

# Pathology In Focus

## Glimpses of 2023

### REMARKS BY CHAIR

**Dr Erum Khan**

As we embark on another year of advancements and achievements in the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, despite various challenges including staff attrition, shipment delays, research disruption due to MDL lab renovation, that we faced last year, our department remained resolute in its commitment to delivering exceptional service, research, and education and continued to meet the targets. Moreover, we proudly introduced several new services e.g. Prader Willi and Angelman Syndrome by MS-PCR, Detection of HPV and Genotype, Serum Biotinidase, Beta-2 Glycoprotein Antibodies (IgG/IgM), and Detection of Plasma Cell proliferative disorders including Multiple Myeloma, a testament to our enduring dedication to meeting the evolving needs of both patients and clinical colleagues. In addition, our faculty and trainees were recognized at national and international forums with various accolades. I am delighted to present to you the Glimpses of 2023 from the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, providing an overview of the remarkable achievements and advancements.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each member of our team, for their hard work, resilience, and unwavering commitment to excellence. Together, let us continue to push boundaries, innovate, and uphold the highest standards of patient care and professional practice. Let's carry forward this spirit as we work together towards our shared goals in 2024.



# Achievements



300th AKU Lab  
The Aga Khan University  
Hospital's 300th Lab  
Collection point was  
inaugrated

BEST CME COMPLIANCE  
Department of Pathology and  
Laboratory Medicine  
Received Award in DCPE  
Annual Event 2023



Prof. Rumina Hasan (Microbiology)  
and Prof. Rabia Hussain (Immunology)  
received the "Life Time Achievement"  
award at the 44th Annual Conference  
of the Pakistan Association of Path-  
ologists (PAP), held on November 17-  
18, 2023 at Pearl Continental, Lahore.



# Promotions



Dr Muhammad Hasan  
(Haematology)  
Promoted to Assistant  
Professor,  
effective March 01, 2023.



Dr. Najia Ghanchi  
(Microbiology) has been  
appointed as a Vice Chair,  
Research. Effective from April  
01, 2023.



Dr. Kauser Jabeen  
(Microbiology) has been  
appointed as a Vice Chair,  
Education. Effective from April  
01, 2023.



Mr Sadiq Sikander was  
promoted as Manager of  
Clinical Lab, Department of  
Pathology and Laboratory  
Medicine

# Happenings

## LABORATORY PROFESSIONAL WEEK

Chemical Pathology



Microbiology



Molecular Pathology



Haematology and Transfusion Medicine

Histopathology

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine celebrated Global Medical Laboratory professional week 2023, in which each five sections celebrated achievements of their professionals.

## RESIDENTS' EVENT

Every year Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine celebrates the farewell of the graduating residents and welcomes new residents joining the Department



## FRAGILITY FRACTURE NETWORK-FFN CONFERENCE -1ST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BONE & MINERAL DISEASES IN PAKISTAN



Fragility Fracture network-FFN conference -1st International Conference on Bone & Mineral Diseases in Pakistan was organized on 20th and 21st Oct, 2023. International and national speakers presented at this 2-day conference. Best oral and poster presentations were appreciated.

# Services

## LAUNCH OF NEWBORN SCREENING PROGRAM FOR SELECTED INHERITED METABOLIC DISORDERS



In line with World Rare Disease Day 2023, the Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine organized an event 'Launch of Newborn Screening Program for Selected Inherited Metabolic Disorders' on the 23rd of Feb 2023

In addition to scientific talks by eminent faculty members, the event highlight was the 'giant canvas', the participants dipped their hands in paint and made hand-prints on it to show their support for rare diseases.

### 5 NEW TESTS WERE INTRODUCED

<https://www.aku.edu/mcpk/pathology/Pages/New-test-introduced.aspx>

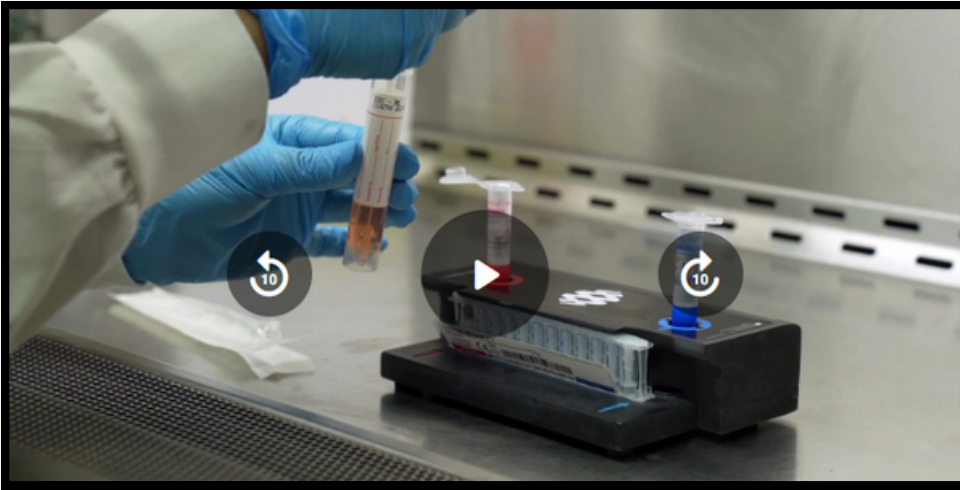
## TRAINING OF HEALTHCARE WORKERS ON QUANTITATIVE G6PD TESTING



