The pharmacy education has become an essential concern, not only for students and educators but also to whole society, policy makers, professional bodies, parents and other stakeholders. The beginning of pharmaceutical education in India was initiated at the Banaras Hindu University back in 1932 by Professor M.L. Schroff. But after 80 years still there is a question arise that what is our international standing? In this world of specialization and globalization the pharmacy education is suffering from serious backdrops and flaws.

There are enormous potentials for growth of pharmacy profession, if we are prepared to upgrade our standards to international and global expectations. The curriculum followed by almost all universities in India is not up to the world standards. There is an overall decrease in admissions to professional courses particularly in undergraduate course (B. Pharmacy) in pharmacy during the last three academic years. It is a serious concern that 40% of the seats are lying vacant both in undergraduate and postgraduate courses across the country. The placement in the sector has also gone down. The Education Regulation of PCI which governs diploma education in India has not undergone any updations since last 20 years. The students are still getting the 20-30 yrs older compounding practical exposure in labs during the graduation level. The current framework of pharmacy education in India produces outdated and unskilled professionals. The products of this form of education lack the much needed professionalism and rational thinking. 4 years of education in graduation level does not even make them fit for dispensing drugs confidently in a drug store. This is one of the main reasons behind pharmacy being an under developed profession in India.

**IN THE PRESENT SYSTEM**

- Entry of unqualified and non-meritorious students into the course.
- Non focused and unspecialized way of learning.
- Out dated curriculum and educational regulations.
- Lack of industrial and clinical exposure.
- Unskilled ways of practical and lab training in the institutes.
- Research output from Indian educational labs rarely lead to commercialization and revenue generation.
- Given the market needs for trained manpower, teaching takes total priority over research in our universities.
- Institutional base of research in India is extremely narrow serious research is limited to a few ‘elite’ institutes.
PROPOSED SOLUTION OF THESE PROBLEMS

- A centralized allotment procedure (CAP) may be introduced to regulate the entry of students into the pharmacy stream, which is purely based on the merit all throughout the country.
- Every college should provide the students an atmosphere to nourish his/her internal skills and qualities. A system should be devised so that each and every student gets an opportunity to freely think and develop his skills to the maximum. Professionalism can be cultivated only through rational ways of thinking and performing. Students should come out with their ideas and suggestions in any aspect of education and especially be focused on innovative research.
- Quality is the key word for success of an institution. It is the essence for survival of a professional institution like pharmacy. The quality of education provided to the students dependant mostly on the availability of qualified and experienced staff in an institution. Providing the qualified staff to the students is the job of upper level management.
- Seminars and presentations turns about to be the most important tools in improving the quality of education in an institution. It is very important for a student to be skilled in making presentations and giving a seminar on a topic.

The International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA) is an independent, international cooperative of national research institutions and governmental research agencies which is aimed to;

- Provide international benchmarks that may assist policy-makers in identifying the comparative strength and weaknesses of their educational systems.
- Provide high-quality data that will increase policy-makers’ understanding of key school- and non-school-based factors that influence teaching and learning.
- Provide high-quality data which will serve as a resource for identifying areas of concern and action, and for preparing and evaluating educational reforms.
- Develop and improve educational systems’ capacity to engage in national strategies for educational monitoring and improvement.
- Contribute to development of the world-wide community of researchers in educational evaluation.

The present counseling system proves to be the first and foremost reason for the degradation of the profession in the country. The students are under stress due to the work over loads and inefficient time management, totally the academic life becomes horrible for them. Here comes the importance of counseling and its benefits to the students.

Proposed idea of introducing specializations at graduation level in pharmacy may reincarnate the pharmaceutical profession. Like the other technology courses like B.E/B. Tech, we should also have a provision for specialization from graduation level in all the conventional branches of pharmacy.
All over the world the profession of pharmacy has matured into a clinical profession. It has transformed itself from a product oriented to patient oriented profession. The World Health Organization (WHO) in its initiative in 1997-98 prepared a global health policy frame work so that all health professionals are appropriately and adequately prepared to face the health problems of 21st century.

As we discussed about the pharmaceutical education in India, it requires a drastic change related to the quality of education, awareness of the profession and advancement in profession.

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