ABSTRACT
The objective of the study is to analyze the prevalence of use of homeopathic remedy in two distinct groups i.e. pharmacist and non pharmacist in order to evaluate the growing belief of community towards non conventional methods. To achieve the objective a survey form was structured, which included the opinion of two different groups i-e pharmacist and non pharmacist with different age groups about their treatment preference. Questionnaire was designed to evaluate the reasons for which homeopathy is preferred, most common ailments in which it is used and other necessary relevant information. 400 forms were administered and 374 duly filled forms were collected with R.R of 93%. Sample population is being divided equally in 187 filled performas of both groups. 146 out of 374 are homeopathic users (39%). Data collected showed that interestingly a significant percentage of pharmacist 34% (64 out of 187) are homeopathy users. But on the whole non-pharmacists are more frequent users of homeopathy remedy about 41%. (82 out of 187). Most common reason reported by the users for using homeopathy were minimum side effects (47.53%) along with patient compliance, conventional belief, and long term effectiveness. Data also revealed that a significant no. of potential homeopathy believers belong to the age group 29 and above (49.25%) Conditions in which homeopathy is the preferred remedy included gastric problems (27.4%), gynecological disorders (26.02%), chronic respiratory disorders (15.14%), and others (6.4%).

Keywords: homeopathy; remedy; conventional; allopathy; pharmacist; nonpharmacist.

INTRODUCTION
Medicine is at its very best when it incorporates the scientific method and the art of healing. [1] Homeopathic system of healing is a pure pharmaceutical system that utilizes micro doses of natural compounds from the different sources to improve patients's inbuilt healing
Homeopathy is a system with mechanism of using small doses of natural substances to initiate the healing. While in allopathic system of medication the direct targets are physiological processes of patient in relation to his/her symptoms, in homeopathic medicines overall level of health are improved by stimulating person's immune and defense system and so and prevent disease. Samuel Hahnemann, the founder of homeopathy, actually followed the scientific principles and methods of his time. The definition Hahnemann gave to homeopathy "similia similibus curentur" in latin means "let like cure like". The second principle of homeopathy, use of the smallest dose, necessary to generate a response in the patient. Thus homeopathy use extremely diluted substances as dosages, these preparations have concentration small enough so that not been measured by current scientific methods.

Homeopathy and Allopathy have completely different approaches in the sense that allopathy has mechanism to attack the root cause by fight the body's natural response system. While Homeopathy, awake body natural response by sometimes promoting the symptoms of healing or fighting the root cause of disease by evoking the vital energy of body. As allopathic medicines have quick onset of action, they are getting more popular. Therefore, the objective of this study is to collect data onto the homeopathy users prevalence in two different groups i.e., pharmacist and non-pharmacist and establish a correlation with their demographic variable, reasons for preference and also determine its relation with people of different age groups.

Method
Although homeopathic treatments have been used for many decades as their side effects are minor, their efficacy is still controversial in presence of allopathic treatments. So, this study is designed to check the prevalence of homeopathy among people. A questionnaire was structured and distributed among pharmacist and non-pharmacist to evaluate the reasons for preferring homeopathy, the conditions in which they prefer, different age groups using homeo, side effects and other necessary information. 400 forms were distributed. The data presented here is collected by approaching to pharmacists and general population of our community. The survey proceeded for two weeks targeted the age groups of 18-22, 23-28 and 29 or older. 374 forms were duly filled by people with R.R of 93%. Sample population is being divided equally in 187 filled performas of both groups. Since our study was not experimental and didn't involve any intervention, we didn't approach any ethics committee
for review before conducting the study. The collected data were analyzed by standard statistical methods for appropriate findings.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The questionnaire based survey was being conducted between two communities that is Pharmacists and Non-Pharmacists. (Fig.1) Regarding pharmacist it was quite shocking finding that about 34% of pharmacist are motivated towards homeopathy treatment, concluded main reason was minimum side effects with a percentage of 47.53%. Despite the fact that the effectiveness of homeopathy is still subjected to controversial discussion, investigations show that 19.5% of general population uses homeopathic treatment due to conventional belief. (Fig. 2) Questionnaire was distributed into three different age groups 18-22, 23-28, 29 or older. Major percentages of homeopathy users were found on age group of 29 or above i.e. 49.25% because old age people are experiencing a major health crises. They are fed up with being sick or pain so they choose to have homeopathy remedy because studies revealed that allopathy medications have more side effects than homeopathy.[4] Homeopathy enjoys edge over allopathy in number of ways. As it is evidence based fact that those using allopathic medications chronically have high threat of several other diseases. However homeopathic has no such side effects. [5][7] In general Homeopathy is the preferred remedy in gastric problems and gynecology. 27.4% people are use to of homeopathic treatment in gastric problems while 26.02% patients are motivated towards homeopathic treatment in gynecological cases. (Fig. 3) homeopathy is comparatively safe even for women in pregnancy and in labor. [6] Most of the allopathic medicines fall in category C this category is contraindicated with pregnant women. so many women today are refusing hormone treatment and looking for therapeutic alternatives that are both better tolerated and convincingly effected so they prefer homeopathy remedies which have proved quite effective in treating gynecological problems.[7] Homeopathy is one of several alternative therapies that are used in treating infertile people. Complementary/Alternative Medicine (CAM) therapists take a more holistic view of infertility treatment than allopathic health professionals. [8] Homeopathy medicines for gastric problems offer suitable relief from the painful conditions. Homeopathy remedies have particularly no side effects and are non-toxic which a big advantage in curing the acidic state is. Homeopathic treatment for respiratory diseases (asthma, allergic complaints, Acute Recurrent Respiratory Infections) was associated with a significant reduction in the use and costs of conventional drugs. Health care system should
not be not being so expensive Costs for homeopathic therapy are significantly lower than those for conventional pharmacological therapy.

**Fig 1. Medicinal system users of two communities**

- Homeopathic users
- Allopathic users

**Fig 2. Reasons for homeopathic preference**

- Minimum side effects: 47.53%
- Increases patient compliance: 25.06%
- Conventional belief: 19.50%
- Long term effectiveness: 7.91%

**Fig 3. Medical conditions in which homeopathic remedy preferred**

- Gastric problems: 27.40%
- Gynecological: 26.02%
- Chronic respiratory disorders: 15.14%
- Others: 6.40%
[9] The basic advantage of homeopathic remedies is that they deal with the reason of the disease, and even through a patient has to wait to get the exact remedy he needs, nevertheless the remedy is individualized and works in the majority of cases and gives positive results. The situation has changed not only because people support the “close to nature” tendency, but also because the homeopathic remedies are honestly effective.[10]

REFERENCES