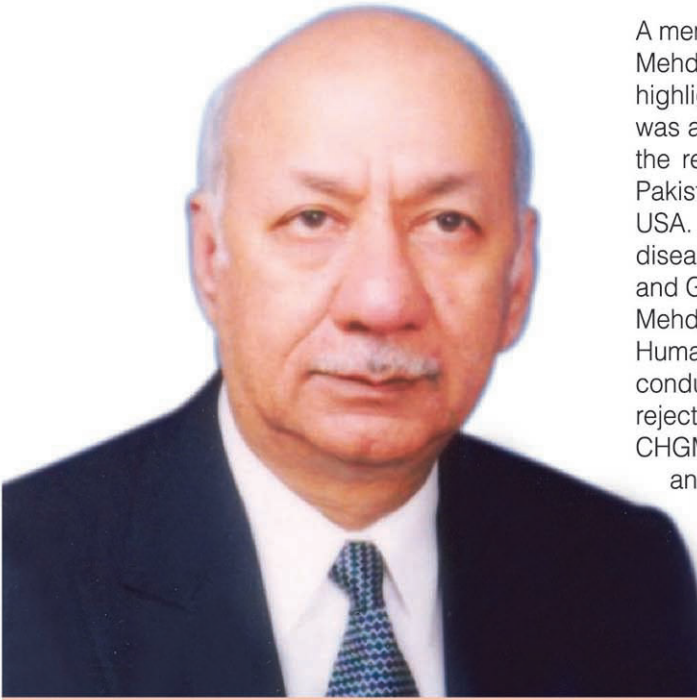


SIUTnews

APRIL 2018



SIUT holds memorial lecture for the late scientist **Dr. Qasim Mehdi**

A memorial lecture was held at SIUT to pay homage to Prof. Qasim Mehdi, one of the greatest scientist of Pakistan. Prof Adib Rizvi, highlighted the contributions of Dr Qasim Mehdi and said that he was a renowned member of the World Human Genome project for the region who did pioneering work on evolutionary genetics in Pakistan and contributed to the Human Genome Diversity Project USA. His major discoveries were on genes responsible for several diseases in Pakistan. He was Director General of the Biomedical and Genetics Engineering division at Dr. A.Q. Khan Laboratory. Dr Mehdi moved to SIUT in 2008 and established the Center of Human Genetics and Molecular Medicine (CHGMM). He conducted research on transplantation genetics and markers of rejection. During a short span after the establishment of the CHGMM, he produced 5 PhDs in the field of transplant sciences and the center published a large number of papers in international journals. In recognition of his outstanding contribution, the Government of Pakistan honored him with Sitara-e-Imtiaz and Hilal-e-Imtiaz. Continued on page 2



A New Era in Pakistan's Transplant Program

Country's 1st Clinical Transplant Immunology Laboratory at SIUT



The country's first clinical transplant immunology laboratory was inaugurated at SIUT to bring advancements in the field of transplant sciences.

Professor Medhat Askar, an internationally acclaimed transplant immunologist inaugurated the newly set up laboratory which will have capabilities of advanced tissue typing techniques, detection of antibodies and will help in transplant of highly sensitized patients and those with ABO incompatible recipient/donor pairs.

This new laboratory service will help many patients who have remained on dialysis for long periods waiting to be transplanted with their family donors. Although the costs of such transplant are very high > 15 lakh per patient but the outcomes are similar to non-sanitized patients.

Events SIUT

Dr. Qasim Mehdi

On this occasion, Dr Shagufta Khaliq who had a long association with him gave citation of Prof Qasim Mehdi. She highlighted his achievements and contributions to the field of genetics and diversity of genes in different Pakistani populations and northern tribes.

Prof Qasim Mehdi's memorial lecture was given by renowned Transplant Immunologist Prof Medhat Askar, Director of Transplant Immunology at Baylor University Medical Center, Dallas Texas. Dr. Medhat is President Elect of the American Board of Histocompatibility and Immunogenetics.

Dr. Medhat's lecture "Two birds with one stone: Career advancement via teaching and training in transplant profession" focused on the importance of continued medical education and training for progress in both clinical care and medical research. Memorial lecture was followed by a scientific session where Dr Askar talked about emerging trends in transplantation such as applications of pharmacogenomics as a tool for precise transplant medicine.

After the memorial lecture, Dr Askar, inaugurated the first Clinical and Transplant Immunology Laboratory in the country. The new lab will focus on advanced tissue typing techniques, detection of antibodies, transplant of highly sensitized patients and ABO incompatible transplants thereby helping hundreds of patients whose transplant was not possible at SIUT.

Transplant Immunology Workshop

A two-day International workshop on Transplantation Immunology was held at SIUT from 16-17 March 2018.

