Correspondence

Should banned drugs be mentioned clearly?

We have read the article on “Drugs and non-alcoholic steatohepatitis” by S.K. Das and D.M. Vasudevan (Indian J Pharmacol 2006;38:238–42) with interest. The authors have addressed a very important topic, the information gathered in it will be very useful for pharmacovigilance studies in the future. But it is to be noted that it is worth mentioning the status of dexfenfluramine and fenfluramine in Table 1 as they are banned in India.

An important issue of the availability of banned medicines over the counter has been raised by Thawani et al.[1] The current status of the marketed drugs, particularly hazardous ones, should be clearly mentioned in the interest of the public. Dexfenfluramine and fenfluramine are listed as banned drugs in India [GSR No. 499 (E) dated: 14-08-1998].[2] In this regard, we feel that the citation of such information will help to increase the awareness about hazardous drugs as well as serve the purpose of pharmacovigilance in the true sense.

D.M. Parmar, S.P. Jadav
Department of Pharmacology,
M.P. Shah Medical College,
Jamnagar-361008, India
E-mail: drdinesh06@rediffmail.com

References