

REPORT ON 19TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF PAKISTAN PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION



The 19th National Conference of Pakistan Pediatric Association was held from 18th to 20th Oct 2019 in Pearl Continental Hotel Lahore. Pakistan Pediatric Association Punjab was the host and Lahore got the opportunity to host of this prestigious after 5 years on rotational basis. Prof. Masood Sadiq, Dean, The Children's Hospital & the Institute

of Child Health, and President PPA Punjab was the Chairman Organizing Committee & Dr. Abbas Raza, General Secretary PPA Punjab was Secretary Organizing Committee. This Conference had an enriched Scientific Program, which was decorated by many new concepts & academic activities.

The theme of the meeting this year was “**Achieving Sustainable Development Goals in Child Health**” and the very theme was selected, keeping in mind the present situation of ‘Indicators in Child Health’ and the whole ‘Scientific Program’ was focused on the awareness & implementation strategies regarding fulfilling the targets of Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

Registrations: This conference was attended by a large number of pediatricians, pediatric super-specialists, nurses and allied health professionals from all over the country. This was the highest number of delegates ever in any national Pediatric Conference organized by PPA (more than 2100 registered delegates). In addition to the registered delegates there were a significant number of post-graduate residents and students who were allowed to attend different workshops free of cost.

Pre& Post Conference Regional Workshops: These regional workshops and ‘Hands on’ trainings were another salient feature of the congress and its Organizing Committee, as being arranged for the first time in such large number, and in many remote cities. They were conducted by ‘Subject Experts’ in different cities all over Punjab, including Sahiwal, Sialkot, Rahim Yar Khan, Bahawalpur, Sargodha and Faisalabad, and of course in Lahore at Children’s Hospital and King Edward Medical University. Local delegates heavily attended all regional and local workshops and the very concept was highly appreciated by pediatric academia all over the province.



Workshop on 'Nutrition in 1st 1000 Days of life' in collaboration with Nutrition International Pakistan was one of the key workshops focused on the theme on Day 1 of the congress at PC Lahore.

Shaukat Raza Khan Memorial Lecture: This inaugural lecture was a 'Theme-based plenary talk' that was delivered at the inaugural ceremony of the meeting. It was named after the legendary icon of Pediatric Academics, the Late Professor Shaukat Raza Khan. The talk, titled 'Malnutrition in Pakistan, Challenges & Way Forward' was delivered by Dr. Syed Asad Ali from AKUH, Karachi and was especially attended by the worthy Health Minister Punjab, Prof. Dr. Yasmin Rashid who graced the occasion as Guest of honor. Prof Yasmeen highlighted the priorities of the Punjab government at the end of the lecture with respect to child health and also announced establishment of Mother and Child Hospital at 6 districts of Punjab.





Inaugural Ceremony: The inaugural ceremony was attended by a large number of august academia, including deans, vice chancellors, principals, in-service & retired professors, district pediatricians, family physicians, senior administrative officers and guests from all over Pakistan. Prof Masood Sadiq Chairman Organizing committee and President PPA Punjab formally welcomed the guests and highlighted salient features of the congress. He also highlighted the various plans of Punjab government in the field of child health. Dr. Mumtaz Lakhani Secretary General PPA center read the annual report of the activities of the PPA all over the country including all 5 branches.

Prof Gohar Rehman President PPA center gave the presidential address and highlighted issues pertaining to child health in this country with recommendations.

The chief guest of the inaugural session was the honorable Governor of Punjab, Chaudhry Muhammad Sarwar. The Chief Guest in his thought provoking address endorsed and emphasized on the grave importance of 'Preventive Aspects in Child Healthcare' as the key to improve the indicators of child health for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals. He highlighted the vital importance of 'Clean Drinking Water Supply' to each citizen in order to prevent a large number of water borne diseases, especially hepatitis A & E, and typhoid. The worthy governor showed his keen interest and offered his logistic support to the project of University of Child Health Sciences, Lahore.



He also inaugurated the pharmaceutical exhibition.



International & National Faculty: The scientific program of the conference had a significant contribution by a large number of international & national faculties. Around 20 international & >80 national faculty members contributed their experience, expertise and academic excellence in their field of interest to the scientific program of the conference. Of note was the president APPA Dr. Amman Plungan who gave a plenary talk on “**Present State of Children Health in Asia Pacific & Challenges to meet**”.

The international faculty included:

1. **Dr. Aman B Pulungan**, Consultant Pediatrician, University of Indonesia, President, Asia Pacific Pediatric Association, Indonesia
2. **Prof. Linda De castekar**, Director of Public Health, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, Gartnavel Royal Hospital Campus, Glasgow, UK
3. **Prof. Charlotte Wright**, Professor of Community Child Health / Consultant Pediatrician, Royal Hospital for Children Hospital, University of Glasgow, UK
4. **Dr. Umair Khan**, Consultant Pediatric ICU, Royal Hospital for Sick Children, Edinburgh, UK.
5. **Dr. Kamran Mahmood**, Consultant Pediatric and adolescent Rheumatologist Alder Hey Children's Hospital, Liverpool, UK.
6. **Dr. Muhammad Amjad Khan**, Consultant Pediatric Dermatology, Barking, Havering & Red bridge University Hospital NHS Trust, Rumford, London, UK.
7. **Dr. Adnan Bhutta**, Consultant Pediatric Intensivist, University of Maryland School Of Medicine, Maryland, USA.
8. **Dr. Ali Akbar**, Consultant Pediatrician & Pulmonologist, Sandwell and West Birmingham Hospitals NHS trust, Birmingham, UK.

