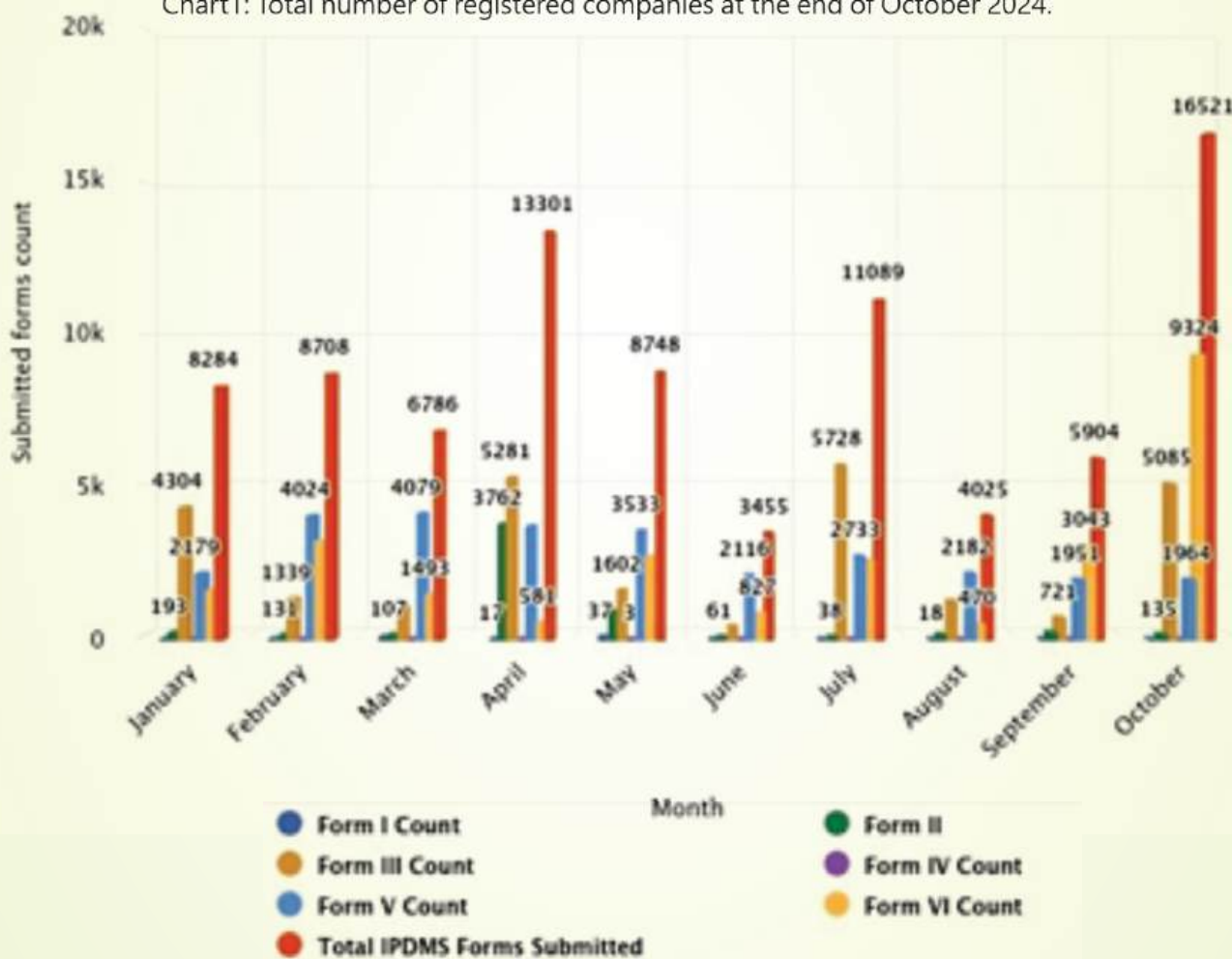


Chart 2: Number of statutory forms filed on IPDMS as on 31st October 2024

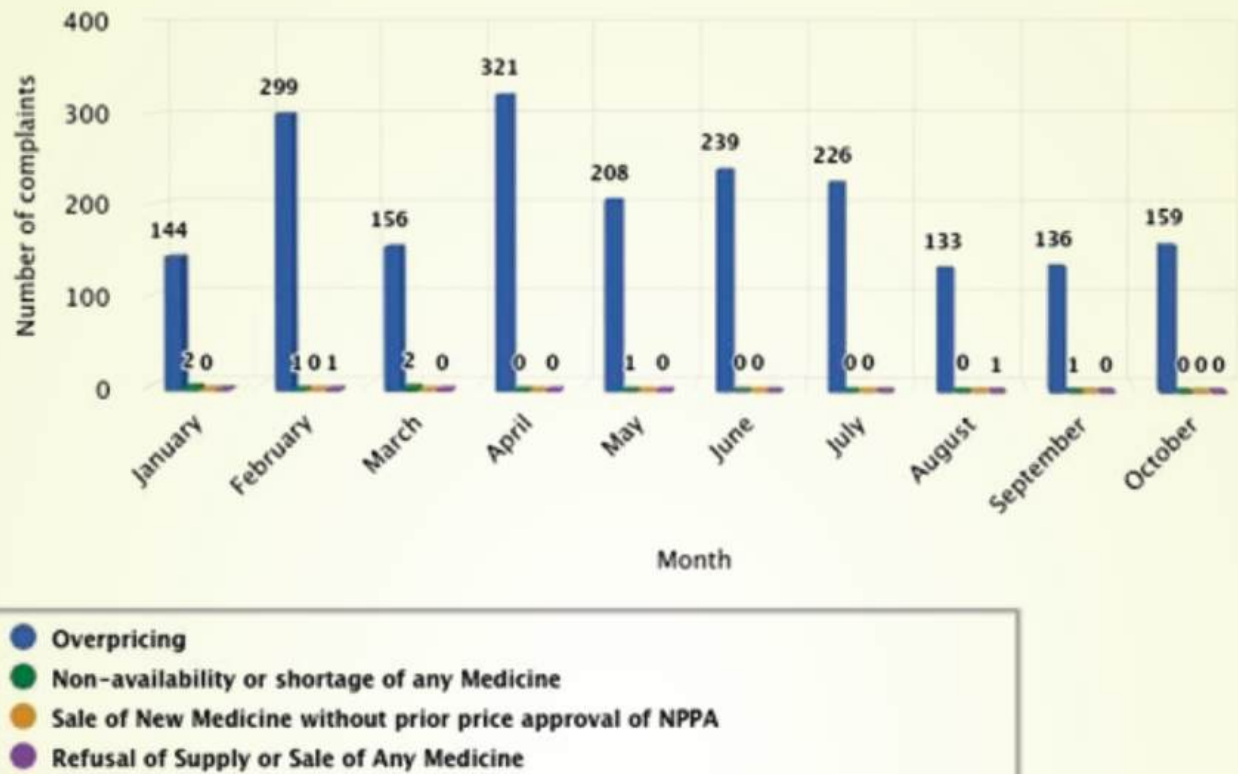


Chart 3: Number of complaints received on IPDMS/ Pharma Jan Samadhan



Chart 4: Number of Pharma Sahi Daam Mobile app downloads



