



SINDH INSTITUTE OF OPHTHALMOLOGY & VISUAL SCIENCES (SIOVS)

Newsletter

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STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP FOR THE PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS IN SINDH



The Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences (SIOVS) is pleased to announce the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Roche Pakistan Limited on 24th June 2025 marking the beginning of strategic partnership focused on the Prevention of Blindness in Sindh .

The MoU was formally signed by **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur** (Executive Director, SIOVS) and **Ms. Hafsa Shamsi** (General Manager, Roche Pakistan Limited.) This strategic partnership aims to enhance joint initiatives for blindness prevention and to strengthen the delivery of quality eye care services across the province.

1. Enhance awareness, diagnosis, research and treatment of Diabetic Macular Edema (DME), Age-related Macular Degeneration (AMD) , and Retinal Vein Occlusion (RVO)
2. Build Capacity of eye care professionals through cutting-edge training.
3. Establish SIOVS as a center of Excellence for evidence generation and holistic patient care.
4. Promote innovative and value based ophthalmic solutions for the people of Sindh
5. Together, we Move towards a brighter, Clearer future for thousands across the province.

THE SIGNING CEREMONY WAS GRACED BY NOTABLE DIGNITARIES, INCLUDING.

- . Dr Waqar Mehmood Memon , Director General Health Sindh (Chief Guest)
- . Prof. Dr . Jan Muhammad Memon Founding Vice Chancellor, LUMHS Jamshoro
- . Prof. Dr . Saleh Memon , Director, AIEH Karachi
- . Prof. Dr . Abdul Fatah Memon, Director, AIEH Karachi
- . Senior Ophthalmologist, healthcare professionals, and stakeholders from across the province

This collaboration marks a vital step in achieving universal eye health in alignment with global goals and local needs

On this occasion, Ms. Hafsa Shamsi, General Manager, Roche Pakistan Limited. along with her team, visited various Department at SIOVS including the Outpatient Department (OPD), Research Laboratories, Pediatric Ophthalmology Department, Wards, and Operating Theaters (O.T), The delegation was accompanied by Dr. Shahzad Memon, Associate Professor, and Dr. Fariha Sarwari, Assistant Professor, who provided an overview of the clinical, academic and research activities of the institute.

The Roche team highly commended Professor Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur, Executive Director of SIOVS, and his team for their visionary leadership and tireless efforts in establishing SIOVS as a central hub for teaching, training, and research in Ophthalmology within the Sindh Province.

The Government of Sindh assured maximum possible support to facilitate this initiatives, ensuring seamless execution of this program for the benefit of underserved communities

PRE INTERVIEW WRITTEN TEST FOR ADMISSION IN THE FCPS-II AND MCPS TRAINING PROGRAMS (SESSION JULY 2025)

The Pre Interview Written Test for Admission in the FCPS-II and MCPS Training Programs (Session July 2025) was successfully conducted at **Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences SIOVS, Hyderabad** on 20th June 2025 under supervision of **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur** Executive Director SIOVS Hyderabad, where Twelve (12) candidates appeared for admission in FCPS-II and MCPS Ophthalmology Program.



37TH NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR EYE HEALTH (NCEH) MEETING HELD IN ISLAMABAD

The 37th meeting of the National Committee for Eye Health was held on 30th May 2025 in Islamabad, organized by the National Coordinator's Office of SIOVS, Hyderabad. The meeting brought together Provincial Coordinators from all Provinces and Two Regions, as well as representatives from National eye care NGOs, including Al-Ibrahim Eye Hospital, Aid to Leprosy Patients, Al-Shifa Trust Eye Hospital, and LRBT Pakistan. The session focused on a well defined agenda, with particular emphasis on the Integrated People-Centred Eye Care (IPEC) Plan 2025 and Beyond. The meeting was chaired by **Dr. Shabana Saleem**, Director General Health, who commended the outstanding efforts of the National Committee under the leadership of **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur**. **Dr. Shabana Saleem** also shared that the Minister of Health expressed great satisfaction upon receiving the Trachoma Elimination Award at the World Health Assembly in Geneva earlier in May 2025.

