

## **Role of apamt in clinical toxicology research and training program- needs, limitations and recommendations**

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**Objective:** The major tasks of clinical toxicologist are diagnosis and management of poisonings, chemical-induced diseases, environmental and occupational hazardous material exposures and other human toxicological problems. Data from clinical and case studies in this field are needed to improve the understanding of principles and practice, prevention of poisonings and promotion of health care for the poisoned patient. They are also an essential basis for the poison control and treatment centers (1). While most of exposures and deaths due to poisoning are occurring in developing countries particularly in Asia-Pacific region (2), there is no collaborating system to control poisons and chemical hazards in this region. South Asian Clinical Toxicology Research Centre (SACTRC) is the only regional research centre based in Sri Lanka to deal with poisonings in this country. It seems that little information has been published under the name of APAMT since its establishment in 1989. The aim of this study was to evaluate the APAMT activities in developing toxicological research and training in this region. **Method:** The key word of APAMT or “Asia Pacific Association of Medical Toxicolog” was searched using the PubMed and Google search engines to identify all English relevant papers and scientific activities. **Results:** No results were found in PubMed search engine but the probe produced 206 unduplicated hints on the search for sites having APAMT. Of which more than 150 hints were referred to another societies with the same abbreviation. From remaining, most of the searches were referred to the five scientific meetings of APAMT or their abstracts. Searching the APAMT members publications found several thousands papers, mostly with high standards. **Discussion and Conclusion:** Although most individual APAMT members have been actively participating in the international, regional and national toxicological meetings and have published thousands indexed articles but there are no active collaboration among them in the Asia Pacific region and no official journal have yet been published under the name of this association. APAMT is the only association in the field of medical toxicology in the region and its prime goal is promoting science and education in this field within the region. Therefore, more communications and cooperations between the APAMT members, seeking funds from different sources including health ministries of the regional countries and chemical industries, promoting the website and e-learning, establishment of a periodic newsletter and a scientific journal, holding training courses and continued medical toxicological education are recommended.

### **References:**

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