9. **Dr. Riaz Iftikhar**, Consultant Pediatrician, Kings College hospital NH foundation Trust, London. UK
10. **Dr. Muhammad Sawal**, Consultant Pediatrician, Honorary clinical Lecturer, Birmingham University, Royal Wolverhampton Hospital, West Midland, UK.
11. **Prof. Dr. Syed Faisal Ahmed**, Samson Gemmell Prof. of Child Health, Developmental Endocrinology Research Group, University of Glasgow, Royal Hospital for Children, Glasgow. UK
12. **Dr. Muhammad Saeed Chaudhry**, Consultant Pediatric Emergency
King Fahad specialist Hospital Dammam, Saudi Arabia.
13. **Dr. Sajjad ur Rehman**, Consultant Neonatologist, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
14. **Dr. Juanid Mohib Ali Khan**, Consultant Neonatologist, United Arab Emirates
15. **Dr. Aamir Daud**, Consultant developmental pediatrician, Calgary,
Canada
16. **Dr. Mansoor Ahmed**, Consultant Pediatrician, University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust, Queen's Hospital, Belvedere Road, Burton Upon Trent, Staffordshire, United Kingdom
17. **Dr. Javaid Iqbal**, Consultant Pediatrician, East Lancs. Hospitals NHS Trust, Blackburn, United Kingdom

18. **Dr. Aslam Nagi**, Consultant Pediatric Neurologist, College of Medicine UAE University Al-Ain, Tawam Hospital, United Arab Emirates
19. **Mr. Asif Haseeb**, Ex non-executive member of the board of directors Yorkhill Royal Hospital for sick Children, Glasgow, Audit Scotland, Glasgow. UK
20. **Ms. Debbie Barnet**, Clinical lead Infant feeding advisor/ Donor bank coordinator, Royal Hospital for Children, Glasgow. UK
21. **Ms. Anne Evans**, Regional breast feeding clinical quality improvement coordinator, Senior nurse, Royal Hospital for Children, Glasgow. UK
22. **Ms. Gillian Bowker**, Regional breast-feeding clinical quality improvement coordinator senior nurse, Royal Hospital for Children, Glasgow. UK
23. **Ms. Ayisha Azam, Health Improvement** Senior nurse, Royal Hospital for Children, Glasgow. UK

Research Presentations: The scientific program of the conference ran parallel in 03 halls and was very heavily attended. A salient feature was that after state of art lectures in the relevant field, an equal time was given in each session to ‘Free Papers’, where junior consultants, senior registrars and postgraduate residents were encouraged to present their research in the form of oral and poster presentations on this august forum. Two research recognition awards were introduced for the first time in this conference for best research papers as follows:

- Professor Sajid Maqbool Award for first 3 ‘Best Oral Presentation’
- Professor Tahir Masood Ahmad Award for first 3 ‘Best Poster Presentation’

Theme-based Sessions followed by recommendations: Another new induction in the already rich scientific program was the placement of ‘Theme-based’ discussions on pediatric health problems with valuable input by the relevant experts. These discussions were concluded in the form of ‘Concrete Recommendations’ to be submitted to the Government of the Punjab. This is for the first time that organizing head of any Pediatric National or Biennial Conference will submit some fundamental goals, recommendations & suggestions to the establishment as an expert input. A full Session on Medical Education was included for the first time in the scientific program.

Tribute to Living Legends: This new tradition was a gesture of honoring and recognizing the services of great Pediatric academic legends that served the ailing children for decades and were pioneers in many initiatives related to child health. The PPA Punjab took this initiative of a new tradition, and one unanimous nomination from each province was requested from all PPA provincial chapters. The respectable icons and legendary personalities were invited in-person (or a family member) on a dinner to receive their award in presence of the all the national & international faculty. The recipients were as under:

Prof SM Hanif (Punjab)

Prof AG Billoo (Sindh)

Prof Ashfaq A Khan (KPK)

Prof Mushtaq Khan (Federal)

Prof Abdul Malik Kansi (Baluchistan)



Recreational Gala Dinner: a family gala dinner with a melodious PPA arranged evening for the invited guests. It was a family function, which was attended by more than 3500 PPA members and their families and pharma including delegates. The disciplined handling of such a large number of guests was widely appreciated to be a success of the organizing committee.





Concluding Ceremony: The concluding ceremony took place on the last day of the conference and was attended by a large number of participants who stayed till the end. President PPA Punjab and Chairman Organizing Committee formally thanked everyone and Prof Sajid Maqbool and Prof Tahir Masood Ahmed gave three best awards for the best oral and best poster presentations. Platinum sponsors of the meeting Sami Pharmaceutical and Genetics were give shield of appreciation and so were the conference official organizers Soulvers. General Secretary PPA center Dr. Mumtaz Lakhani from Karachi and other senior organizing committee members were also present at the occasion.