

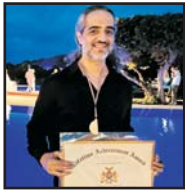
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DR IRFAN QURESHI HONOURED AT MOOT IN ITALY

Distinguished Pakistani dental surgeon, Dr Irfan Qureshi was conferred upon lifetime achievement award.

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STUDY EXPLORES USE OF INTRA-ORAL CAMERAS IN THAI PRISONS

The use of telehealth services increased rapidly during the COVID-19 pandemic, prompting wider acceptance of digital.

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STUDY IDENTIFIES NEW BACTERIAL SPECIES INVOLVED IN DENTAL

It was previously believed that Streptococcus mutans was the main microorganism responsible for dental caries.

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APFDC Hong Kong convention honours Dr Mahmood Shah

DT Pakistan Report

HONG KONG: Asia-Pacific Dental Federation (APDF) President Dr Mahmood Shah was awarded the prestigious Leadership Award at the launch of the federation's 44th convention held in Hong Kong recently in recognition of his commendable services for the profession.

The APDF is a leading organisation engaged in promoting oral health and advancing the dental profession in the Asia-Pacific region, also striving to foster collaboration among dental professionals So they could share their knowledge and best practices to promote high standards of oral healthcare. The federation organises conferences, symposia and educational programmes for professional growth of dental practitioners and oral health awareness.

On the occasion, a citation was read out to recognise Dr Mahmood Shah's services as APDF president.

The award acknowledges Dr Mahmood Shah's significant contributions and outstanding dedication to the field of dentistry. "His unwavering commitment to



advancing dental care in the Asia-Pacific region has had a profound impact on the dental profession and brought immense pride to Pakistan," the citation said.



The Dental Tribune Pakistan team also extended heartfelt congratulations to Dr Shah for this remarkable achievement and for bringing such an honour to

Pakistan. His steadfast commitment to excellence and visionary leadership have undoubtedly made a lasting impression on the dental community.

The award serves as a testament to Dr Shah's relentless pursuit of advancing oral healthcare and his invaluable contributions to the dental field.

Dr Shah has also massively contributed to the local Pakistani dental community during his career.

He has served as the president of the Pakistan Dental Association (PDA) Sindh Chapter and is currently holds the position of its central head.

His role in promoting and elevating dental education across the Asia-Pacific region is also commendable. He has been actively involved in various initiatives aimed at advancing the dental profession and

improving patient care, leaving a lasting impact on the dental community.

He continues to work passionately towards his mission of enhancing oral healthcare and ensuring the highest standards of dental practice.



Controversy surrounds PMDC promotions

DT Pakistan Report

KARACHI: Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PMDC), the foremost regulatory authority for medical and dental education in the country, finds itself embroiled in controversy as allegations of irregularities surface regarding recent promotions. Despite concerns raised by reliable sources, PMDC officials have promoted over 100 officers and employees to the next grades, with claims of favoritism and violations of established protocols. According to inside sources, a Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) was formed in March 2023 to oversee the promotions. However, during that time, the federal government had not yet notified the PM&DC for the appointment of officers and employees of the institution, making it the competent authority for conducting promotions. This discrepancy raises questions about the legitimacy of the promotions and the adherence to proper procedures.

One of the key concerns highlighted is the violation of rules related to the promotions. The Service Regulations 2023 explicitly require a satisfactory performance review report for the past three years as a prerequisite for any promotion. Unfortunately, in the case of sanctioned officers, this criterion appears to have been completely disregarded. Such deviations from established guidelines cast doubt on the fairness and transparency of the promotion process.

The PMDC, as the apex body responsible for ensuring the highest standards of medical and



dental education in Pakistan, should uphold the principles of accountability, merit, and integrity. Any irregularities or improprieties in the promotion procedures undermine the confidence of both the staff and the public in the council's ability to carry out its mandate effectively.

In light of these allegations, concerned stakeholders are urging the PMDC to conduct an immediate and impartial inquiry into the promotion process. It is crucial for the council to address the allegations transparently, rectify any discrepancies found, and take appropriate disciplinary action if warranted. By demonstrating a commitment to fairness and integrity, the PMDC can reaffirm its position as a trusted authority in the field of medical and dental education.

The PMDC has a critical role in shaping the future of healthcare in Pakistan, and it is imperative that its actions inspire confidence and trust. Transparency, accountability, and adherence to established procedures are fundamental principles that should guide the council's operations, including promotions.

