

Vision

Improving health globally by developing a relevant and efficient research ecosystem

Leadership



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Founding Chairman



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Chairman



Prof. Dr. M Iqbal Afridi
Vice Chairman



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General Secretary



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Projects

- National Disease Registries
- Research Awards
- International Health Research Conference (IHRC)
- National Research Policy Document
- Research Fund
- Capacity Building Workshops
- Research Hub & LMS
- Provincial & Student Chapters
- Research Reference Guide

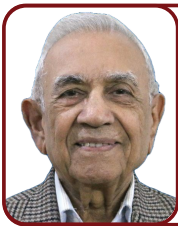
Highlights of the Year

- Signed MoU with Ziauddin University Faculty of Nursing & Midwifery (ZUFONAM).
- Established a strategic collaboration with ICCBS, University of Karachi.
- Signed a Letter of Understanding with the National Institute of Health (NIH), Pakistan.
- Held a strategic meeting with COMSTECH.
- Met with the Federal Minister for National Health Services to discuss the National Steering Committee for Disease Registries.
- Explored international collaboration in disease registries with Dendrite Clinical Systems, UK.
- Presented the Pediatric Orthopaedic Registry of Pakistan (PORP) Annual Report at POSPCON 2026.
- Conducted the Health Research 101 Workshop at JPMC (2025).
- Conducted the Health Research 101 Workshop at JPMC (2026).
- Organized the Health Research 101 Certificate Distribution Ceremony.
- Conducted the 5th Grant Writing Workshop.
- Organized the COMSTECH–HealthRAB Joint Workshop.
- Organized the Nutrition Research Awards.
- Organized the Psychiatry Research Awards.
- Organized the Diabetes Research Awards.
- Organized the Cardiology Research Awards.
- Organized the Nursing Research Awards.
- Organized the Prof. Tahir Shamsi Patient Safety Research Award
- Collaborated with PIMA to organize the 1st PIMA Health Research Symposium.
- Conducted the Pre-Symposium Workshop at the 1st PIMA Health Research Symposium
- Supported the 11th Annual Paper Writing Skills Workshop in collaboration with the Department of Urology, IKD Hayatabad Medical Complex and Khyber Medical College, Peshawar.
- Successfully organized the 7th International Health Research Conference (IHRC 2026).
- Participated in the Riyadh Healthcare Leaders Forum, Saudi Arabia.
- Organized a scientific session at the PSIM Annual Conference.
- Participated in the Healthcare Leadership Moot at Riphah International University.

HealthRAB

HealthRAB, a duly registered society, is a “think tank” of Senior Clinicians, Researchers and Academicians who are committed to “Developing the Health Research Ecosystem”

LEADERSHIP



Founding Chairman

Prof. Dr. Abdul Gaffar Billoo

Professor Emeritus, Department of Paediatrics & Child Care, Aga Khan University Hospital
Founding Chairman, HANDS



Chairman

Prof. Dr. Abdul Basit

Director, Diabetes & Endocrinology Center, Indus Hospital & Health Network



Vice Chairman

Prof. Dr. M Iqbal Afridi

DNP (Distinguished National Professor), JSMU/JPMC. Adjunct Prof. BCM, USA. Former Dean, JPMC, CPSP & JSMU



General Secretary

Prof. Dr. Zakiuddin Ahmed

Adjunct Professor, Digital Health, HSA, Director, RIHS



Finance Secretary

Prof. Dr. Syed Shahid Noor

HOD Orthopaedics, Liaquat National Hospital
Chairman Registry Committee, HealthRAB

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HealthRAB, a duly registered society is a “think tank” of Senior Clinicians, Researchers and Academicians who are committed to

“Developing the Health Research Ecosystem”.

The members of HealthRAB represent major clinical specialties, medical institutions and associations and possess relevant expertise & experience to spearhead such a significant component of our health system.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Creating Stronger Connections for Better Research

Collaboration remained a cornerstone of HealthRAB’s mission throughout the year. By partnering with leading academic institutions and national organizations, HealthRAB continued to strengthen research capacity, encourage knowledge exchange, and support the development of Pakistan’s health research ecosystem. These strategic collaborations will create new opportunities for multidisciplinary research, innovation, & evidence-based healthcare.