Chart 5: Number of User logins in IPDMS 2.0

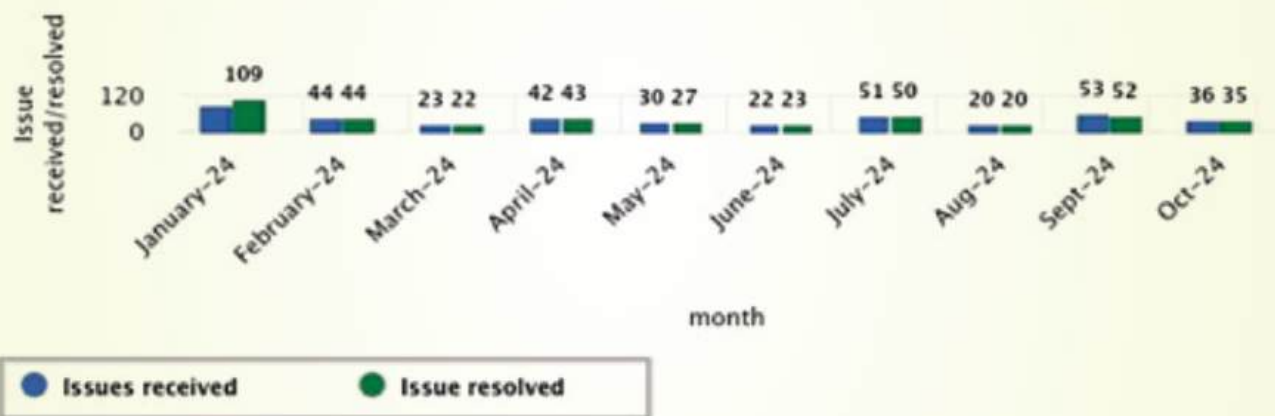


Chart 6: Number of User logins in IPDMS 2.0

FDA Authorizes Updated Novavax COVID-19 Vaccine to Better Protect Against Currently Circulating Variants (August 30, 2024)



