

INJURY RESEARCH

A newsletter in celebration of 16 years of the NIH
Fogarty "Aga Khan University - Trauma and Injury
Research Training Program (AKU-TIRTP)"

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A Note from the Team

Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the latest newsletter of the Aga Khan University in collaboration with George Washington University and Weill Cornell Medicine. We have made a great progress in research capacity on injuries, trauma, and disasters over the past 16 years in Pakistan and Afghanistan. The goal of this program is to strengthen trauma and injury research capacity across AKU institutions in six countries of Asia and Africa.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, plans for fellows to visit the U.S. were postponed. However, our fellows continued to work hard from home, new online seminars focusing on COVID-19 were developed, and courses and workshops were resumed online in time. We are now adjusting to the need for more web-based opportunities and continue to provide new training for injury and trauma research.

Thank you to our colleagues and partners for your continued support of capacity-building for injury and trauma research.

Nadeem Ullah Khan
Junaid A. Razzak
Adnan A. Hyder

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Welcoming Our New Fellows



Tanveer Tajuddin has completed his MBBS from Jinnah Medical & Dental College Karachi in 2008 and joined the residency program at the Department of Emergency Medicine, Aga Khan University Hospital. Currently, he works as a staff physician at the department of emergency medicine and was enrolled as a fellow in 2021 to pursue a MSc in Health Policy and Management. His research interests are in the areas of trauma resuscitation and trauma mechanics, airway management and critical care medicine.



Muhammad Subhan has completed his MBBS from Wah Medical College in 2015. Currently, he is a senior resident at the Department of Emergency Medicine, Aga Khan University Hospital. Subhan is certified in emergency medicine from Harvard School of Public Health. Subhan enrolled as a fellow in 2021 to pursue a Master in Epidemiology & Biostatistics - Clinical Research program. His research focus is on injury and trauma prevention and disaster management.



Yasmin Nadeem Parpio has completed her master's degree in Epidemiology and Biostatistics from the Aga Khan University. Currently, she is an Assistant Professor at the Aga Khan University, School of Nursing and Midwifery. Yasmin enrolled as a PhD fellow in Population and Public Health in 2021. She is interested in the mental health of adolescents, community participation and empowerment, and nursing education.



Salman Muhammad Soomar has completed his master degree in Epidemiology and Biostatistics from Aga Khan University. Salman joined the Department of Emergency Medicine as a research fellow in 2021. He is responsible to design and implement injury research projects, facilitate research sessions, the Emergency Trauma Journal Club, and Emergency Medicine Statistics related webinars. His research interests are injury prevention, climate change, disaster management and health systems research.

National Injury Research Competition

The National Injury Research Competition (NIRC) was announced across Pakistan in 2021 with the aims of strengthening research capacity and promoting research on prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of trauma and injury. We received 40 plus applications from 14 different institutions across the country. All the proposals went through critical peer review and three projects from different institutions were approved for funding. NIRC winners are listed below.



Effect of Ibandronate Treatment on serum Apelin, Visfatin, Irisin and Asprosin in Postmenopausal Females with and without fracture

PI: Dr. Saba Tariq

Medical and Dental College, University of Faisalabad



Development and Characterization of Silk-Based Hydrogels for Advanced Wound Care Applications

PI: Eng. Muhammad Atiq Ur Rehman

Institute of Space Technology, Islamabad



Development of Urdu Test Material for the Hearing Impaired Community

PI: Dr. Sarmad Hussain

University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore

Publications(2021-2022)

- Khan UR, Razzak J, Wärnberg MG. Association of adolescents' independent mobility with road traffic injuries in Karachi, Pakistan: a cross-sectional study. *BMJ open*. 2022;12(3):e057206.
- Khan UR, Razzak JA, Jooma R, Wärnberg MG. Association of age and severe injury in young motorcycle riders: a cross-sectional study from Karachi, Pakistan. *Injury*. 2022.
- Naseer N, Kapadia NN, Masud S. Validity of Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network (PECARN) in Pediatric Trauma Patients-A Cross Sectional Study from a Tertiary Care Hospital in Pakistan. *Annals of King Edward Medical University*. 2022;28(1):58-63.
- Lakhdar MPA, Farooq S, Khan UR, Parpio Y, Azam SI, Razzak J, et al. Factors associated with child maltreatment among children aged 11 to 17 years in community settings of Karachi, Pakistan, using Belsky Ecological Framework. *Journal of interpersonal violence*. 2021;36(1-2):297-313.
- Khan UR, Razzak JA, Wärnberg MG. Global trends in adolescents' road traffic injury mortality, 1990-2019. *Archives of disease in childhood*. 2021;106(8):753-7.
- Ali A, Malik MA, Khan UR, Khudadad U, Raheem A, Hyder AA. Helmet wearing saves the cost of motorcycle head injuries: a case study from Karachi, Pakistan. *ClinicoEconomics and outcomes research: CEOR*. 2021;13:573.



