

Women pharmacists in Current Era

Pharmacy has emerged as an important profession in the multidisciplinary provision of health care in recent years and has expanded considerably in terms of professional services. The pharmacist's role has expanded beyond the traditional product-oriented dispensing, distributing medicines and health supplies. The pharmacist's services of today are focused more on patient-oriented service, executive handling, and public health utility. Presently, the pharmacy profession in developing countries is under-utilized and their role as health care professionals is considered of paramount importance by the community and health care providers.

The 20th century saw many spectacular and innovative changes in the profession of pharmacy. There had been a shift from industrialized manufacturing of pharmaceutical dosage forms to the clinical pharmacy movement. A third major trend in pharmacy was the rapid growth in the numbers of women entering the pharmacy profession. It was observed that more than 40% of girls are studying in the pharmacy institutions across the country.

Time has come for the women to realize their potential and make the most of their skills and experiences to serve the noble profession i.e. healthcare. Women should think big and aim for the leadership positions in order to further contribute to the society. It was well said by the leaders of the country at various platforms that “*Jitani Jyada Women Hongin Utana Jyada Safe and Secure Working System Hoga*” The 50% of total population of the country is women; amongst them hardly 1% of them are contributing to the nation and very few are in the leading positions. In Pharmacy profession, we can count the names of women pharmacists on the tips of our hand e.g. **Dr.Mrs. Manjusree Pal, Dr. Mrs. Malati R Baichwal, Prof. M. Vimala Devi, Prof.. S.R. Jain, Dr. Archana Mudgal** & few more. Women may contribute at various

platforms from policy making to the ground root reality of the country. It appears that much more work is being done by them than it is truly represented at all levels and sectors of pharmacy. They need support when they have children. With determination and confidence, as demonstrated by many achievers, women can advance within pharmacy and make a difference in the profession.

Successful administrators require both ways of thinking in an organization - as an individual and as an organization. Women leaders bring a diversity of skills with them, all gained through their daily life. They have tremendous qualities to balance household work as well as the office without expecting any gains wherever they are working. Women view problems in a different way from men as a part of their nature. Women may be more focused on the whole picture rather than each individual element. They have particular qualities that make them valuable employees in all sectors of pharmacy. They are often good spectators, collaborative, and seekers of common ground with others.

Women are undoubtedly rousing transformation and revolutionizing pharmacy at all levels and across all sectors. The day has come to motivate and promote more women by celebrating the achievements of those women who are making a difference to the profession. Increasingly more women are being promoted into top leadership positions within pharmacy but overall they are still under-represented. This condition exists in academics as well as in industry. Women should come forward by overcoming the problems of the patriarchal society and work shoulder-to-shoulder with men to develop the profession and take it to the greater heights. This is not only a big challenge for women but also a great opportunity. Thus, this wonderful creation of God should be treated as a qualified entity of the system and should be brought to the forefront to

contribute equally in nation building. A single woman not only influences the entire circle of her own but the entire society as well.

Last but not the least, the Author wishes to convey that

“More women in leading positions,

More contribution,

Then more sophisticated healthcare in the nation”