

**Aga Khan University- FHS-PhD Programme**  
**List of funded Available projects for potential PhD Candidates**

Clinical Sciences Stream						
Sr. No.	Name, Email address and Department of Primary Supervisor	Supervisory Team	Title of Project/ Source of funding	Research Funding available	Funds available until	Key Objectives of research project
1	Dr Yawer Saeed <a href="mailto:yawer.saeed@aku.edu">yawer.saeed@aku.edu</a> Asst. Prof. Dept. of Medicine	Drs Laila Ladak, Dr Mehnaz Atiq, Saleem Akhtar, Waris Ahmed and Krishnakumar Nair	Arrhythmias in Patients with congenital heart disease in Pakistan: Association with Outcomes and Challenges in providing appropriate arrhythmia care	PKR 1.5 million	December 2026	<p>The key objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To investigate the prevalence and characteristics of arrhythmias in patients with CHD</li> <li>To compare the outcomes of repaired vs unrepaired patients with or without arrhythmia</li> <li>To identify and evaluate the challenges faced by healthcare providers in providing arrhythmia care in CHD patients.</li> </ul>
<b>Pre-requisites of PhD candidate applicants (graduate qualification requirement): MBBS and FCPS / FRCP or equivalent degree</b>						
2	Dr Fawad Ur Rehman <a href="mailto:rehman.fawad@aku.edu">rehman.fawad@aku.edu</a> Assistant Professor, Centre for Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cells Research/BBS	Drs Afsar Mian, Syed Ather Enam, Irfan Khan and Meng Zheng	CRISPR-Cas9 Nanotherapy for IDH1 and IDH2 Mutations in Brain Cancer	USD 10,000 per annum	December 2028	<p>The key objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design a CRISPR-Cas9 gene editing system for IDH1 and IDH2 via in silico studies by applying AI tools.</li> <li>Fabricate and characterize nanoscale materials for the nanotherapy of GBM.</li> <li>Evaluate the nanotherapy targeting ability of GBM cells across the BBB.</li> <li>Evaluate the CRISPR-Cas9 loaded nanomedicine's anticancer effects.</li> <li>Prepare GBM 3D spheroids and in vivo PDX models to evaluate nanotherapy effects</li> </ul>
<b>Pre-requisites of PhD candidate applicants (graduate qualification requirement): MBBS and FCPS / FRCP or equivalent degree</b>						