

ZIAUDDIN UNIVERSITY



PATIENT & PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT AND ENGAGEMENT GROUP (PPIE)



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NEWSLETTER

FIFTH EDITION

NEWS

WELCOME TO THE PPIE NEWSLETTER

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Our group has been busy building a coalition of partners to amplify the patient voice in research. In this edition, we describe our journey of reaching out to other institutions and laying the groundwork for a national PPIE network. If you'd like to add your own voice to this exciting initiative, make sure to register for our upcoming Summit!

We are excited to share our progress with you in this quarterly newsletter. Read on to find out more about our current work, upcoming public events, messages from our collaborators and our newest team member!

ANNOUNCING A NEW COLLABORATION!

In 2024, our PPIE coordinators visited multiple institutions across Pakistan, meeting inspiring researchers, building collaborations, and exploring how patient engagement is already happening. These conversations revealed broad support for developing and promoting community engagement as well as a need for more support to make PPIE a reality. Thus, the dream to build a National PPIE Network was born.



Peshawar

- 23rd October: Northwest General Hospital

Islamabad

- 24th October: Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan
- 24th October: Shifa International Hospital

Karachi

- 24th July: Aga Khan University Clinical Trials Unit
- 25th July: Dow University of Health Sciences, Institute of Biological, Biochemical & Pharmaceutical Sciences
- 30th July: Indus Hospital & Health Network, Karachi

Lahore

- 8th October: Chughtai Lab Head Office
- 9th October: Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital & Research Centre
- 10th October: Indus Hospital & Health Network, Lahore
- 11th October: Services Institute of Medical Sciences

NEWS

FROM OUTREACH TO COLLABORATION: PAKISTAN'S FIRST NATIONAL PPIE NETWORK

MILESTONE ONE – LAYING THE FOUNDATIONS

**19 April 2025,
Lahore**

Highlights:

- 1st National PPIE Collaborators' Meeting
- 19 participants from 6 institutions + ZU PPIE members
- Priorities: capacity building, documentation, engagement



Chughtal Lab
(Lahore)



Northwest General
Hospital (Peshawar)



Indus Hospital &
Health Network (Lahore)



Shalamar Medical and
Dental College (Lahore)



Shaikat Khanum
Memorial Cancer Hospital
and Research Centre

Shaikat Khanum Memorial
Cancer Hospital and
Research Centre (Lahore)



Pakistan Kidney and Liver
Institute and
Research Center (Lahore)



ZU Patient & Public
Involvement and Engagement
Group (Karachi)



MILESTONE TWO – EXPANDING THE NETWORK

**24 May 2025,
Hybrid – Hosted by
Ziauddin University**

Highlights:

- 2nd National PPIE Collaborators' Meeting
- 17 participants from 6 institutions + ZU PPIE members
- Focus: embedding PPIE into ethics, service delivery, and structures
- PPIE moving from idea → national movement



The Aga Khan University
(Karachi)



Dow University of
Health Sciences (Karachi)



Sheikh Zayed Medical
College and Hospital (Lahore)



Indus Hospital & Health
Network (Karachi)



National University of Medical
Sciences (Rawalpindi)



Sindh Infectious Diseases
Hospital & Research Center (Karachi)



ZU Patient & Public
Involvement and Engagement
Group (Karachi)



Next step → 2nd National PPIE Summit, November 2025

NEWS

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MESSAGE FROM OUR COLLABORATORS!

Establishing the first oncology PPIE group at Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (SKMCH&RC) has been a collective journey, led by senior colleagues from the Ethics and Research Department and supported by the wider team. Being part of this process has brought many pleasant surprises. I am continually amazed by the quality, inclusiveness, and depth of insights that emerge when patients and the public contribute — the results are always beyond expectations.

Our collaboration with Ziauddin University has also been invaluable, providing blueprints and guidance that helped us accelerate our work and shape our framework. Most rewarding of all has been seeing how sincerely our volunteers engage, bringing genuine energy and commitment to the group.

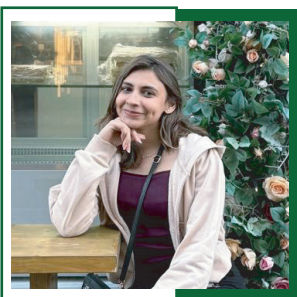


Shaukat Khanum
Memorial Cancer Hospital
and Research Centre

Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and
Research Centre (Lahore)

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MEET OUR NEWEST PPIE MEMBER!



Dr. Wardah Khalid Rafat

- Physician + Researcher
- CCRG PPIE team member & Marketing Coordinator
- Brings clinical perspective to PPIE

In her own words:

“I first learned about PPIE after joining the CCRG, before that I honestly had no clue what it was. Discovering this space has been so refreshing. As doctors, we are trained to focus on treating the patient, often as quickly as possible. But here, it's about so much more, every detail is carefully considered, from how patients and their attendants will feel about certain words in a document, to making information easier for them to understand. These things may seem small, but they are not little at all.”

I am truly excited for this new role as it's a very different experience compared to

my clinical practice, but that's exactly what makes it so enriching. Most importantly, I hope my perspective as a physician can help strengthen our activities and bridge the gap between clinical work and research.

When I'm not giving my 100% at work, I enjoy exploring Karachi life, documenting my experiences of new places in town, and sharing guidance with juniors on how to navigate post-MBBS life through my fun Instagram blog, @Awkwardahhh. Being part of PPIE has opened my eyes to a whole new side of healthcare, and it continues to inspire me to grow as both a researcher and a doctor.”



“THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF OUR JOURNEY! STAY CONNECTED WITH US AS WE MOVE TOWARDS THE NATIONAL PPIE SUMMIT THIS NOVEMBER.”