

PAKISTAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



Hon. President
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Dr. Hameedullah Khan

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Dr. Sarwar Jamil Siddiqui

Hon. Editor The Medical Gazette
Dr. Alia Bano

November 14, 2021

PRESS RELEASE

Pakistan Medical Association (Centre) today had its Central Council Meeting at PMA House Karachi. The meeting was presided over by Dr.S.Tipu Sultan Ex-President PMA Centre. Central Councilors from all over Pakistan attended the meeting.

The participants of the meeting had discussion in detail over the following Issues.

Affairs of Pakistan Medical Commission (PMC):

Affairs of PMC, the MDCAT and NLE were discussed at large by the Central Councilors. The Central Councilors were of the view that we had never accepted the creation of PMC from the day one. The meeting rejected PMC as its principal stand over dissolution of PMDC.

The Council clearly stated that PMA is never against any exam instead we have always demanded to follow merit. PMA wants improvement of standards of medical education in Pakistan for producing competent doctors. But the way MDCAT was conducted is absolutely wrong. PMA is of the view that before implementing NLE it should be discussed with medical educationists, stakeholders and representatives of PMA.

PMA believes that such noxious decisions will be harmful both for medical profession and medical education.

The Council expressed its concerns over the recent situation in the country due to mismanagement in MDCAT Exam. It was conducted in such a baffling way that consequently students all over Pakistan were on roads against it. They were protesting against the flaws it had due to which all the stakeholders questioned over its transparency. PMA believes that students were rightly demanding to cancel the MDCAT due to its alleged technical flaws

It was another blunder that PMC introduced the online examination system without doing pilot project and taking stakeholders on board. In the past, tests were held on answer sheets and just after exam carbon copy was provided to students. Later, a key was uploaded on the website due to which candidates never argued over exam results.

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35th CMAAO General Assembly and 56th Council Meeting (2021, Taipei):

Pakistan Medical Association is active member of CMAAO (Confederation of Medical Associations of Asia & Oceania). The Leadership of PMA fervently participated in the 35th General Assembly and 56th Council Meeting which was held online from 2-3 September 2021. It is great honor for Pakistan Medical Association that this Council Session decided the venue and dates for 2022 General Assembly and Council Meeting as Karachi, Pakistan from 23rd to 25th September 2022. Another Pride for PMA is that 35th CMAAO General Assembly has appointed Dr. Qazi Muhammad Wasiq , Treasurer PMA Centre, as President Elect of CMAAO. Dr. Qazi will be installed as 39th President of CMAAO for 2022-2023 at the Ceremonial Session of the 36th CMAAO General Assembly in Karachi, 2022. We also feel pleasure to inform that Dr. Shahid Shaukat Malik, General Secretary PMA Lahore has been appointed as Councilor of CMAAO.

218th Council Session and General Assembly of WMA:

Pakistan Medical Association is also an active member of the World Medical Association and PMA Leadership keenly participated at its online 218th Council Session and General Assembly from 7-15 October 2021. PMA not only participated in the meetings and Scientific Sessions but also took part in the elections of WMA. Dr. Ashraf Nizami, President PMA Lahore was our candidate for the post of President Elect. The election was contested between Dr. Ashraf Nizami from PMA and Dr. Osahon Enabulele from Nigeria. Dr. Enabulele succeeded but PMA also got good number of votes. The activity was very useful and PMA was introduced all over the world. We congratulate Dr. Ashraf Nizami for his personnel efforts and bringing good name to PMA and building soft image of Pakistan.

Situation of Dengue in the Country

Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) is very much concerned over the rising cases of dengue in the country. Cases of confirmed dengue virus have been reported in thousands in all the provinces. The situation is very alarming and we doubt that it may not become epidemic. Thanks God that at this stage number of cases of Covid-19 are decreasing but these could increase if we people do not follow SOPs. Our weaker Health delivery System cannot take the pressure of another outbreak of disease so government should immediately take preventive measures to control Dengue.

The Government should immediately start anti mosquito spray campaign on an emergency basis throughout the Pakistan because the only prevention for Dengue is to completely eliminate mosquitoes from the country because there is no vaccine or specific treatment to combat this disease. Elimination of mosquito will also end the other mosquito born diseases like Malaria, Chikungunya, etc.





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Corona Situation in the Country:

We are thankful to God for declined Coronavirus situation in the country. Fortunately number of Corona cases and deaths has decreased. The burden in hospitals is decreasing and numbers of ventilators are vacant. But thereafter we should be careful and follow SOPs to avoid any further wave of Corona.

Vaccine is the most protective shield against Covid-19, PMA advises people to get vaccinated as soon as possible. Do not listen or pay attention to misunderstandings and myths related to Covid-19 vaccine. It is not harmful in any way. The people who do not get them vaccinated could face the intricacy of the disease.

Air Pollution:

Lahore and Karachi have been ranked third and fourth respectively on a list of the world's most polluted cities. This shows the poor environmental condition of our country which is deteriorating day by day. This report is very alarming and has raised serious questions over the performance of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Environmental Protection Department (EPD), which seemed to fail in implementing the standard operating procedures to counter Air Pollution. The emission of carbon from vehicles, factories, generators and burning of garbage is polluting our environment and making our cities unlivable. In Pakistan, one in 10 deaths in children under the age of five is caused by air pollution. Due to this air pollution diseases of ENT and Chest are increasing geometrically including Nasal Allergy, Sour Throat, Sinusitis, Laryngeal Cancer, Nasal Obstruction, Bronchitis and Lungs Cancer.

New Health Policy:

The present Health Policy was launched in 2009 unfortunately which still has not been implemented in letter and spirit. The Central Council Meeting of Pakistan Medical Association demanded new Health Policy for the country to meet present day challenges of Health Sector to improve the Health delivery system.

Dr. S.M.Qaisar Sajjad
Honorary Secretary General
Pakistan Medical Association (Centre)