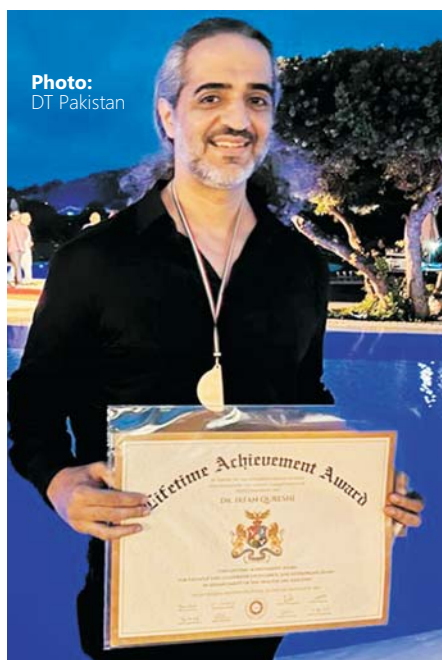
Dr Irfan Qureshi honoured at moot in Italy

DT Pakistan Report

ITALY: Distinguished Pakistani dental surgeon, Dr Irfan Qureshi was conferred upon lifetime achievement award at the 12th International Congress and 23rd Sardinian Meeting in Chia, Sardinia, Italy.

The event organised by the Italian Dental Association, focused on the theme of 'Simplicity in Excellence' gathering renowned speakers from around the world.

Dr Qureshi's selection for the award shows Pakistan's dedication to advancing healthcare and promoting excellence in dental practice.



The congress provided a unique platform for the attendees to engage with key opinion leaders and exchange knowledge, while also offering opportunities to explore the rich heritage and natural beauty of Sardinia. The event was accredited by ADA CERP, ensuring credits for participants.

Dr Qureshi's exceptional clinical expertise, dedication, and significant contributions to the field of dentistry earned him the honor from both the Italian Dental Association and the Global Summits Institute (GSI).

Continued on Page 4

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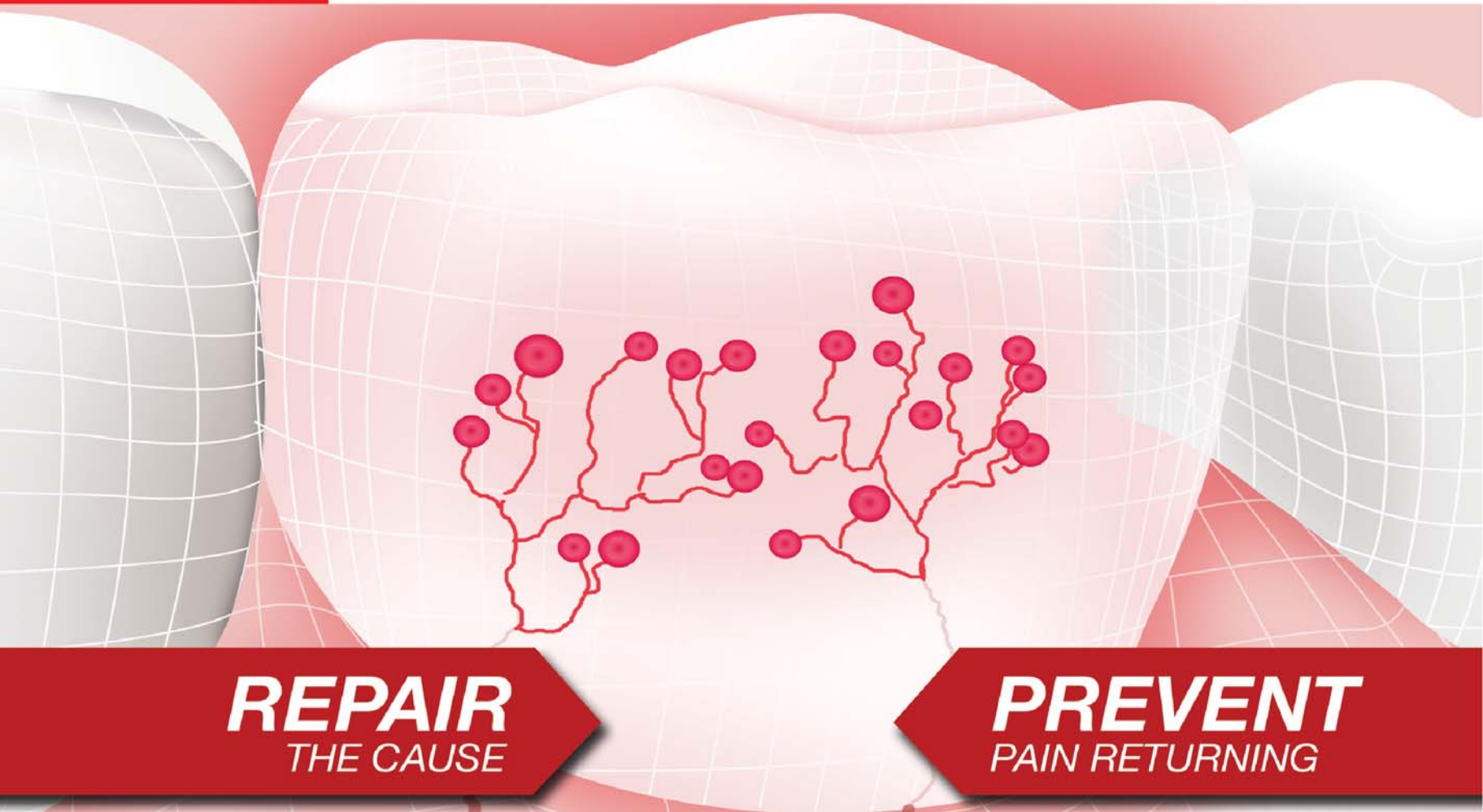
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A SIDE BY SIDE COMPARISON