The workshop was organized by SIUT to mark the opening of the country's first Transplant Immunology Laboratory. More than 100 doctors, scientists and medical Technologist attended the workshop. Approximately 30 participants from outside of Karachi were given travel grants to attend the workshop. Internationally acclaimed transplant immunologist Professor Medhat Askar from Baylor Medical College conducted the workshop with SIUT faculty.

In his state of the art lecture Prof. Medhat discussed the Utility and benefits of next generation sequencing (NGS) for tissue matching in Transplantation. His interactive and enlightening lecture was followed by Dr. Aiysha Abid from the Centre for Human Genetics and Molecular Medicine lecture on the utility of DNA testing for gene polymorphisms using NGS in patients with stone disease. Following the lecture the participants carried out hands on tests for antibody detection and discussed their importance in Transplant patients. The facilitators were Dr. Sabiha Anis, Dr. Wajiha Musharraf and Dr. Khawar Abbas respectively.

On the last day of the workshop Dr. Medhat Askar gave a lecture on Genomics and Dr. Mirza Naqi Zafar Head of Transplant Immunology discussed the role of "Non-HLA antibodies in transplantation". Later Professor Medhat Askar and SIUT faculty gave away certificates to the participants.



SIUT

Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplantation

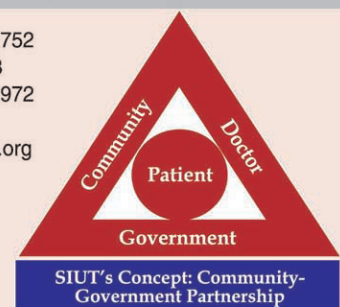
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Inauguration of Bashir Dawood Transplant Operation Theatre Complex

The inauguration of Bashir Dawood Transplant Operation Theatre Complex was held on 2nd March 2018 at the Suleman Dawood Transplant Centre at SIUT. Dr. Adib Rizvi, while welcoming the guests, said that all the health facilities are extended “Free of Cost” without any discrimination of cast, color, creed or faith. He said SIUT has been lucky that it earned extensive support from the philanthropic segment of the society who on the basis of its outstanding services posed confidence in the institution and donated funds and equipment’s generously.

He informed that the relationship with Bashir Dawood and his family goes back to year 2000 when they donated 120 machines to the dialysis centre at SIUT. Today SIUT is doing approximately 850 dialysis per day which accounts for almost one third of all the dialysis carried out in Pakistan. The dialysis unit also has a special section for dialyzing children perhaps the only for children.

He said that the Dialysis Center is one of the largest in South Asia. If SIUT’s dialysis would have been done at private sector it would have costed 75 crores. The dialysis unit helped SIUT achieve over five thousand transplants until now. In 2006, Bashir Dawood donated the Cancer hospital in the name of his mother Hanifa Suleman Dawood, a 150 bedded hospital costing 2 billion rupees. The hospital houses linear accelerator, the most expensive machine in the medical sector for the radiation treatment of cancer. The center runs it integrated clinics with Chemotherapy, radiation and surgery sections. It has specialized unit for treatment of prostate cancer called Brachytherapy.

In 2011, Bashir Dawood and his family laid the foundation stone of 125 bedded Suleman Dawood Transplant Centre to cater liver, heart, lungs, pancreas and small bowl transplantation. The transplant theater complex, with 4 state of the art theaters, will be able to do surgeries for all of these transplants and has capacity for doing four simultaneous transplant surgeries along with a 10 bedded ICU. The transplant centre houses the “Skill Development Centre” and specialized laboratories for Transplant Immunology and Tuberculosis. In future, the robotic surgery will also be performed in this complex for transplants. Bashir Dawood represents a legacy in health care for underprivileged from dialysis to oncology to transplantation. This without doubt is one of the finest example of philanthropy, the family having spent over 3 billion rupees for all these projects being the biggest donation in health care in the public sector.



On this occasion Mr. Bashir Dawood greatly appreciated the role of SIUT in providing specialized medical treatment to less privileged segment of community at large. He described the SIUT as a model institution where patients have been treated for last forty years to avail free quality medical services. Today I see no example in the country like SIUT, I thank Dr. Adib Rizvi and his team for this dedication in the delivery of tertiary care especially in dialysis, kidney transplant and oncology, he said.

Vice Chairman of the Board of SIUT, Madam Zubeida Mustafa and Trustee Mr. Shabbar Zaidi also spoke on the occasion.