The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (USFDA) granted emergency use authorization (EUA) for an updated version of the Novavax COVID-19 vaccine that more closely targets currently circulating variants to provide better protection against serious consequences of COVID-19, including hospitalization and death. The updated vaccine is authorized for use in individuals 12 years of age and older. It includes a monovalent (single) component that corresponds to the Omicron variant JN.1 strain of SARS-CoV-2.

[\(Read more\)](#)

FDA Approves First Treatment for Niemann-Pick Disease, Type C (September 20, 2024)



USFDA approved Miplyffa (arimoclomol), an oral medication for the treatment of Niemann-Pick disease, type C (NPC). Miplyffa, in combination with the enzyme inhibitor Miglustat, is approved to treat neurological symptoms associated with

NPC in adults and children 2 years of age and older. Miplyffa is the first drug approved by the FDA to treat NPC. NPC is a rare genetic disease that results in progressive neurological symptoms and organ dysfunction. It is caused by changes in either the NPC1 or NPC2 gene, affecting the necessary transport of cholesterol and other lipids within a cell. As a result, these cells do not function as they should, ultimately causing organ damage. On average, individuals affected by this devastating disease only live for about 13 years.

[Read more\)](#)

FDA Approves Nasal Spray Influenza Vaccine for Self- or Caregiver-Administration First Influenza Vaccine That Does Not Need to be Administered by a Health Care Provider(September 20, 2024)



U.S.FDA approved FluMist for self- or caregiver-administration. FluMist is approved for the prevention of influenza disease caused by influenza virus subtypes A and B in individuals 2 through 49 years of age. FluMist is sprayed into the nose and has been used safely and effectively for many years. It was initially approved by the FDA in 2003 for use in individuals 5 through 49 years of age, and in 2007, the FDA approved the use of FluMist to include children 2 through 5 years of age. It is the first vaccine to prevent influenza, more commonly known as the flu, that does not need to be administered by a health care provider. FDA Approves and Authorizes Updated mRNA COVID-19 Vaccines to Better Protect Against Currently Circulating Variants

[\(Read more\)](#)

हिंदी पखवाड़ा का आयोजन

पिछले वर्षों के समान ही, वर्ष 2024 के सितंबर माह के दौरान राष्ट्रीय औषध मूल्य निर्धारण प्राधिकरण में हिंदी दिवस एवं हिंदी प्रोत्साहन पखवाड़ा का आयोजन किया गया। हिंदी पखवाड़ा आयोजन में हिंदी निबंध, हिंदी अंग्रेजी अनुवाद, टिप्पण प्रारूपण, स्वरचित कविता पाठ एवं आशु-भाषण प्रतियोगिताओं का आयोजन किया गया, जिसमें कार्यालय के कार्मिकों ने बढ़-चढ़ कर भाग लिया और पुरस्कार भी प्राप्त किए। स्वच्छता पखवाड़ा के दौरान सफाई और स्वच्छता का गांधीवादी दर्शन हमारे दैनिक जीवन में क्यों महत्वपूर्ण है? के विषय पर निबंध प्रतियोगिता का आयोजित किया गया तथा प्रयोग के तौर पर आशु-भाषण प्रतियोगिता को शामिल किया गया, जिसमें ज्वलंत एवं समसामयिक मुद्दों पर प्रतिभागियों को अपने विचार प्रकट करने का अवसर प्राप्त हुआ। इससे कार्यालय के सदस्यों कि प्रतिभाएं भी उजागर हुईं और उनकी सक्रिय भागीदारी भी रही जिससे कार्यालय में जीवंतता का अनुभव हुआ।

पुरस्कार विजेताओं को हिंदी प्रोत्साहन पखवाड़ा समापन समारोह के अवसर पर सदस्य सचिव महोदया के द्वारा पुरस्कार राशि और प्रमाण-पत्र प्रदान किए गए। सदस्य सचिव महोदया ने इस अवसर पर लोगों को अपने दैनिक कार्य में हिंदी का अधिकाधिक प्रयोग करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित किया और धन्यवाद ज्ञापन के साथ समारोह को समाप्त किया गया।