MoU Signing with Ziauddin University Faculty of Nursing & Midwifery (ZUFONAM)

HealthRAB and ZUFONAM signed a Memorandum of Understanding to promote nursing research, academic collaboration, and capacity building during the 2nd International Nursing Research Conference.



Collaboration with ICCBS, University of Karachi



HealthRAB formalized a strategic partnership with ICCBS to strengthen collaborative research, scientific innovation, & institutional linkages.



Connecting with Leaders to Shape the Future of Health Research

Collaboration with National Institute of Health (NIH) Islamabad, Pakistan

The Letter of Understanding with the National Institute of Health (NIH), Pakistan, marks an important step towards strengthening National Disease Registries and improving evidence-based health data systems.



HealthRAB continued to engage with national decision-makers, international experts, and research organizations to expand opportunities for collaboration and innovation. These engagements helped strengthen relationships, exchange expertise, and support initiatives that contribute to a stronger research ecosystem.



Meeting with COMSTECH



HealthRAB met with COMSTECH to explore collaborative initiatives in research capacity building, innovation, and institutional partnerships aimed at strengthening Pakistan's health research ecosystem.

Meeting with the Federal Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination on the Establishment of the National Steering Committee for Disease Registries and the Health Research Think Tank



A meeting was held with the Honorable Federal Minister for National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination, Syed Mustafa Kamal, to discuss the establishment of the National Steering Committee for Disease Registries (NSC-DR) under the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations and Coordination. The proposed initiative aims to strengthen national health data governance, promote the integration and effective utilization of disease registry data, and support evidence-based policy-making and informed health system decision-making in Pakistan.



Collaboration Beyond Borders

Strengthening International Collaboration in Disease Registries

During WHX (Arab Health), Dubai, HealthRAB explored opportunities for international collaboration in disease registries and digital health through a meeting with Dr. Peter K. H. Walton and representatives of Dendrite Clinical Systems, United Kingdom. The discussions focused on strengthening partnerships, sharing expertise, and advancing innovative digital health solutions to support evidence-based healthcare and disease registry development in Pakistan.



Building National and International Research Networks

HealthRAB continued to strengthen its national and international presence through active participation in key scientific forums. At the Riyadh Healthcare Leaders Forum (26 October 2025, Saudi Arabia), HealthRAB showcased its initiatives and explored opportunities for global collaboration in health research.



Capacity Building Through Education & Training

Building research capacity remains at the heart of HealthRAB's mission. Throughout the year, HealthRAB organized a series of workshops, certificate programmes, and collaborative learning initiatives designed to equip healthcare professionals, researchers, and students with practical research skills. These programmes promoted scientific writing, research methodology, grant development, and evidence-based practice, helping create a stronger foundation for the next generation of health researchers in Pakistan.

Health Research 101 Workshop Liaquat College of Medicine & Dentistry



Health Research 101 – JPMC (2025)

6 Weeks Program On Health Research 101

Academic Leadership

- Prof. Dr. Iqbal Ahsan
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, JPMC & Liaquat College of Medicine & Dentistry, Rawalpindi, Pakistan
- Prof. Dr. Masroor
Senior Lecturer, Department of Medicine, JPMC & Liaquat College of Medicine & Dentistry, Rawalpindi, Pakistan
- Prof. Dr. Zahoor Ahmad
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, JPMC & Liaquat College of Medicine & Dentistry, Rawalpindi, Pakistan
- Prof. Dr. Zameer Ali Jomey
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, JPMC & Liaquat College of Medicine & Dentistry, Rawalpindi, Pakistan

Facilitators

- Mr. Ashraf Farooq
Senior Lecturer, Department of Medicine, JPMC & Liaquat College of Medicine & Dentistry, Rawalpindi, Pakistan
- Ms. Mariam Habib Siddiqui
Senior Lecturer, Department of Medicine, JPMC & Liaquat College of Medicine & Dentistry, Rawalpindi, Pakistan

10:00 AM - 02:00 PM
 Starting From 10th September 2024 Every Tuesday
 Department of Medicine & Critical Care, Ward-23, JPMC

Sessions

- Biostatistics and SPSS for Beginners
- Sampling Methods and Study Design
- Sample Size Determination
- Questionnaire Designing
- Introduction to Research Methodology
- Literature Review

Who Should Attend

Post Graduates, Medical Officers, Nursing & Allied Health Staff of JPMC Ward 23

The six-week certificate programme at Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (JPMC) provided structured training in research methodology and scientific writing.

