

Access to Quality Healthcare for All

**Patient Welfare Programme, Pakistan
2018 & 2019**





Children from low-income households are prioritised by the Patient Welfare Programme

Our Patient Welfare Programme

Ensuring Access to Quality Healthcare for All

At Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH), we believe that the highest-quality patient care should be available to everyone. We are committed to ensuring that patients from low-income backgrounds are able to access a broad range of hospital, clinical, diagnostic, and laboratory services through financial support. Equally important, patients who receive support are given the same level of care as those who can afford to pay. Thanks to your generosity, AKUH is able to treat and care for everyone who seeks our services.

The Aga Khan University Hospital's Patient Welfare Programme has existed since the Hospital was founded in 1985. AKU is committed to serving the underserved regardless of religion, gender, race, ethnicity, socio-economic background or place of residence.



One walk through the main hospital courtyard in Karachi reveals the dire need for quality healthcare in the largest city in Pakistan

The Impact of Your Gift

4.59m+

Patients have benefitted from our welfare programme since 1986

18.1bn

PKR disbursed to patient welfare since AKUH was founded

5.6bn

PKR in gifts for patient welfare in 2018 and 2019

1.54m+

Patients visits supported by financial assistance in 2018 and 2019

1 in 4

Patients at AKUH, Pakistan supported by financial assistance

1 in 3

Patients in the general ward at AKUH, Pakistan supported by financial assistance

Transforming Lives With Your Gift

Meet the Beneficiaries:

Najma Mohammad Zaman – Neurosurgery Patient

Diagnosis – Meningioma Tumour

Najma's story is no less than a miracle. The sole earner in the family; estranged from her husband, and having adopted her sister's son, Najma lives with her aging mother. Working as a part-time cook, Najma's monthly earnings amount to less than \$50 per month, and her life is very difficult.

One day, Najma began to notice numbness in her hand. She went to a doctor near her house, who informed her that the numbness is likely caused by a neurological problem and that she would require a CT scan and an MRI, including several other costly tests. Due to the high cost of these tests, Najma avoided going to the hospital until her illness began to cripple her. Panicked, her mother rushed her to the nearest emergency where she was informed that Najma had a brain tumour that required urgent surgery. Najma's mother had heard from the neighbours that Aga Khan University Hospital provides financial support to patients that cannot afford to pay.



Najma's mother recalls, "we didn't believe it at first, after all, AKU is the most prestigious hospital in the country, but we were hoping against hope. I put my faith in God, but I had no money at all. I borrowed Rs. 500 from my neighbour - just enough to pay for Najma's conveyance to the hospital."

The Patient Welfare Programme at Aga Khan University Hospital made it possible for Najma to be treated in a world-class facility and offered all the same amenities that would be available to a fully paying patient. Najma's follow-up visits are also paid for by the Patient Welfare Department.

Free of her illness, she is now able to work and take better care of her family – something that she had always strived for. Her wish is for her nephew to become a doctor so that he can improve the quality of life of his family, and others who are in need.

Quality Healthcare for All

Established in 1985, the Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH) is a not-for-profit teaching hospital with a mandate to ensure quality care for all patients, regardless of their ability to pay. We are among the largest private health-care providers in Pakistan and East Africa. Our hospitals were the first in those regions accredited by the U.S.-based Joint Commission International, and our research and graduates have influenced health policy and practice nationally and internationally.



THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY

The Aga Khan University, Resource Development Department
Stadium Road, P.O. Box 3500, Karachi 74800
+92 21 3486 2909

Please feel free to contact us at: resource.development@aku.edu

Visit our website at: www.aku.edu/supportus