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Relieves the pain of sensitive teeth [†]	✓	✓
Inhibits Plaque and Calculus Buildup	✓	



With continued use. Also helps soothe. ¥ In toothpastes with 2% potassium nitrate. For instant relief, apply directly to the sensitive tooth and gently massage for 1 minute. Reference: 1. Li Y et al. J Clin Dent. 2011; 25(9): 103-107. 2. Namous et al. J Clin Dent. 2009; 23(5): 103-107. 3. Namous et al. J Clin Dent. 2009; 23(5): 103-107. 4. Namous et al. J Clin Dent. 2009; 23(5): 103-107. 5. Namous et al. J Clin Dent. 2009; 23(5): 103-107.

IDA holds workshop on oral surgery

KARACHI: Irfans Dental Academy (IDA) organised a one-day hands-on workshop on "Oral Surgery Procedures (Level-II)" to familiarise the participants with the essential oral surgery procedures.



Photos: DT Pakistan

The workshop was facilitated by Dr Daud Sultan, an experienced oral maxillofacial surgeon and implantologist, working as an assistant professor at DIKIOHS.



The workshop featured a lecture and hands-on sessions, attended by a good number of participants from different dental institutes and private clinics of the city, who appreciated Dr Daud's knowledge and dedication towards teaching.

The workshop was mainly focused on soft tissue handling, flap designs, suturing techniques, socket preservation, surgical extraction, labial and lingual frenectomies.

The hands-on exercise was carried out individually by the participants. In the end, certificates were distributed among the participants and an appreciation shield presented to Dr Daud by Dr Umer Bin Irfan, CEO of the Irfans Dental Academy and Dr Adil Bin Irfan, MD of the academy.

IDA is also planning to conduct a workshop in July on 'Fundamentals of Dental Implantology' with Dr Abdullah Salman, an oral & maxillofacial surgeon and assistant professor at Baqai Dental College. **-PR**

MIHS seminar highlights AI use in dentistry

RAWALPINDI: Ms Umaima Khurshid Ahmad, a data science expert, highlighted the key areas in dentistry where use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools is significantly helping oral health professionals and facilitating them in improving the lives of people.

Prof Dr Shakir Khan, Islamabad College of Physiotherapy Dean Prof Dr Nazim Farooq, Margalla College of Pharmacy Dean Prof Dr Sohail Ahmad and other senior faculty member were also present.

Ms. Umaima explained that AI encompasses the ability of machines to perform tasks that



Photos: DT Pakistan



She was speaking as guest speaker at a seminar organised by the Margalla Institute of Health Sciences (MIHS) on AI and machine learning in dentistry.

Ms Umaima is currently working as a Machine Learning Engineer at DAT Freight and Analytics in Chicago, USA. She has recently completed her Masters in Data Science with distinction. She also has worked as a software engineer, developing valuable platforms to impact digitalisation around the globe, especially in health technologies.

Principal and Dean, Margalla College of Dentistry (MDC) Prof Dr Amjad Mahmood, Vice Principal

traditionally required human intelligence.

She said although the concept of AI dates back to 1950, it has only become a valuable tool in the past two decades due to advancements in big data, computational power, and AI algorithms. These advancements have led to the development of various AI applications aimed at enhancing people's lives. During the presentation, the speaker emphasised the adoption of AI in different areas of dentistry, including operative dentistry, periodontics, orthodontics, oral and maxillofacial surgery, and prosthodontics.

AI applications in dentistry can be classified into four categories: diagnosis, decision-making, treatment planning, and treatment result prediction. Among these, diagnosis and treatment planning are particularly popular.

The audience gained insights into various AI applications, such as predictive analytics, virtual consultations, Tele-dentistry, and platforms like "Overjet." Towards the end of the session, participants had the opportunity to address their queries.