6 Weeks Program On Health Research 101

Academic Leadership

- Prof. Dr. Iqbal Ahsan
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, JPMC & Liaquat College of Medicine & Dentistry, Rawalpindi, Pakistan
- Prof. Dr. Masroor
Senior Lecturer, Department of Medicine, JPMC & Liaquat College of Medicine & Dentistry, Rawalpindi, Pakistan
- Prof. Dr. Zahoor Ahmad
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, JPMC & Liaquat College of Medicine & Dentistry, Rawalpindi, Pakistan
- Dr. Qasim Jaleel
Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, JPMC & Liaquat College of Medicine & Dentistry, Rawalpindi, Pakistan

Facilitators

- Mr. Ashraf Farooq
Senior Lecturer, Department of Medicine, JPMC & Liaquat College of Medicine & Dentistry, Rawalpindi, Pakistan
- Ms. Mariam Habib Siddiqui
Senior Lecturer, Department of Medicine, JPMC & Liaquat College of Medicine & Dentistry, Rawalpindi, Pakistan

11:00 AM - 01:00 PM
 Starting From 12th September 2024 Every Alternative Thursday
 Department of Medicine & Clinical Toxicology, Ward-5, JPMC

Sessions

- Biostatistics and SPSS for Beginners
- Sampling Methods and Study Design
- Sample Size Determination
- Questionnaire Designing
- Introduction to Research Methodology
- Literature Review

Who Should Attend

Post Graduates, Medical Officers, Nursing & Allied Health Staff of JPMC Ward 5

Health Research 101 – JPMC (2026)



HealthRAB and JPMC continued their commitment to developing research capacity through another successful six-week Health Research 101 programme.

Certificate Distribution Ceremony 2026



HealthRAB, in collaboration with Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (JPMC), successfully organized the Certificate Distribution Ceremony for participants of the Health Research 101 Workshop following the completion of a six-week training program held from 6 May to 24 June 2026 at the Clinical Research Center (CRC), JPMC. The ceremony took place on 4 July 2026 at the Najmuddin Auditorium, JPMC, recognizing the achievements of participants from Ward 8 (Obstetrics & Gynecology).

The workshop aimed to strengthen research knowledge and build the capacity of healthcare professionals in conducting high-quality, evidence-based research. Through such initiatives, HealthRAB continues to advance its mission of developing Pakistan's health research ecosystem by empowering healthcare professionals with essential research skills.

5th Grant Writing Workshop

HealthRAB, in collaboration with City St George's, University of London, PHC Global, and Imperial College London, successfully conducted the 5th Grant Writing Workshop on 6 August 2025 at Bahria University Health Sciences, Karachi. The workshop equipped researchers and healthcare professionals with practical skills in developing competitive grant proposals, identifying international funding opportunities, and strengthening research capacity in Pakistan.

The interactive sessions, led by national and international experts, focused on effective grant writing strategies, global funding trends, and building successful research collaborations. The workshop reaffirmed HealthRAB's commitment to empowering researchers and promoting high-quality, funded health research in Pakistan.



COMSTECH–HealthRAB Joint Workshop



Health Research Advisory Board

COMSTECH-HEALTHRAB JOINT WORKSHOP
on
Clinical Research in Resource Constrained Environment
Organized by: STIC-COMSTECH | 30th September 2025

Workshop Facilitators

Learning Objectives:
By the end of the workshop, the participants will

- Learn how to conduct clinical research in a resource constrained environment.
- Identify training requirements for themselves in terms of research.
- Identify requirements to establish clinical research center at their institution.
- Explore research opportunities & collaboration between the institute and HealthRAB.