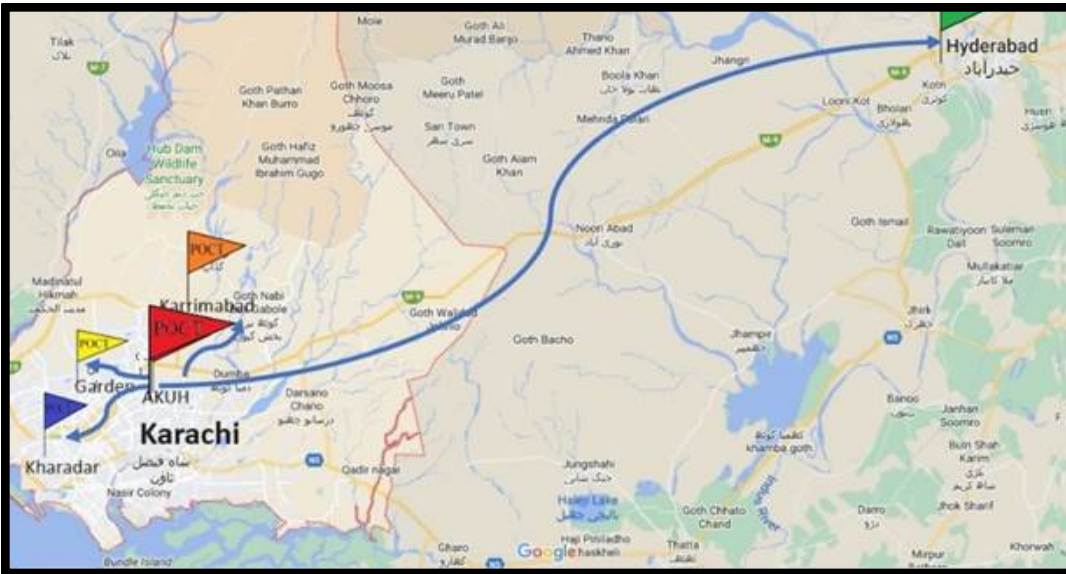
The DoMC, in collaboration with APMEN, hosted the "Training of Healthcare Workers on Quantitative G6PD Testing" on 7-9 December 2023 in Islamabad. Dr Najia Ganchi, Associate Professor from Aga Khan University facilitated the training on G6PD testing.

## TEST IN FOCUS VIDEOS

<https://www.aku.edu/mcpk/pathology/Pages/Test-in-focus.aspx>



# POCT PROGRAM EXPANSION



POCT Program Line at Karimabad, Kharadar, Garden, Karachi and Hyderabad

# SUMMER ELECTIVE ROTATION PROGRAM 2023



The four weeks program for elective rotation for medical students to Pathology and Laboratory Medicine covered all the broad areas of laboratory medicine. This rotation provided a comprehensive understanding of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine, and was designed to include didactic sessions, bench skills, interpretation of laboratory data, observation of laboratory working and procedures. The program was designed to help students develop analytical thinking while also providing comprehensive knowledge of laboratory management, quality control and safety measures required for the effective practice of laboratory medicine.

# Workshops & Trainings

## AI POWERED TOTAL LAB AUTOMATION: WALKING THE TALK



Chemical Pathology conducted a CME "Artificial Intelligence Powered Total Lab Automation: Walking the Talk".

Speakers Mr Ali Zia -Manager IT and WF, Roche Diagnostics and Mr Umair Naqvi- Head of Business Support and RIS, Roche Diagnostics presented a talk.

## RISK MANAGEMENT: BASICS AND APPLICATION OF FAILURE MODE AND EFFECT ANALYSIS (FMEA)

A virtual workshop on Risk Management -Basics and Application of Failure Mode and Effect Analysis (FMEA) was conducted via Zoom for outreach laboratory staff on 15th March 2023. It was organized by Quality Assurance group of Clinical laboratories.



