한국과 다른 국가에서의 임상약리학 교육현황

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Current Status of Clinical Pharmacology Education in Korea and Other Countries

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The discipline of clinical pharmacology has been trying to improve the efficacy and safety of drug therapy on a scientific basis, and also to attain rational prescription. Clinical pharmacology has also played the vital role in new drug development. It is clear that medical students should receive a good grounding in clinical pharmacology during their undergraduate and other courses so that they can easily understand current therapies as well as evaluate and assimilate new therapeutic advances in the future. The current status of clinical pharmacology education in Korea and other countries was therefore investigated.

A survey on the current status of clinical pharmacology education was conducted in 41 Korean medical schools. The teaching of clinical pharmacology in European and other countries was also investigated by using recent literature survey.

38 (92.7%) schools responded to the questionnaire on the teaching of clinical pharmacology. Only one third of respondents (31.6%) are teaching clinical pharmacology as a separate discipline. An average time of 13.1 hours was devoted to clinical pharmacology teaching (range 8-16 hours). It was done largely during the third- or fourth-year grade of the medical curriculum. Other concrete current status of clinical pharmacology teaching in Korea was also investigated. There has not been much surveys on clinical pharmacology teaching in European and other countries. However even in a survey conducted at European countries in early nineties, students in western Europe received on average 28 hours (maximum 210) teaching of clinical pharmacology and 27 hours (maximum 90) in eastern Europe.

These data indicated that there are severe dearth of clinical pharmacology teaching in Korean medical schools and postgraduate or continuing medical education, and every effort is required to encourage the education of clinical pharmacology.