Dr. Nafeesa Shah (Member of National Assembly Pakistan)

also participated in the meeting to observe the contributions of INGO partners, including Sightsavers, Fred Hollows Foundation, CBM, and the Brien Holden Vision Foundation. She appreciated their continued support to the most under served communities across Pakistan. Dr. Shah further highlighted the importance of gender and disability disaggregated data and offered her support in strengthening efforts in this area. In this meeting, **Mr. Mehran Memon**, Assistant Director IT SIOVS Hyderabad was recognized for his IAPB Young Systems Leader Award by **Dr. Shabana Saleem**, who formally handed over the certificate to him. The meeting concluded with **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur** thanking all members for their active participation and continued commitment to advancing eye health in Pakistan.



ADMISSIONS OPEN-BS VISION SCIENCES PROGRAM

It is pleased to announce that applications for the **BS Vision Sciences Program** start from Tuesday 1st July 2025.

Reference : INF-KRY: 2045/25, Daily Express, Express Newspaper and Kawish dated: 22nd June

Last Date to Apply : Tuesday 5th August 2025

For complete details, eligibility criteria, application forms, prospectus and admission schedule, please visit our official website: <https://siovs.edu.pk/bs-program/>

VISIT OF CPSP TEAM FOR PHYSICAL INSPECTION OF GLAUCOMA DISCIPLINE

On May 29, 2025, the **College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan (CPSP)** inspection team comprised of,

1. **Prof Abbas Memon - Councilor & Regional Director CPSP Hyderabad**
2. **Prof Zaheer Akhtar - Pulmonologist**
3. **Prof Ayesha Shakil - Glaucoma Consultant**
4. **Mr. Javed Ghaffar - Deputy General Manager CPSP Karachi**
5. **Aurangzeb Kaim Khani - General Manager CPSP Hyderabad**

Visited the **Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences SIOVS, Hyderabad**

The purpose of their visit was to accredit SIOVS for its sub specialty program in Glaucoma. During the inspection, the team accompanied by the Executive Director SIOVS **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur** visited all sections and units of the institute. The Executive Director also delivered a presentation highlighting infrastructure, equipment, and human resources in the institute to support the launch of the Glaucoma subspecialty training program. The CPSP team highly commended Professor Talpur and his faculty for their efforts in establishing SIOVS as a central hub for teaching, training and research in ophthalmology in the Sindh Province



TRAINING WORKSHOP ON REFERENCE MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

On 26th May 2025, the **Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences SIOVS, Hyderabad** Organized one day hands on training workshop on Reference Management Software (**End Note**) for academic writing. The session was held under the supervision **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur**, Executive Director SIOVS

Thirty (30) Postgraduate students from SIOVS and various Medical Universities across the region actively participated in the workshop.



The Assistant Professor Research **Dr. Yar Muhammad Waryah** delivered a lecture on End note with hands-on training to all the participants, and Nazir Ahmed Jaiser from SIOVS IT Team provided all the technical support, under team lead Mr. Irfan Memon, Deputy Director, I.T. At the conclusion of the workshop, certificates were distributed to all participants. **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur** appreciated the efforts of **Dr. Yar Muhammad Waryah** for organizing a workshop on such an essential topic for postgraduate trainees.

ANOTHER FEATHER IN THE CAP OF SIOVS



It is delighted to share that **Dr. Saba Eric**, a remarkable candidate from the Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences (SIOVS), has successfully passed the prestigious **FRCS Glasgow Part II Examination**. This is a significant milestone in her professional journey and a proud moment for the entire SIOVS community.

This achievement not only highlights Dr. Saba's unwavering dedication and clinical excellence but also reflect the supportive academic environment at SIOVS under the visionary leadership of **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur, Executive Director, SIOVS**. His commitment to nurturing talent and promoting high standards in ophthalmic teaching and training continues to produce outstanding results.

Prof Dr Kalid Iqbal Talpur the Executive Director and Faculty of SIOVS Congratulate Dr. Saba Eric. Currently she is serving at **Department of Ophthalmology, Cascade Eye & Skin Centre, Washington USA**.

ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING SIOVS

The Meeting of Academic Council of SIOVS was held on Thursday 22nd May 2025 at Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences (SIOVS) Hyderabad under the Chairmanship of **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur** Executive Director SIOVS. The core agenda of this meeting to discuss key academic advancements aimed at enhancing the quality of education research, and clinical training.

