

# ZIAUDDIN UNIVERSITY



**PATIENT & PUBLIC  
INVOLVEMENT AND  
ENGAGEMENT GROUP  
(PPIE)**

## **NEWSLETTER** 8<sup>TH</sup> EDITION



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# NEWS

## MESSAGE FROM EDITOR

We are thrilled to witness the accelerating momentum of Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) across Pakistan. This quarter is all about celebrating our collaborators and acknowledging their contributions in driving this progress. Together, we are moving towards a research culture that is truly shaped by the people it serves, and for this, we thank all our partners for being a force behind this journey. Read on to learn more!

## OUR NATIONAL JOURNEY

The ZU PPIE team's core aim has been to support institutions in building their own capacity for independent PPIE work. Through awareness sessions, step-by-step guidance, regular meetings, and site visits, we have worked closely with teams as they establish and grow their PPIE activities, and it brings us great joy to introduce our official collaborators:

## FIRST COLLABORATION

### SHAUKAT KHANUM MEMORIAL CANCER HOSPITAL & RESEARCH CENTRE, LAHORE



As our first collaborators, they established Pakistan's first oncology-focused PPIE group and have actively contributed to cancer awareness initiatives and the development of patient-facing materials.



**08/08/25**

Research Collaboration Agreement signed with ZU.

**13/02/26**

Campus visit

**01/11/25**

Dr. Saima Faisal and Dr. Tahira Islam joined the Interim Council formed at the 2nd National PPIE Summit.

**06/11/26:**

Upcoming event  
**The 25<sup>th</sup> Shaukat Khanum Cancer Symposium.**  
 A dedicated 90-minute session will serve as the platform for the 3rd National PPIE Summit in Lahore!



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## MEET THE DEDICATED TEAM



Dr. Saima Faisal, Ms. Gulnaz Ayaz, Dr. Farah Asif, Dr. Tahira Islam

## REFLECTIONS FROM THEIR PPIE MEMBERS

"It has been inspiring to see patients and the public being valued as partners in shaping better healthcare and research"

**Asma Maqsood**

"PPIE ensures a real voice in research"

**Samira Moeed**

# NEWS

## SECOND COLLABORATION



### PAKISTAN KIDNEY AND LIVER INSTITUTE AND RESEARCH CENTER, LAHORE

With their biobanking initiative, they became our second collaborator! In a short time, they formed a diverse group which is actively developing simplified materials, a website, and promoting PPIE through journal club sessions. Notably, two of their PPIE coordinators now serve on their Institutional Review Board (IRB) meaningfully representing the public voice in research oversight.

**01/11/25**

Ms. Sadia Hassan joined the Interim Council formed at the 2nd National PPIE Summit.

**14/02/26**

ZU team presented the PPIE concept in research at their International Symposium.



**03/11/25**

Research Collaboration Agreement signed with ZU.

**31/03/26**

Ms. Sadia Hasan represented the Pakistani perspective during the international launch webinar of the PPIE Toolkit hosted by The Global Health Network and MESH.

## THIRD AND NEWEST COLLABORATION



### NORTHWEST GENERAL HOSPITAL AND RESEARCH CENTER, PESHAWAR

As a multidisciplinary institution with international collaborations, they have embedded patient engagement across their research and outreach activities. Their initiatives include road safety awareness, advocacy for folate fortification to prevent spina bifida, burn injury prevention, breast cancer awareness, and efforts to integrate PPIE principles into the MBBS curriculum.



**01/11/25**

Dr. Syeda Shamal attended our '2nd National PPIE Summit', where her insights enriched our understanding of their outstanding work.

**06/04/26**

Research Collaboration Agreement signed with ZU.

Each partnership has offered valuable lessons, reinforcing the importance of collaboration, local context, and sustained engagement in embedding PPIE within research culture.

## BUILDING NEW RELATIONS

### SINDH INFECTIOUS DISEASES HOSPITAL AND RESEARCH CENTRE, KARACHI.

On 18 February 2026, ZU PPIE team was invited to deliver an "Introduction to PPIE" lecture, which opened the door for future collaboration as both institutions are keen to embed patient and public involvement in infectious disease research.



# NEWS

## NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES, RAWALPINDI.

We would like to thank Dr. Baber Saeed Khan, Director of the Clinical Trials Unit at NUMS and Founder of the ACRP Ambassadors Club Pakistan, for being an invaluable asset in providing us with guidance and opportunities at every step of our work.

We are proud to announce our participation in the Pakistan Clinical Research Landscape Report 2026, which will be featured at the upcoming Clinical Trials Summit of Pakistan (CTSP) in August this year. A significant milestone for the research ecosystem!



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## HAYATABAD MEDICAL COMPLEX, PESHAWAR.

A special shout out to the star of PPIE lead in Peshawar, Dr. Almas Fasih Khattak, Director Research-Medical Training Institutes, who has been an incredible support to extend our network in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa.

HMC is now set to join this growing network and they are already actively translating public engagement into practice through "Khuli Kachahri" sessions. We are really looking forward to seeing this collaboration take shape in the near future.



## FACES OF PPIE: MEET OUR ZU TEAM MEMBER



### FACULTY OF NURSING & MIDWIFERY ZIAUDDIN UNIVERSITY

Ms. Shahnaz has been an integral part of our journey from the outset, bringing a strong combination of clinical skills and theoretical expertise. Her active involvement in community-based initiatives, including public health campaigns especially focused on dengue prevention and health awareness, reflects her commitment to improving health literacy. She is also a member of the interim council responsible for developing the Terms of Reference for the National PPIE Network and serves on the International Advisory Committee. Fluent in regional languages, she plays a vital role in bridging communication gaps across diverse cultural groups. She is a real asset to our PPIE team!

### Ms. Shahnaz Zaman

Masters in Social Sciences | Public Health | DHMS  
Ziauddin Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery (ZUFONAM),  
Senior Lecturer



To stay updated and learn more about all the exciting work our team is doing, visit our website and explore our latest initiatives. <https://zu.edu.pk/ccrg/ppie/>