Events SIUT

Chief Justice Supreme Court of Pakistan

Mian Saqib Nisar

visits SIUT and pledges his organs for Donation



The Honorable Mian Saqib Nisar, Chief Justice Supreme Court of Pakistan visited Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplantation (SIUT) on 17th March 2018. Prof. Adib Rizvi welcomed the worthy guest and apprised the CJ about the concept, evolution and services of SIUT. Dr. Rizvi highlighted the philosophy of SIUT that "Every human being has the birth right to access health care free with dignity".

Dr. Rizvi apprised the Honorable guest about the pathetic and deplorable business of illegal organ transplant in the country. He also thanked APEX court for taking notice of this grave matter and the efforts being done by the court. The Chief Justice visit to SIUT followed a Supreme Court hearing of Illegal Transplant of Organs in Pakistan and the formation of an Expert Committee to look into this matter by holding a Workshop of Medical Specialists, Lawyers, Members of Judiciary, Law Enforcement Organizations and Civil Society. The Committee comprised of Dr. Raheem Awan, Secretary Law and Justice Commission, Mr. Muneer Malik, Advocate Supreme Court, Mr. Nayyer Rizvi, Additional Advocate General. Dr. Anwar Naqvi (SIUT), Dr. Mirza Naqi Zafar, General Secretary of Transplant Society of Pakistan.

The Chief Justice in his speech, highly complimented the tremendous services being provided by SIUT for the population at large, absolutely free of cost and without any discrimination. He further added that he was already an avid admirer of SIUT and Prof. Adib Rizvi prior to his visit to the institute. The honorable guest expressed grief and deplored the malicious and notorious crime of organ trading in the country. In a very noble and humane gesture to support and encourage deceased organ donation in Pakistan, the CJ voluntarily announced donation of all his organs subsequently and also extended his maximum and whole hearted support in this life saving cause. Later Prof. Adib Rizvi along with his team members, showed the Chief Justice SIUT's facilities and services.

Dr. Adib Rizvi Honoured with Degree of Doctor of Medical Sciences (Honoris causa) by Hamdard University

On the occasion of the 22nd Convocation of Hamdard University Professor Adib Rizvi was honored with a PhD. The University awarded 1,447 degrees at Madinat Al Hikmah. Among the graduates were 25 gold medalists, including winners of seven Hakim Mohammad Said gold medals and 13 Institute of Engineering gold medals.



World Kidney Day, SIUT

Chronic kidney disease affects one in ten people worldwide

This year's theme was Kidneys & Women's Health (Include, Value, Empower). SIUT observed the World Kidney Day on 8th March 2018. A day long public awareness program was organized at its main center in Karachi, Primary Healthcare Center Camp at Darsana Channa Imdad Johkio in Kathore and Chablani Medical Centre, Sukkur.

World kidney day is an international annual event held all over the world to create about prevention of kidney diseases.

The program at SIUT included free blood, urine tests, measurement of height, weight, body mass index (BMI) blood pressure

measurement and ultrasound of Kidneys. There were free checkups and consultations by medical specialists, nutritionists and dietary advice and eye testing by consultations. Throughout the day there were lectures and tutorials relating to kidney diseases and their prevention. Educational material to create awareness about various kidney ailments was distributed among the participants. Those who spoke on the occasion were Nephrologists Dr. Rubina Naqvi, Dr. Rafia Shah, Diabetologist Dr. Fouzia Mushtaq, Dietician Ms. Kehkashan Zehra and Pediatric Nephrologist Dr. Ali Lanewala. A large number of people participated in the event and availed the facilities.



World Tuberculosis Day Observed at SIUT

World Tuberculosis Day which was observed throughout the world on 24th March 2018, was also observed at the SIUT with the aim to create awareness amongst masses about TB, a contagious and debilitating disease which affects large number of people in Pakistan with an estimated incidence 2333 per million.

Educational lectures were given about the disease and the experts pointed out that Tuberculosis is an airborne disease, caught by breathing in the air that an infected person has contaminated with TB bacteria through breathing and coughing. Symptoms include a lasting cough, fatigue, coughing up blood, chest pain, sweating at night, fever, loss of appetite, and weight loss. It can affect any organ of the body.

The program was organized under the auspices of Department of Infectious Diseases, SIUT. The program was held at three centers, SIUT Complex including Primary Healthcare Center Kathore, Malir and SIUT Chablani Medical Center at Sukkur. There were free medical checkups, consultations, dietary/nutritional advices, distribution of educational literature on TB, viewing of educational videos, exhibition of informative posters/banners and interactive sessions between SIUT faculty and audience.

The SIUT experts included Infectious diseases specialists Dr. Asma Nasim, Dr. Sunil Dodani and Dr Zaheer-uddin Baber, pulmonologist Dr Masroor Afridi, dietician Ms. Kehkashan and other related medical staff.



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Please visit www.sikut.org

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