Effective ways of finding Adverse Drug Reactions in Pharmacovigilance

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Abstract: With many adverse effects happening on population due to medical drugs, there is a need to find these effects and reduce it. Hence researchers are working on FDA_AERS, a real time database to find the adverse effect present in drugs. This field has developed as pharmacovigilance and data mining algorithm helps in improving the accuracy of clinical analysis. In this paper, growth of Pharmacovigilance in India and a novel way to find adverse drug reaction is proposed.

Index Terms: Pharmacovigilance, Data mining, Adverse Events

I. INTRODUCTION

Pharmacovigilance aims at the best use of medicine to cure the disease with no adverse effects. Pharmacovigilance deals with science and activities relating to the identification, analysis and stoppage of ADRs. So each country has “Safety monitoring of medicinal products-guidelines for setting up and running a pharmacovigilance centre” with aim to observe ADRs.

The aim of PvPI is to gather, assemble and investigate the data and recommend their results to corresponding authorities. The organization of paper is as follows: Section 2 describes the literature survey; section 3 discusses on effective Pharmacovigilance; section 4 discusses on data mining algorithm for Pharmacovigilance; section 5 the conclusions.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Because of the boundaries of clinical trials done before entering into market, adverse events due to a specific drug cannot be assessed before its release [2]. Table 1 shows the report on year wise FDA dataset. Literature revealed that adverse reactions in drugs released to public has millions of death and hospitalization [3–19]. Pharmacovigilance becomes necessary to identify these ADRs [20–28]. Hence, present research focus is for ADR detection.

As information from single source has many limitations, present research focused on gathering information from multiple sources. Figure 1 shows pharmacovigilance in different stages of drug development which can be divided into premarket and post market analysis which can be divided into many phases.

Fig 2 Clinical trials in India

Distribution of clinical trials throughout India and presence of different patient strength is shown in Fig. 2 [18].

III. EFFECTIVE PHARMACOVIGILANCE PROCEDURE

For doing Pharmacovigilance effectively, the timelines for reporting ADRs is shown in Fig 3. The timelines for periodic safety updates reports is shown in Fig 4.
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Fig 1 Pharmacovigilance in different stages of drug development

Pre-market
- Preclinical Research
  - Laboratory and animal experiments for acute toxicity, organ damage, dose dependence, metabolism, kinetics, and etc.
- Phase I
  - 20-50 healthy individuals to gather preliminary data
- Phase II
  - 150-350 subjects with disease to determine drug safety and dosage recommendation
- Phase III
  - 250-4000 varied patient groups to determine short term drug safety and efficacy
- Phase IV
  - Post approval studies to determine safety issues
- SRS
  - Spontaneous reports submitted voluntarily submitted by health professionals and consumers

Fig 3 Timelines for reporting ADRs

Regulations for the Administration of ADR Reporting & Monitoring: Procedure & Timeliness

Manufacturers

Distributors

Healthcare Institutions

Regional Centres

Local FDA/ Health Beauraus

National Centre

SFDA/MOH

WHO

New/Serious 15 days
Death ≤ 15 days
Other each Qtr

New/Serious 3 days
Others each Qtr

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Fig 5 Pharmacovigilance structure in India

Fig 6 Information flow in Pharmacovigilance
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Fig 5 shows the present pharmacovigilance structure in India which has monitoring facility over MCI approved medical colleges and hospitals all over India.

IV. DATA MINING ALGORITHMS FOR PHARMACOVIGILANCE

The class label attribute output disease had two distinct values (Yes, No) represented by hypothesis (H).

\[ P(H/X) = \frac{P(X/H) \times P(H)}{P(X)} \]

P(H/X) is called posterior probability where hypothesis (H) represents the presence of output disease with X as known disease category and outcome. P(X/H) represents the posterior probability of X on the subject of H. P (H) represents the prior probability of H irrespective of disease category, drug code and outcome. P(X) denotes prior probability of X. For calculating P(X), output disease record sets with 'unknown' category were filtered. Then the posterior probability was calculated based on outcome, disease category and drug code. To improve Naive Bayes algorithm use of Influence Factor helps to determine the dependency and was calculated for the attributes drug code, disease category and outcome on the class label.

\[ I[X/C_i] = \frac{N(X/C_i)}{N(C_i)} \]

where I(X/Ci)=Influence Factor N(X/Ci) represents the number of records in which attribute X had class label Ci, and N(Ci) represents the total number of records with class label Ci. The dataset was divided based on the class label ‘Yes’ and ‘No’. Influence factor for attributes with high values were taken and others ignored.

As information from single source has many limitations, present research focused on gathering information from multiple sources. Figure 6 shows the information flow in Pharmacovigilance.

V. CONCLUSIONS

With adverse effects on huge population available in FDA_AERS, researchers are looking into new ways in pharmacovigilance. Proper analysis of FDA_AERS can help in saving patients precious life using stable drug safety assistance. Recently, plenty of work has been done to increase the limits of pharmacovigilance. Data mining algorithms helps in improving the accuracy of analysis but overall, results obtained from these algorithms should be measured with care and directed by proper clinical assessment. The work done in this paper will help us to work on missed data and duplicate data removal after which analysis is planned to be done for different adverse effects.

References