## BONE AND SOFT TISSUE



آغا خان یونیورسٹی  
THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY



UHealth  
UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI  
MILLER SCHOOL  
of MEDICINE  
Pathology & Laboratory Medicine

**Distinguished Speaker Lecture Series (Lecture-1)**  
**Andrew E. Rosenberg, M.D.**  
Professor of Pathology  
Director of Anatomic Pathology  
Director of Bone & Soft Tissue Pathology



**My approach to the diagnosis of benign bone forming tumors**

Thursday, June 8, 2023 | 3:30- 4:30 pm | Zoom

Andrew Rosenberg, MD is a Clinical Professor who serves as the Vice Chair of Faculty Affairs and in multiple administrative directors' positions. He received his MD at Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia PA and is board certified in Anatomic Pathology. Dr. Rosenberg is a surgical pathologist with expertise in the pathobiology of diseases and neoplasms of the musculoskeletal system. His training in anatomic pathology began at the Massachusetts General Hospital as Chief Resident and subsequently as a faculty member for 30 years. His primary focus is the surgical pathology of the bone and soft tissue pathology where the volume of tumors from the university and consultation practice is challenging. This experience has provided the materials for Dr. Rosenberg to be able to teach pathologists, orthopaedic surgeons, and medical and radiation oncologists and to publish over 300 articles and 60 chapters, and several books focusing on bone tumors and sarcomas of the musculoskeletal system.

**Learning Objectives**

- Understand the classification of benign bone-forming tumors
- Learn how to approach the histological diagnosis of benign bone-forming tumors
- Learn how to correlate radiological features with pathological features of benign bone-forming tumors

**Moderator**  
Dr Nasir Ud Din (Histopathology)

The Lecture series on "Bone and Soft tissue" was organized by Histopathology. Prof. Andrew Rosenberg, Professor of Pathology, University of Miami Health System in collaboration with Dr Nasir Ud din, Associate Professor, Aga Khan University presented a talk via Zoom



# INAUGURATION OF CHEMICAL PATHOLOGY SECTION'S RARE DISEASE REGISTRY

The Rare Links webinar series provided a platform where national and international experts shared knowledge and experience of newborn screening and diagnostics of inherited metabolic disorders in Pakistan.

## Inauguration of Chemical Pathology Section's Rare Disease Registry



## VACCINOLOGY



Dr. Asim Beg (Professor, Microbiology) presented a talk on "Challenges in Malaria Elimination" in a Vaccinology Course conducted on 12th Jan 2023 at AKU.

## DEVELOPING TECHNOLOGIST AS TEACHERS

### Developing Technologist as Teachers



A three-day workshop series of 3.5 hours each, conducted on 17th-19th January 2023.

The workshop was highly interactive with hands-on task, group work, roleplays, and small group discussion.

## FOURTH FLIPPED STYLE COURSE: FUNDAMENTALS OF QUALITY CONTROL TO IMPROVE PATIENT SAFETY

Chemical Pathology section, Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine conducted a Fourth Flipped Style Course: Fundamentals of Quality control to improve Patient Safety.

### Fourth Flipped Style Course | Fundamentals of Quality Control to Improve Patient Safety



# Scholarly Activities

110+ PUBLICATIONS

09 GRANTS

<https://www.aku.edu/mcpk/pathology/Pages/Scholarly-activities.aspx>

## ANALYTICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH CELL WAS ESTABLISHED

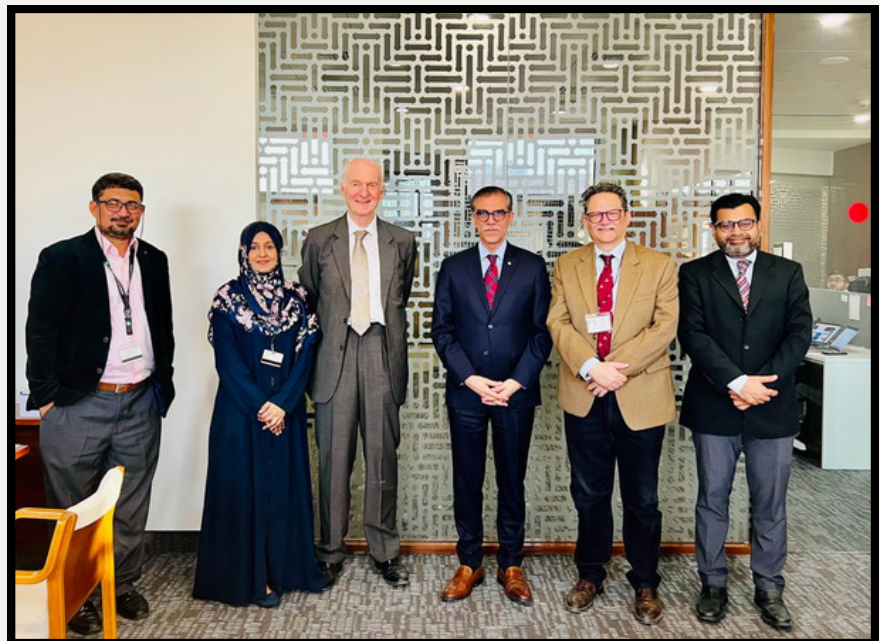
[https://www.aku.edu/mcpk/pathology/Pages/analytical-and-translational-research-cell-\(ATRC\).aspx](https://www.aku.edu/mcpk/pathology/Pages/analytical-and-translational-research-cell-(ATRC).aspx)

