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**A survey of drug registration applications received by the cosmetics devices and drugs authority in 1998**

In Sri Lanka drugs are registered by the Cosmetics Devices and Drugs Authority (CDDA) under the powers of the Cosmetics Devices and Drugs Act of 1980. in this

communication we present some information about drug registrations. The objectives were to study the total number of applications received over one year, the number registered and rejected, the types of registrations, the number of essential drugs and new chemicals and to classify them according to organ systems. The data were collected by perusing the records maintained at the CDDA and interviewing the staff there. The period of study covers one year from 01.01.1998 to 31.12.1998. During this period a total of 705 applications were received, Of this 460 were registered. Of the remaining 245 applications, 185 were rejected and decisions are pending on the others. Of the 460 registered, 267 were full registrations (valid for 5 years) and the remaining 193 provisional registrations (valid for 1 year) . Out of the 705 applications, 261 (37%) were for essential drugs. There were 47 applications for new chemicals. The most number of applications, 183 (26%), were for antimicrobials. Other categories included 11.5% for Central Nervous System, 11.1% for Blood & Nutrition, 7.6 % for Cardiovascular System, 7.1% Endocrine and 6.5% for the Respiratory System. Reasons for rejection included incomplete documentation, unproven efficacy and safety, quality failure, and problems about product information and stability. The above information gives some basic idea about the drug registrations done in Sri Lanka.