SWACHHATA PAKHWADA

During the period of 1-15, Swachhata Pakhwada was observed and performed various activities viz



SWACHHTA PLEDGE

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NPPA कार्यालय में "स्वच्छता दिवस, 2024" के अवसर पर शपथ समारोह

NATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL PRICING AUTHORITY
 3rd & 5th Floor, YMCA Cultural Centre Building, 1, Jai Singh Road, New Delhi-110001
www.nppaindia.nic.in | Helpline No.: 1100 111 255 (10 am to 6 pm, on all working days)

SWACHHATA HI SEWA

NPPA along with all the PMRU participated in the Swachhata hi Sewa programme during 17.9.24 to 02.10.24 and performed various activities viz Swachhata Pledge in office; installation of a selfie point for encouraging public engagement; Essay/Poem Competition on swachhata ; plantation of about 30 trees under "Ek Pedh Maa Ke Naam" in the premises of YMCA and organised Safai Mitra Suraksha Shivirs.



OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

SPECIAL CAMPAIGN 4.0

NPPA participated in the special campaign 4.0 during 02.10.24 to 31.10.24 and performed various activities namely reviewing the 1418 files (physical/efile); identification of files (258) for permanent closure/weeding out; cleaning sites within Office Premises and Outdoor Sites in PMRUs (29) and identification of Scrap for disposal etc.

PARTICIPATION IN INDIA HEALTHCARE CONFERENCE 'NAVIGATING THE FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE: FROM VISION TO REALITY'

Member Secretary, NPPA participated and delivered an keynote address at the GS1 India Healthcare conference 'Navigating the Future of Healthcare: From Vision to Reality' on Thursday, 19th September '24.



PARTICIPATION IN 19TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF DRUG REGULATORY AUTHORITIES (ICDRA)

NPPA participated in the exhibition of 19th International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities (ICDRA) held 14th – 15th October at Yashobhoomi, Delhi organised by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) brought together regulatory authorities, policymakers, and health officials from over 194 WHO member states. Around 100 delegates viz regulators from different countries, Manufactures, State drug controllers, Manufactures, marketers, Students, researchers and from news media visited NPPA stall.



[Read More](#)

OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS



OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

VIGILANCE AWARENESS WEEK

Member Secretary administered the Integrity Pledge regarding campaign against corruption to all the officers and staff of NPPA during Vigilance Awareness Week-2024 on 30.10.2024.



