

University-industry collaboration in pharmaceutical sciences

S.A. Mostafavi*, M. Golestani

Department of Pharmaceutics, School of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Isfahan University of Medical Sciences, Isfahan, Iran

Background and Aims: University-industry collaboration in advanced economies played a crucial role. In Iran, the generally poor innovation performance of domestic pharmaceutical industry has been perceived as a constraint on global competitiveness. Most of the domestic pharmaceutical companies are generic makers and the possibility of research and development in these companies is very limited. The present study aims at attaining a better understanding of the relationships between pharmaceutical industries and the universities.

Methods: 176 questionnaires including 54 researcher made questions were distributed randomly among the staff of the schools of pharmacies, the directors of the pharmaceutical industries and R&D directors, throughout the country. This questionnaire was designed to get an answer to how should establish a scientific relationships between the pharmaceutical industries and the universities?

Results: The first three priorities in establishing a relationship between pharmaceutical industries and the university in the university staff views include:

1. No stable policies for the relationship between pharmaceutical industries and the universities.
2. The necessity of expert R&D persons in industries.
3. Making a competitive market for the domestic pharmaceutical productions.

The three priorities in the director's view include:

1. No stable policies for the relationship between pharmaceutical industries and the universities.
2. Refining the method of pricing according to the minimum quality of the pharmaceutical productions.
3. Increasing the level of the people's and the physicians knowledge to choose the high quality products.

Conclusions: Establishing a firm relationship between the pharmaceutical industries and the universities is a must. For this reason the government should play an important role by formulating clear and comprehensive policies in this regard.

Keywords: Relationship; Pharmaceutical industries; Universities; Iran