

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



**APPNA MERIT**  
Medical Education, Research,  
International training and  
transfer of Technology

A Project of MERIT HIV Committee

HIV Webinar Series: Webinar #16

## Building HIV Services Capacity in Pakistan: An Innovative Approach



Date & time

Sunday November 6th, 2022 at 8:00 PM  
Pakistan time (10:00 AM US Eastern Time)

### Host & Speaker



#### 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. Fozia Qamar, MD

Assistant Professor of Medicine/ID  
University of Massachusetts  
(UMASS) Medical School,  
Massachusetts, USA

### Panelists



#### Dr. Malik Muhammad Umair

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



#### Dr. Khudadad Khan

ART Physician & Incharge HIV/  
AIDS Care,  
Support & Treatment Center,  
BMC Hospital, Quetta, Pakistan



#### Dr. Mohammed Idrees

Pediatric Consultant  
MBBS .FCPS. PGP  
Pediatric HIV focal person



#### Prof. Dr. Bushra Jamil

Aga Khan University  
President, Medical Microbiology  
and Infectious Diseases Society of  
Pakistan (MMIDSP)



#### Dr. Afshan Isani

MBBS, Master Health policy &  
management (AKUH)  
Public Health Specialist,  
TB-HIV programs, Provincial and  
National Level  
Provincial TB Advisor ( USAID),  
Pakistan



#### Dr. Atif Ali

Provincial Treatment  
Coordinator  
Punjab AIDS Control Program

In collaboration with



Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/hiv-webinar2022>

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 16 – Building HIV Services Capacity in Pakistan: An Innovative Approach**

## **(Nov 7, 2022)**

### **Summary:**

#### **HIV Integrated care program to help People Living With HIV**

- Example: Ryan White Care Act: Implemented after the HIV diagnosis of a child:
  - Adds Core Medical Services
  - Outpatient/Ambulatory Health Services, Medical case-management, Oral healthcare, Hospice services, Mental health services, Medical nutrition therapy, Substance use services
- Roles for Healthcare Providers and Agencies
  - To assess HIV care continuum outcomes
  - To make sure PLWHIV get all necessary treatment and support
  - To create and manage integrated HIV care programs

#### **The "Build Capacity: Adopt an ART Center" Project**

- Overview
  - Pakistan currently has 49 Antiretroviral Treatment (ART) Centers providing free ART medications to the le living with HIV
  - Local medical colleges in Pakistan may adopt their local ART center(s) to create state-of-the-art HIV care programs
  - This project aims to strengthen the skills and abilities of the health care system in Pakistan and partner local academic institutions with ART centers
  - Will improve the lives of patient build a pipeline of future health providers
- Roles and Benefits
  - HIV Committee members, Providence-Boston CFAR faculty, faculty members from US universities and other volunteers will provide their services FREE OF COST to the participating medical colleges and ART centers:
    - Provide training to ART center staff and training materials
    - Online HIV care sessions with international HIV experts
  - Medical Schools can educate students for future healthcare fields regarding:
    - Patient privacy and confidentiality and using respectful, non-judgmental, and professional behavior
    - How to offer preventive support to their patients
    - Offer HIPAA trainings and compliance courses along with infection control courses
- ART Center Benefits
  - 1) Increased staffing
  - 2) Increase standards of knowledge and training
  - 3) Upgrade to better facilities
  - 4) Professional development and long-term HIV reduction
- Future steps

- o Medical Colleges
  - Offer patients privacy and confidentiality education and training to all its medical students and junior faculty before sending them to the ART centers
  - Offer Medical College faculty, ART center physicians, and ART center staff incentives including training in mentorship and professional development activities
- o ART Centers
  - Should encourage and accept medical students to work with them
  - Regular meeting between ART staff and students to find out where the gaps in service delivery are
  - Arrange HIV awareness, education, and treatment sessions with faculty working in the USA
- o HIV Committee / International Help
  - Will offer training sessions in the participating ART centers
  - Will help and guide medical students working in the ART centers to design any projects