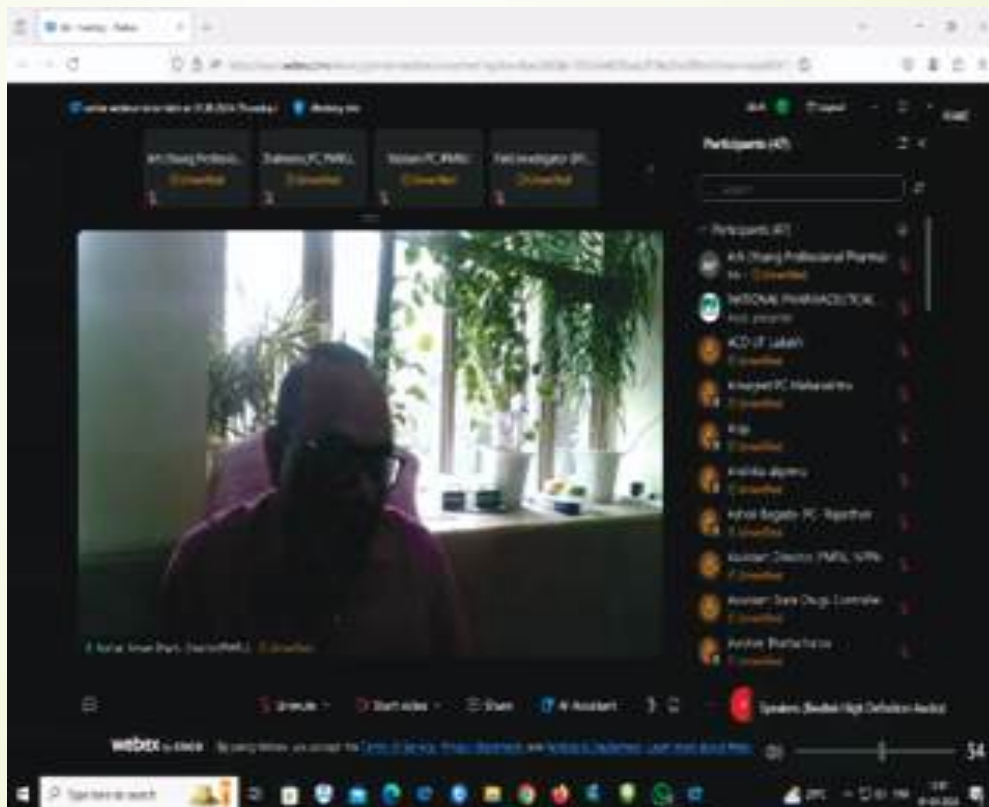
STATE LEVEL EVENTS/ SEMINARS BY PMRUs

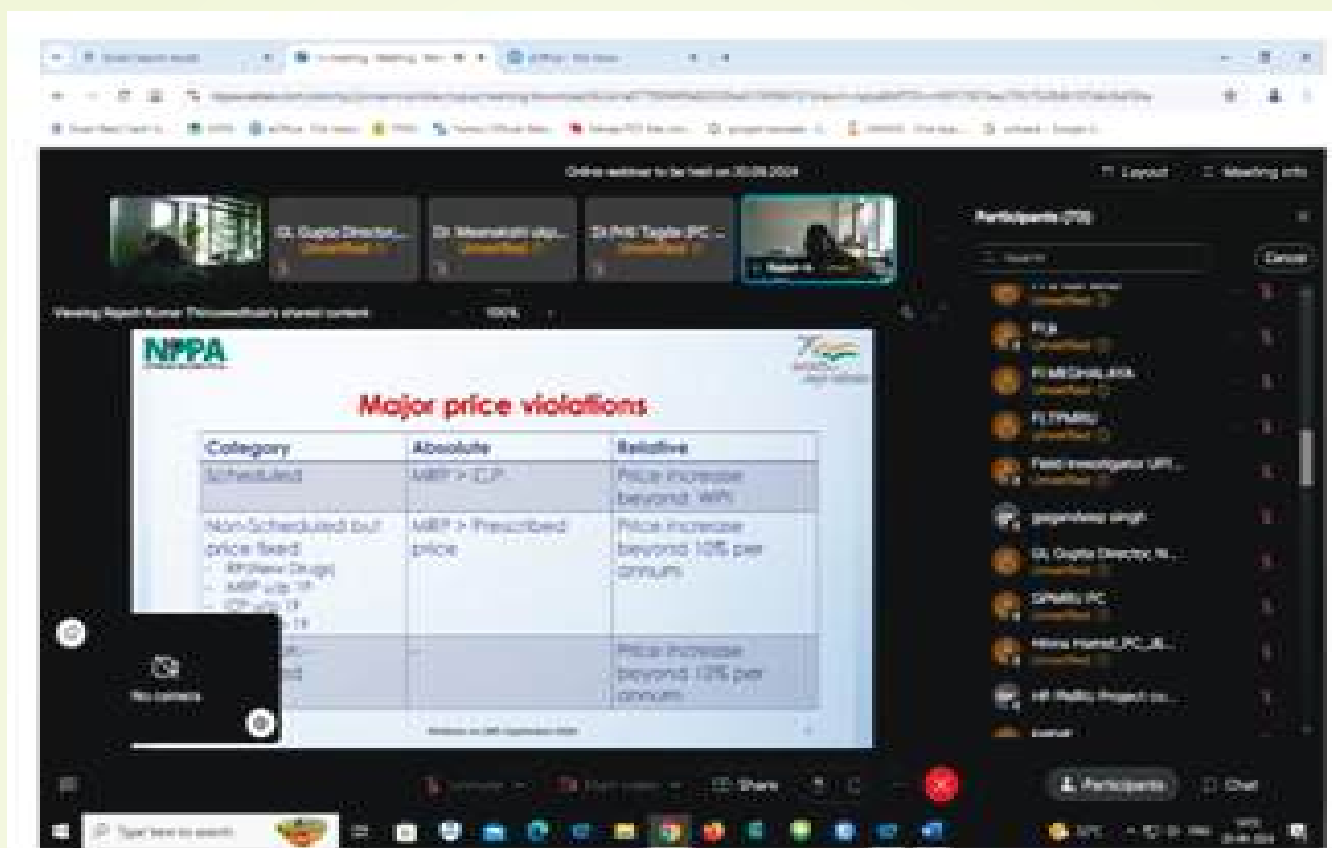
A. Webinars for Price Monitoring and Resource Units in the Sates/UTs:

Interactive webinar was organized by PMRU Division for Price Monitoring and Resource Units in the States/UTs as follows:

A webinar on the Proper submission of necessary documents related to Overcharging cases through IPDMS 2.0 held on 20.09.2024.