Target Audience

- Senior Healthcare Professionals & Researchers
- Faculty Members
- Healthcare Leaders

Workshop Details

- Mode of Delivery: Hybrid
- Time: 12:00 p.m. (PST) at COMSTECH, 33-Constitution Avenue, G-5/2, Islamabad

Registration Deadline: September 27, 2025

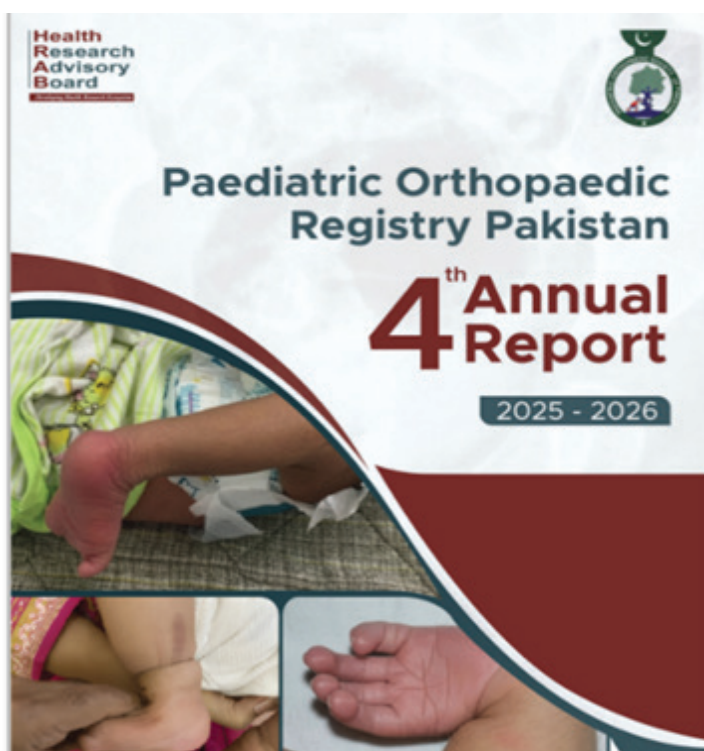
Registration Link: <https://forms.gle/85MhQ5o6iGWHu3D9>



HealthRAB, in collaboration with COMSTECH, successfully organized the COMSTECH–HealthRAB Joint Workshop on 30 September 2025 at the COMSTECH Secretariat Islamabad. Titled “Clinical Research in Resource-focused on strengthening research capacity among healthcare professionals working in resource-limited settings. The event was attended by 20 in-person participants and over 120 virtual participants from Pakistan and other OIC member countries, highlighting its international reach and impact.

National Disease Registries

Pediatric Orthopaedic Registry of Pakistan (PORP) Annual Report



Pediatric Orthopaedic Registry of Pakistan (PORP) (2025–2026) was officially presented during the 11th International Pediatric Orthopaedic Society of Pakistan Conference (POSPCON2026), held from 1–4 April 2026 at the Najmuddin Auditorium, Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (JPMC), Karachi. The presentation highlighted the registry's continued contribution to strengthening pediatric orthopaedic research, improving clinical outcomes, and supporting evidence-based decision-making in Pakistan.

11th Annual Paper Writing Skills Workshop

HealthRAB proudly partnered as a supporting organization for the 11th Annual Paper Writing Skills Workshop "From Idea to Publication", organized by the Department of Urology, Institute of Kidney Diseases (IKD), Hayatabad Medical Complex Peshawar, in collaboration with Khyber Medical College, Peshawar. The workshop aimed to strengthen research capacity and enhance scientific writing and publication skills among healthcare professionals, researchers, and students.

HealthRAB extends its sincere appreciation to Prof. Dr. Liaqat Ali Khan, Director, IKD, for leading this important initiative to promote a culture of high-quality research and evidence-based practice in Pakistan. The organization was also honored by the participation of Dr. Zakiuddin Ahmed, General Secretary, HealthRAB, who attended the workshop as the Chief Guest and shared valuable insights on health research, digital health, and leadership in healthcare.