Alumni Memory Board



It was a life-changing experience for me! The experiences that I gained during the Fellowship help me steer my way through the challenging scenarios we are presented with in the realm of public health and healthcare since the Covid-19 pandemic.

(Khaula Khatlani)



It was an enriching experience. It opened my eyes to the burden of injuries both globally and in LMICs and how to measure these factors. Most importantly, I learned that injuries are preventable and are not always accidents.

(Salima Kerai-Sayani)



It was a great experience in my 2 years of fellowship. I had the best practical experience and appreciated the way all my mentors guided me.

(Mehreen Aziz Awan)



My Fogarty fellowship experience briefly exposed me to some of the key players and their work in public health emergency management which laid the foundation for my doctorate in public health.

(Umer Mir)



I feel honored and privileged to have received this fellowship. It helped me through the transition of my career from a physiotherapist to a researcher.

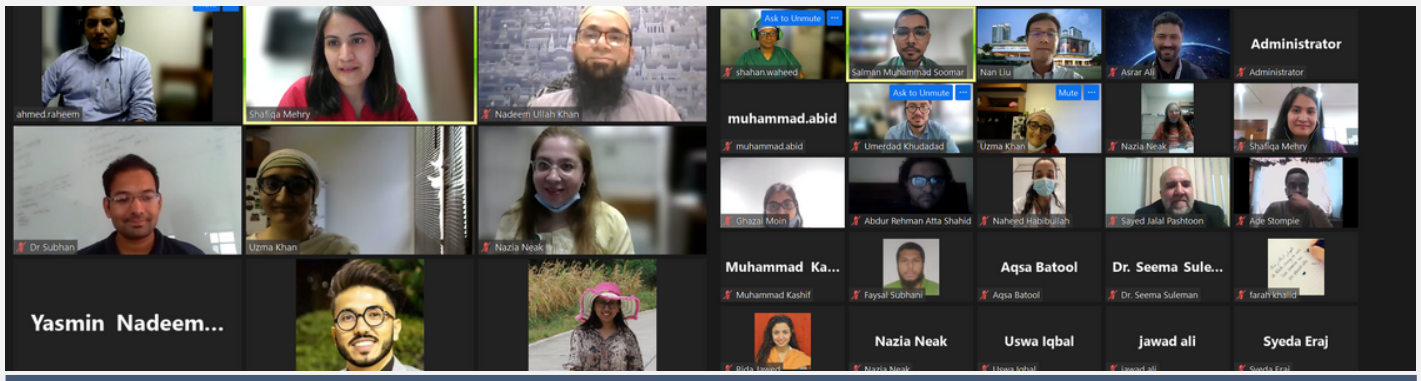
(Naveed Ahmed)



The Fogarty fellowship is designed comprehensively to meet my research and training expectations. It has offered me extensive learning opportunities to strengthen my career. It has been nothing less than rewarding and impactful for my professional and personal growth.

(Umerdad Khudadad)

Ongoing Activities



- **Emergency Trauma Research Forum (ETRF)** is a monthly online forum for Emergency residents and Fogarty fellows to present their proposal/thesis projects to the Emergency, trauma, and injury research experts, to get constructive feedback for the improvement of their studies, and to encourage further trauma and injury research.
- **Emergency Medicine Research & Statistical Excellence in Research (ERASER)** is a monthly webinar aims to develop fundamental principles of Statistics, Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, and Machine learning with their application to quantitative research in health sciences. ERASER engages different experienced professionals in Data Science and Statistics globally to share their learning with the participants.
- **Emergency Trauma Journal Club (ETJC)** is a monthly activity which provides an educational opportunity to critically appraise the emergency and trauma literature and apply it to clinical practice. This virtual journal clubs are in collaboration with the AKU campuses in Pakistan & Kenya, and Weill Cornell University USA.

About the Program

The Aga Khan University–Trauma and Injury Research Training Program (AKU-TIRTP) is an international collaborative research training aimed to strengthen trauma and injury research capacity across AKU institutions. The program is run by Center of Excellence for Trauma and Emergencies, and the Department of Emergency Medicine at AKU in collaboration with Weil Cornell and George Washington Universities in US. The first award started in 2005 was focused on Aga Khan University, which led to further growth across Pakistan, Afghanistan and now 4 other low-middle income countries including Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Tanzania and Kenya. The current grant is the fourth competitive renewal in a series. The program supports trainings in PhD and Master programs, workshops, online courses, and support contextually relevant research in emergencies, disasters and conflicts.

Fellow/Alumni Album