The main aim of the above webinar was to provide information regarding submission of documents related to activities performed by PMRUs with the help of IPDMS 2.0





B. IEC (Information, Education and Communication) Activities by PMRUs

PMRU MADHYA PRADESH:

One hundred and Sixteen (116) IEC Activities were conducted by 22 PMRUs in their respective States/ UTs viz. Puducherry, Jharkhand, Ladakh, Maharashtra, Punjab, Arunachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Kerala, Jammu & Kashmir, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh, Goa, Gujarat, KIHT, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Mizoram, Odisha, Rajasthan PMRUs. These events were aimed for imparting awareness among people about Role of NPPA in making the Drugs affordable and available for all, Promotion and use of Pharma Sahi Daam App & IPDMS 2.0, Monitoring of prices of medicines through PMRUs.

B.1 Swachhata Pakhwada 2024 from 01 September 2024 to 15 September 2024.

B.2 Swachhata Hi Seva campaign 2024 (SHS, 2024) from 17 September 2024 to 02 October 2024.

PMRUs participated in Swachhta campaign with its emphasis on making 'sanitation everyone's business'. PMRUs undertaken cleanliness drive in their respective States/UTs to ensure cleanliness activities along with people's participation at large.

Major glimpse of the activities are as follows:



OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

SAFAI MITRA SURAKSHA SHIVIR



PMRU TRIPURA:



OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

PMRU LADAKH



OTHER NEWS AND EVENTS

PMRU JAMMU & KASHMIR



Monitoring of Overcharging Cases:

PMRUs play an important role in monitoring the prices of Scheduled and Non-Scheduled formulations in their respective States/UTs. Fifteen (15) PMRUs have reported Two Hundred and Fifteen (215) likely violation cases through IPDMS 2.0 during September and October 2024.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the role of NPPA for price regulation of medicines?

Answer: NPPA provides ceiling price to all drugs notified under Schedule-I of the DPCO, 2013 and monitors price trends so that drugs remain affordable.

What is "Ceiling Price"?

Answer: Ceiling price of Scheduled formulations covered under National List of Essential Medicines (NLEM) are fixed under Para 4 and revised under Para 16 of DPCO 2013. MRP in such cases is Ceiling Price plus applicable taxes.

Whether NPPA has any role to regulate prices of non-scheduled drugs?

Answer: The Government monitors the Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of all drugs including non-scheduled formulations to ensure that no manufacturer increases the MRP of a drug more than ten percent of maximum retail price during the preceding twelve month and any manufacturer violating the provisions is liable to deposit the overcharged amount along with the interest. (Para 20 of DPCO 2013)

Whether manufacturers have to take permission of the Government before discontinuing the manufacture of essential medicines?

Answer: As per Paragraph 21 of DPCO, 2013, manufacturers have to take permission of the Government before discontinuing the manufacture of essential medicines.

What is the grievance redress mechanism related to pricing, shortage and non-availability of medicines?

Answer: The Pharma Jan Samadhan (PJS) provides the consumer with an effective and time bound grievance redress system to effectively deal with complaints related to pricing, shortage and non-availability of medicines. Apart from the internet-based online facility, there is a consumer Help Line also, which can be used to lodge complaints.

Is there any tool to check the authenticated MRP of medicine?

Answer: Yes. 'Pharma Sahi Daam' is an online search tool through which prices of scheduled / Non-Scheduled medicines can be instantly checked.





Feedback and Complaint Redressal



Grievance Redressal

Pharma Jan Samadhan: A web enabled system for grievance redressal – catering to consumers, distributors, dealers, retailers.



Information Dissemination

- **Pharma Sahi Daam:** One can easily search brand name, composition, ceiling price and MRP of the formulation – available to public.
- **Seminars and Workshops** conducted by NPPA and by PMRUs



Collaboration with State Governments



- **PMRU:** To help NPPA to monitor notified prices and ensure availability of medicines.
- To spread awareness regarding the pricing of drugs, etc.



NATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL PRICING AUTHORITY

3rd / 5th Floor, YMCA Cultural Center Building 1, Jai Singh Road, New Delhi, India

www.nppaindia.nic.in | Helpline No.: 1800 111 255 (10 am to 6 pm on working hours)

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