To encourage research excellence, HealthRAB announced cash prizes for the top three participants presenting outstanding research work. Through its support of such academic initiatives, HealthRAB continues to advance its mission of strengthening Pakistan's health research ecosystem by empowering healthcare professionals with the knowledge and skills needed to conduct, communicate, and publish impactful research.



Research Awards

To promote research excellence, HealthRAB organized and supported Research Awards across



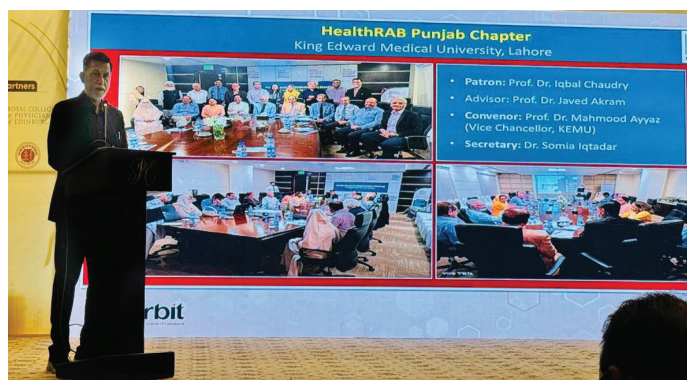
Multiple specialties during national scientific conferences.

These included the Nutrition Research Awards, Psychiatry Research Awards, Diabetes Research Awards, Cardiology Research Awards, Nursing Research Awards, and the Prof. Tahir Shamsi Patient Safety Research Award. Through poster and oral presentation competitions, outstanding researchers were recognized with awards, reinforcing HealthRAB's commitment to fostering innovation, evidence-based practice, and a strong research culture in Pakistan.



Scientific Sessions and Conference Engagements

During the PSIM Annual Conference (5 February 2026, Lahore), HealthRAB organized a scientific session attended by more than 250 healthcare professionals, promoting research collaboration and evidence-based practice. HealthRAB also participated in the Healthcare Leadership Moot (6 February 2026, Riphah International University, Lahore), where national and international experts discussed healthcare research, leadership, and quality improvement.



Pre-Symposium Workshop – PIMA Health Research Symposium

Organized by **PIMA** 1st Health Research Symposium
Building Resilient & Relevant Health Systems

Health Research Advisory Board

09:00 AM - 05:30 PM
Tuesday
21st October 2025
Najmauddin Auditorium, JPMC

Organizing Team

- Prof. Dr. Iqbal Akmal (Chairman, JPMC)
- Prof. Dr. Zahidul Alam (Co-Chairman, JPMC)
- Prof. Dr. Syed Samiul Ali (Co-Chairman, JPMC)

Keynote Speaker

Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Bhutta (Distinguished Professor, Founding Director, Institute for Health Research & Management, A Centre of Excellence in Research and Clinical Health, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India)

Speakers

- Prof. Dr. Abdul Gaffar Siddiqi (President, Pakistan Medical Association)
- Prof. Dr. Shahid Raza (President, Pakistan Medical Association)
- Prof. Dr. M. Raza Shah (President, Pakistan Medical Association)
- Prof. Dr. Zahidul Alam (Co-Chairman, JPMC)
- Prof. Dr. Syed Samiul Ali (Co-Chairman, JPMC)
- Prof. Dr. Iqbal Akmal (Chairman, JPMC)
- Prof. Dr. Shahid Raza (President, Pakistan Medical Association)
- Prof. Dr. M. Raza Shah (President, Pakistan Medical Association)
- Prof. Dr. Zahidul Alam (Co-Chairman, JPMC)
- Prof. Dr. Syed Samiul Ali (Co-Chairman, JPMC)
- Prof. Dr. Iqbal Akmal (Chairman, JPMC)

Oral Presentation Competition
9 am - 1 pm
Cash Awards for 3 Best Presentations
Submit your abstracts at: pimaresearchcon25@gmail.com
Last date for submission: 16th Oct 2025