Key decisions taken:

1.Approval of BS Vision Sciences Program (5-Year Curriculum):

The Council approved the curriculum for the BS Vision Sciences program, which has been accredited by the Higher Education Commission (HEC), Islamabad.

2.Endorsement of the Postgraduate Residency Program:

The Council formally endorsed the implementation of the Postgraduate Residency Program, marking a substantial step in advancing specialized clinical training.

3.Activation of the Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC):

The Council approved the activation and operationalization of the Quality Enhancement Cell to foster academic excellence and ensure continuous quality improvement across academic and training programs. This meeting reflects SIOVS's commitment to academic leadership, innovation, and maintaining high standards in teaching, training and research.



MEETING UNDER THE UMBRELLA OF PROVINCIAL EYE HEALTH COMMITTEE AT DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF HEALTH SERVICES SINDH

The Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences Siovs, Hyderabad convened a pivotal meeting under the umbrella of the Provincial Eye Health Committee on **Monday 29th May 2025**. The session was chaired by the Director General of Health Sindh, **Dr. Waqar Mehmood**, with key contributions from **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur** Executive Director of SIOVS, and the National Coordinator and Provincial Coordinator for Eye Health in Sindh. The meeting saw full participation from all District Health Officers (DHOs) across the province.

The primary agenda focused on

1. Expanding eye care awareness throughout Sindh.
2. Strengthening existing eye care institutions and services to improve access and quality.
3. Updates and planning regarding the Prevention and Control of Blindness (PCB) Program.

All participants actively engaged in the discussion and reaffirmed their full support and commitment to the above shared goals.

During the session, **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur** delivered a comprehensive briefing on SIOVS's upcoming Cataract Support Program and Upgradation of RHCs to improve access to quality eye care in underserved areas. This will be implemented in collaboration with INGOs to strengthen public eye health services. This meeting marked a significant step forward in the collaborative efforts to enhance eye health across the province of Sindh.



MOCK EXAM FOR FCPS AND MCPS-II OPHTHALMOLOGY CONDUCTED AT SIOVS

The MOCK examination for FCPS-II and MCPS-II Ophthalmology was successfully conducted at the Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences (SIOVS), Hyderabad, on **Wednesday, 9th April 2025**. The session aimed to comprehensively prepare candidates for their final examinations and was held under the kind supervision of **Executive Director of SIOVS**.

Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur,

Candidates from various institutes across Sindh participated in the MOCK exam, which was designed to simulate the actual examination environment. They were assessed across a variety of stations including:



- . **MOCK TOCS (Task-oriented Assessment of Clinical Skills)**
- . **MOCK Long Cases and Viva Discussion**
- . **MOCK Short Cases and Viva Discussion**
- . **Formative and Summative Assessments**

Each candidate's performance was closely evaluated by senior faculty members of SIOVS, in accordance with the guidelines and structure of the College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan (CPSP)

At the conclusion of the exam, **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur** delivered an Interactive Feedback Session, sharing valuable tips and strategies to help candidates excel in their final examinations. The MOCK exam was coordinated by, **Dr. Adnan Majeed**.

PROUD MILESTONE ACHIEVED

It is proudly to announce that the **Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences - Siovs, Hyderabad** has achieved the honour of being the 1st Public Sector Institute / Hospital in Sindh Province to be awarded **THE REGULAR LICENSE** from the Sindh Healthcare Commission

This milestone was formally marked in a prestigious ceremony held at SIOVS on 8th May 2025, where **Dr. Ahson Qavi Siddiqi** Chief Executive Sindh Healthcare Commission, officially handed over **THE REGULAR LICENSE** to **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur** Executive Director, SIOVS

In his address, **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur** dedicated this remarkable achievement to the entire team of SIOVS including Faculty members, Doctors, Optometrists, Nurses, and all other Supporting Staff – whose collective dedication and commitment made this possible.

As a token of Sindhi hospitality and appreciation, **Dr. Ahson Qavi Siddiqi** and his team were presented with Ajrak and Souvenirs during the ceremony. This landmark achievement reflects our unwavering commitment to quality healthcare patient safety and regulatory compliance in Eye care Services in Province of Sindh.

