

APPNA MERIT HIV Awareness, Prevention, and Education Project in Pakistan



A Project of MERIT HIV Committee

HIV Webinar Series: Webinar #10

HIV Disease Among the Key Populations in Pakistan - Part 1



Date & time: Sunday October 24th, 2021 at 8:00 PM
Pakistan time (11:00 AM US Eastern Time)

Speaker



Dr. Malik M. Umair

HIV Treatment Specialist,
PR unit of Global Fund NACP
(National AIDS Control Program)

Talk theme "HIV Disease and Stigma in Key Populations in Pakistan."

Host



Dr. Fizza S. Gillani

MSc, MAPE, PhD, CPHIMS
Associate Professor of Medicine
(Research)
Alpert Medical School at Brown
University
Chair MERIT HIV Committee

Moderators



Dr. Saima Abbas MD

Infectious Disease Physician
Space Coast Infectious Disease Care,
FL, USA



Dr. Hammad Ali

MBBS MPH PhD
Medical Epidemiologist, USA

Panelists



Moon Ali AKA Mahnoor Ch

Transgender rights, HIV and Social Activist
Program Director of Khawaja Sira Society
and Executive Board Member of ILGA, Asia



Mr. Tayyab Shah

Chairman Strengthening Health
Education Environment & Development
(SHEED) Society
Lahore, Pakistan



Raheel Waqar

CEO, White Rice
Certified Behavioral Designer, Design
Thinker & Social Impact Strategist

Talk theme "Use of Technology to reduce HIV stigma in Key Populations in Pakistan."

In collaboration with

Registration Link: <http://bit.ly/merit-hiv>

Brown University: Alpert Medical School at Brown University, Providence, RI



MMIDSP: Medical Microbiology & Infectious Diseases Society of Pakistan



Pakistan Society of Internal Medicine



APPNE: Association of Pakistani Physicians of New England



Prov/Bos CFAR: Providence-Boston Center for AIDS Research



CMU: Common Management Unit, HIV, TB, and Malaria, Government of Pakistan



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Webinar 10 – HIV Disease Among the Key Population in Pakistan Part 1

(Oct 24, 2021)

Summary

HIV Disease and Stigma in Key Populations in Pakistan

- Transgender (TG) population in Pakistan: 10,000 according to census (likely grossly underreported, thought to be around 170,000)
 - 4 times HIV infection rate, 28% had postponed medical treatment due to discrimination
 - Higher risk of HIV infection due to Stigma, Discrimination, Economic vulnerability, Sex work
 - Drug use, Low self-esteem, Lack of support, Gender-affirming surgery
 - HIV screening is available for TG free at HIV clinics and public labs
- Stigma towards People living with HIV (PLHIV)
 - Fear and lack of understanding of how HIV is transmitted along with judgmental attitudes
 - People's lack of awareness that they are stigmatizing
 - Stigma has a number of effects, including self-stigma
 - Stigma is harmful to our health practice, our families, and our communities
 - Stigma toward other key populations has similar causes lack of understanding of marginalized groups & moral judgment of their behavior
- Discrimination
 - Discriminating against partners and children of PLHIV
 - Using violence against an HIV-positive spouse or partner
 - Denying support for affected family members
- Conclusions
 - Ensure the 'right to employment for PLHIV/KP is included among PLHIV advocacy/human rights issues
 - Undertake research to increase the evidence on work-related stigma and discrimination so that targeted intervention strategies may be devised
 - Encourage business and labor leaders to champion HIV anti-discrimination measures and stigma-free workplaces, the delivery of HIV education in work settings, and other measures needed to support the employment of PLHIV