



Report

College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan

Visit to Australia

20th to 25th October 2019

CPSP & RACGP Collaboration



Report Prepared by

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Memorandum of Understanding

CPSP & RACGP

Background

In May 2018 College of Physicians & Surgeons Pakistan delegation led by the President Prof Zafar Ullah Chaudhry visited Australia. The Delegates were keen to further ties between RACGP and CPSP in order to strengthen family medicine in Pakistan. CPSP appointed a task group of Australian general practitioners of Pakistani origin to facilitate further relations between the two colleges. The Royal Australian College of General Practitioners and College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan formally signed the MOU at the GP 19 conference in Adelaide. Dr Harry Naspolon and Prof Shoaib Shafi signed the MOU on behalf of respective colleges. The aims and purpose of the MOU are as follows:

- ❖ General Practice/Family Medicine is the cornerstone of the primary health care
- ❖ Both Colleges respect the independence and objectives of the other
- ❖ Both Colleges aspire to mutual contribution
- ❖ Effective partnerships are based on role clarity, shared decision making, transparency of intent and open communication
- ❖ Both Colleges recognize the unique symbiotic relationship they have in their individual and shared responsibilities to promote general practice/family medicine careers, high quality training and sustainable long-term benefits for their respective communities and
- ❖ Opportunities for shared leadership, good will and collaboration between the Colleges will benefit general practice/family medicine training and the provision of high-quality health care to patients globally.



RACGP



COLLEGE OF
PHYSICIANS
AND SURGEONS
PAKISTAN

A high-level delegation of College of Physician and Surgeons Pakistan (CPSP) visited Australia in October 2019. It was an opportunity aimed at strengthening ties between Australia and Pakistan in the field of health with specific focus on Family Medicine.

The delegates visited Tasmania, South Australia and Victoria and held several meetings with key leaders in health and medical education.

Visiting Delegates:

Prof Shoaib Shafi

Director General International Relations

Prof Muhammad Asghar Butt

Regional Director Faisalabad



University of Tasmania (UTAS) Launceston Clinical School



Dean of the Launceston Clinical School Professor Tim Strong provided a tour of the clinical school facilities as well as a presentation on the vision and objectives of the clinical school. CPSP delegation discussed areas of future collaboration. Prof. Strong highlighted the importance of global health as one of the objectives of education and training at the undergraduate level. UTAS students chose their elective terms all around the world to develop their clinical skills among different health settings and cultural backgrounds.



Dr Farida Khawaja, emergency physician and DENT at Launceston General Hospital, Tasmania, coordinated a visit of the Hospital and University of Tasmania Medical School for the Visiting Delegates. Dr Khawaja is a facilitator of initiatives, collaboration, standards and training in Emergency Medicine in Pakistan with a commitment to support the growth of Emergency Medicine in Pakistan. Her mission is to find adaptive solutions for resource-poor contexts. She is also a facilitator of Emergency Life Support International, in Pakistan. The delegates were briefed about the work being done in Pakistan as well as future opportunities. Dr Riaz, who is an emergency physician at Launceston Hospital also joined a tour of emergency department highlighting the structure, patient flow and triaging.



UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

Health Leaders Meeting Melbourne



College of Physicians & Surgeons, Pakistan Visiting Delegates held a meeting with Council General of Pakistan, CEOs of various health organisations, Leading Pakistani Health Professionals, and key community influencers in Melbourne. Participants were briefed about the MOU between RACGP and CPSP Pakistan, which is aimed at strengthening ties in the field of Family Medicine/ General Practice.

Prof Shoaib Shafi and Prof Muhammad Asghar Butt discussed priorities for CPSP, as well as their ongoing commitment for quality education and training of health professionals in Pakistan.



Dr Ayesha Saqib (MBBS, FRACP) Consultant Medical Oncologist, and President ANZAPP-Vic, provided an overview of medical oncology training in Australia.



The Royal Australasian College of Physicians (RACP) is the professional medical college for internal medicine specialists in Australia. The specialization pathway begins with a three-year basic physician training (BPT) program. Following this program there are exams both written and clinical. After successful completion of BPT, the trainee can then sub-specialise in the Advanced Training (AT). This involves another 3 years in a particular field, where completion results in specialisation in that field. Training in Medical Oncology for example, follows the same pathway as above. Following completion of Advanced Training, one can do further training to complete a fellowship in order to sub-specialise. Those opportunities are equally attracted to overseas doctors provided they fulfil the requirements. In general, those positions are supervised, paid year or two contracts with hospital as far as requirements are met.

Dr Arzoo Khalid discussed with the CPSP delegates sub specialist training for Uro-gynaecology and gynaecology oncology. Training pathways can be:

- ❖ Apply directly to college for the recognition of prior training as general O&G - registrar, RANZCOG has information on their website for overseas medical graduation pathway (ranzcof.edu.au)
- ❖ After accreditation find a sub specialist job advertise on tertiary hospital's website.
Find the job first by emailing/ contacting head of the department of relative training hospitals/ job advertisement and then process application through college.
- ❖ Work in senior registrar capacity for one year then find a sub specialist job.

These pathways do not require AMC. College has fees for processing the application and it requires interview as well.