Workshop on "Health Research"
9 am - 1 pm
• Basics of Research Methodology
• The Art of Scientific Writing
• Use of AI in Health Research
• Overview of Grant Writing

Conference
11 am - 5 pm
Scan to Register for Workshop & Conference

For more information: 0324 9996661 | pimaresearchcon25@gmail.com

Submit your abstracts at: pimaresearchcon25@gmail.com
Last date for submission: 16th Oct 2025

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Last date for submission: 16th Oct 2025



HealthRAB organized a Pre-Symposium Workshop on Health Research during the 1st PIMA Health Research Symposium, held on 21 October 2025 at Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre (JPMC), Karachi. The workshop enhanced participants' knowledge of research methodology and practical research skills, followed by an Oral Presentation Competition to encourage high-quality scientific research among healthcare professionals.

During the symposium, HealthRAB also conducted a scientific session highlighting the importance of health research and fostering a strong research culture in Pakistan. The event concluded with the presentation of Lifetime Achievement Awards to two eminent healthcare leaders in recognition of their exceptional contributions to medicine, research, and healthcare.



7th International Health Research Conference 2026

The 7th International Health Research Conference (IHRC 2026) was successfully organized by HealthRAB on 17 May 2026 at the Institute of Public Health (IPH), Lahore, under the theme “One Nation, One Record, One Registry Network: Strengthening Health Systems through Evidence-Based Research.” The conference brought together more than 200 participants, including senior clinicians, researchers, policymakers, academicians, industry leaders, and healthcare professionals from across Pakistan and abroad. The scientific program featured an inaugural session, keynote presentations, engaging panel discussions, prestigious award ceremonies, and the official launch of the Diploma in Health Research. Three high-level panel discussions explored the importance of establishing a unified national health registry network, the role of multiple stakeholders in strengthening Pakistan’s health research ecosystem, and the significance of industry–academia–government collaboration in advancing research and evidence-based healthcare.



The conference was enriched by the participation of distinguished international speakers, including Dr. Alexey Brovko (Senior Medical Advisor, Dendrite Clinical Systems, UK), Dr. Maria Amir (Head, SEHA Cancer Registry & Manager, Tawam Hospital Cancer Registry, UAE), and Mr. James Titcombe (Chief Executive, Patient Safety Watch and Vice President, Patient Safety Movement Foundation). They were joined by an outstanding panel of national leaders and experts, including Prof. Dr. Mehmood Ayaz, Prof. Dr. Saira Afzal, Mr. Muhammad Aslam Ghauri, Mr. Khawaja Salman Rafique, Prof. Dr. Javed Akram, Mr. Muhammad Arshad Qaimkhani, Prof. Dr. Syed Shahid Noor, Dr. Faiza Bashir, Dr. Bashir Hanif, Prof. Dr. Shabeen Naz Masood, Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary, Dr. Somia Iqtadar, Prof. Dr. Syed Ather Enam,

Prof. Dr. Akbar Chaudary, Prof. Dr. Ghulam Mustafa Arain, Dr. Obaidullah Malik, Prof. Dr. Moazur Rahman, Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Afridi, Mr. Syed Munawar Ali, Dr. Mumtaz Mushtaq, and Dr. Khurram Hussein, who shared valuable insights on strengthening Pakistan's health research and healthcare systems.

A major highlight of the conference was the recognition of excellence through the Lifetime Achievement Award, National Health Research Awards in the categories of Clinical Sciences, Biosciences, and Public Health, and the Health Journalism Award, acknowledging outstanding contributions to health research and science communication. The official launch of the Diploma in Health Research marked another significant milestone, reflecting HealthRAB's continued commitment to building national research capacity and developing the next generation of health researchers. The conference concluded with a renewed commitment from participants to foster collaboration, strengthen disease registries, promote evidence-based policymaking, and advance a unified national health research ecosystem for Pakistan.





Looking Ahead

Together, We Create Impact

Every partnership we build.
Every researcher we train.
Every registry we strengthen.
Every innovation we support.

Brings Pakistan one step closer to a healthier future.