## SITE INVESTIGATION VISIT (SIV) TRAINING OF STUDY STAFF- (PLAT-COV) GRANT

Grant: Finding treatments for COVID-19: A phase 2 multi-center, adaptive platform trial to assess antiviral pharmacodynamics in early symptomatic COVID-19 (PLAT-COV)

Event: Site investigation visit (SIV) training of study staff

Participants: visitors from oxford university and study team, investigators.

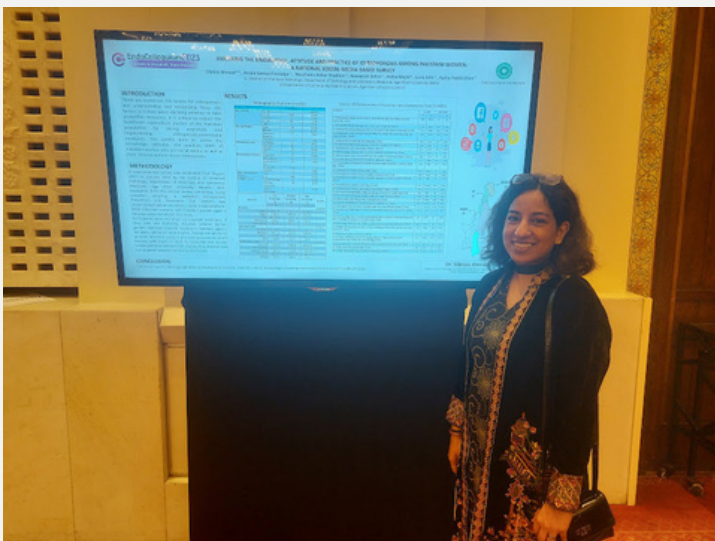




Dr Zeeshan Ansar  
(Assistant Professor & Sec Head,  
Molecular Pathology)  
has received the 2023 Florabel G. Mullick  
Honorary Award at USCAP's 2023  
Annual Meeting in New Orleans, LA.

Dr Adan Zubair (Microbiology) received  
2nd prize in the best oral presentation.

Title: *Aspergillus flavus* and azole  
resistance in clinical and  
environmental isolates in Pakistan.



Dr. Arsalah Jameel Farooqui  
(Senior Research Assistant, Chemical  
Pathology) received 3rd Prize in Oral  
Presentation at Nutritional and  
Biochemical Status of Pakistani  
Children with Transfusion Dependent  
Thalassemia with Metabolic Bone  
Disease EndoColloquium 2023.

Dr. Fatima Farhan  
(Resident II, Haematology)  
received the complimentary prize in the  
poster presentation

Title: “A rare case of type 3 hereditary  
hemochromatosis associated with Beta-  
thalassemia trait in an adult male”.



Dr. Nawazish Zehra  
(Research Associate, Chemical Pathology)  
2nd prize in Poster Presentation

Title: GRADE  
Adolpoment of Clinical Practice Guidelines  
for Postmenopausal Osteoporosis  
management -  
a Pakistani Context EndoColloquium 2023.

Dr Fatima Safdar (Histopathology)  
received 1st prize in the best poster  
presentation

Title: “Recurrent Primary Cutaneous  
Histoplasmosis in immunocompromised  
young male: A Rare presentation with  
classic Histology”.



Dr Mehreen Shahid (Microbiology)  
received 3rd prize in the best oral  
presentation.

Title: “Unlikely duo - nocardia and  
salmonella brain abscess”.



Dr Rija Zehra (Microbiology) received 3rd prize in best poster presentation.

Title: "When fungus meets bone - A case report".

Ms. Anila Zafar  
(Technologist, Haematology)  
received 2nd prize in the best  
oral presentation

Title: "Differentiating between dengue  
fever and malaria using hematological  
parameters".



Dr Zaib Un Nisa (Resident, Chemical  
Pathology, Pathology and Laboratory  
Medicine) received the best resident  
award in PGME.

PATHOLOGY COMMUNICATION TEAM: DR SIBTAIN AHMED, DR JOVERIA FAROOQI, DR ASGHAR NASIR, DR HASAN HAYAT, DR SAROSH MOIN, SHAMSHA PUNJWANI & NOORSHAH SOMANI



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