Dr Arzoo Khalid, MBBS, FRANZCOG
Head of Obstetrics (Obstetrician and Gynaecologist)
Northern Health- Victoria



Dr Yousuf H Ahmad
MBBS, FRACGP, FACRRM, MHPE
Chair, Board of Directors RWAV
Council Member RACGP-Vic

Dr Yousuf Ahmad discussed the collaboration between RACGP and CPSP Pakistan. MOU is the first step in developing further ties between two professional colleges. Pakistan is the first country among SAARC countries to have formal relationship with RACGP. Both colleges are keen to further their ties in education, training, quality assurance and delivery of care in the field of family medicine (General Practice). Each College agreed to promote each College's Annual Scientific Conference, and to send representatives to each other's conference. RACGP membership for existing CPSP Fellows and Members of Family Medicine will include access to several education and training resources. Similarly, CPSP will provide access to dedicated web resources for RACGP Fellows. Each College will provide reasonable support, assistance and promotion for General Practice research beneficial to their jurisdiction. Dr Ahmad also stressed the need for a systematic change in the health structure in Pakistan to support stronger primary health care focus.



**Dr Majid Naeem
Gondal**

MBBS, FRACGP

CEO Citi Medical,

Chair IMG Committee
RACGP-Vic

Dr Majid Gondal welcomed all the participants at the health leaders meeting, highlighting the importance of organisations working together. He acknowledged the commitment by CPSP for supporting family medicine in Pakistan and expressed his appreciation of personal interest shown by Prof Shoaib Shafi and Prof Asghar Butt in this regard. Meeting participants included Mr Trevor Carr CEO RWAV, Ms Megan Cahill Chair RWAN, Dr Fary Khan Director Rehabilitation Medicine, RMH and leading specialists in various Medical fields.

Meeting with International Faculties Delegates and VIP Dinner at GP 19

RACGP organised a VIP dinner for international faculties delegates of family medicine from several countries. Prof Shafi and Prof Butt represented CPSP and held meetings with the international and local guests and discussed avenues of mutual cooperation. Presidents and Executives of Family Medicine Colleges from Singapore, Fiji, New Zealand and China, Malaysia and Hong Kong were among the guests.

Earlier the Presidents of Family Medicine Colleges of Malaysia and Hong Kong presented key highlights and achievements in education and training. Chinese delegation was keen to work with Pakistan and support each other's efforts in establishing Family Medicine Faculties and health systems reforms in primary health care in respective countries.



Meeting with South Australian Pakistani Doctors

South Australian Pakistani Doctors organisation (PMASA) hosted a reception lunch for CPSP delegation and visiting Victorian Pakistani Doctors in Adelaide, which was attended by several CPSP Fellows and various local Pakistani specialists





Prof John Murtagh

Renowned Emeritus Professor John Murtagh is an academic General Practitioner; Professorial Fellow of General Practice at the University of Melbourne; Adjunct Clinical Professor in the Graduate School of Medicine, the University of Notre Dame and Guest Professor at Peking University Health Science Centre. He is also highly acclaimed author of several internationally adopted textbooks including John Murtagh's General Practice which has been translated into thirteen languages and is available in hard copy and electronically.

The College of Physician and Surgeons Delegates Prof Shoaib Shafi and Prof Muhammad Asghar Butt held a meeting with Prof John Murtagh at the GP 19, where Prof Murtagh extended his ongoing support for Family Medicine in Pakistan. Prof Murtagh was presented with CPSP shield and a tie (which he put it on for the day as a sign of love for Pakistan). Prof Shafi, Prof Butt and other Pakistani Delegates appreciated Prof Murtagh's ongoing support for family medicine in Pakistan. Prof Murtagh has been a key supporter of family medicine and CPSP in Pakistan.



CPSP Visit to Citi Medical



Citi Medical is a leading organisation providing accredited training for AMC, as well as professional development course for health professionals.

Citi Medical CEO Dr Majid Gondal organised a visit of the facilities for the CPSP delegates. The meeting participants discussed training opportunities for Pakistani Doctors who are preparing for Australian Medical Council examination as well as Improving Clinical and procedural skills for professional development

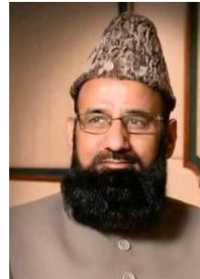
It was decided that CPSP and Citi Medical will work together in further training of Pakistani Doctors to improve standard of care in Pakistan.

Acknowledgements

The collaboration between College of Physician and Surgeons Pakistan and Royal Australian College of General Practitioner was made possible by relentless efforts and personal support from CPSP leadership and Pakistani doctors in Australia. The President and Senior Vice President CPSP took personal interest and provided full support for this purpose. The CPSP delegates represented CPSP in Australia at several forums and meetings. The team of Pakistani Origin doctors in Australia facilitated the visit as well as coordinated the collaborative efforts.



Prof Zafar Ullah Chaudhry
President
College of Physician and Surgeons
Pakistan



Prof Khalid Masood Gondal
Senior Vice President
College of Physician and Surgeons
Pakistan



Prof Shoaib Shafi
Director General International
Relations
College of Physician and Surgeons
Pakistan



Prof Muhammad Asghar Butt
Regional Director
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Dr. Yousuf Haroon Ahmad
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Chair Board of Directors RWAV
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Dr. Majid Naeem Gondal
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Dr. Syed Amer Gilani
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Dr. Zafar Iqbal Zafar
Family Physician, Australia
Fellow RACGP