To show appreciation, Prof Dr Amjad Mahmood presented a shield as a token of gratitude to the esteemed guest speaker. **-PR**

Dr Irfan Qureshi honoured ...
Continued from page 2

He played a pivotal role in showcasing Pakistan's commitment to advancing oral healthcare and promoting excellence in dental practice. His presence at the event underscored the country's dedication to the continuous improvement of healthcare standards.

The congress featured lectures on various crucial aspects of dentistry and medicine, including Endodontics, Periodontics, Surgery, Digital Dentistry, Esthetics, Orthodontics, Pedodontics, Implantology, as well as

specialised topics in the field of medicine. The programme also included hands-on courses and sessions tailored for the entire dental team.

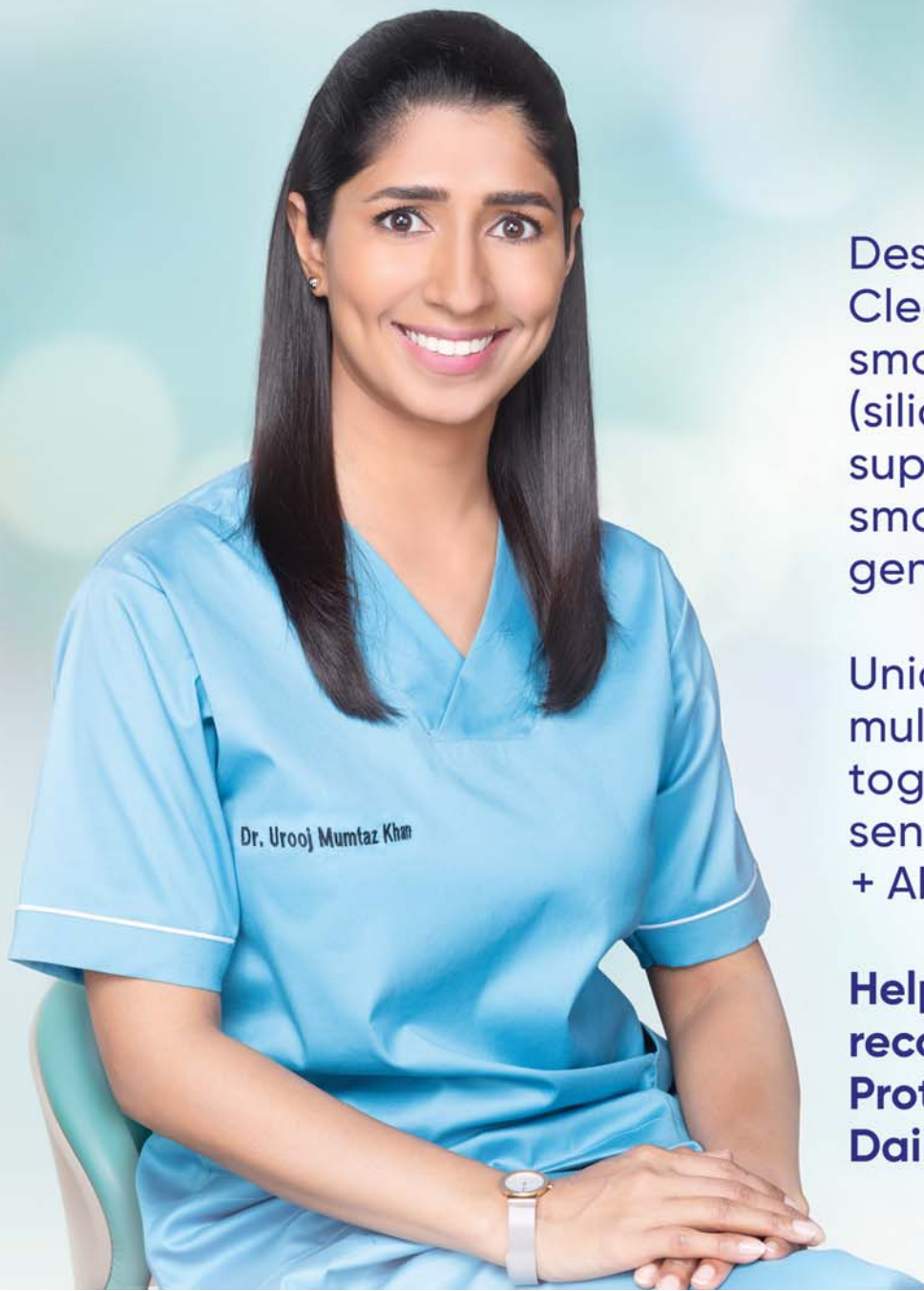
The congress also provided a unique platform for attendees to engage with influential figures from diverse medical backgrounds.

Over the course of three days congress, the participants had an opportunity to share insights, and collaborate on advancing healthcare practices worldwide. It also incorporated cultural elements and catered to families.

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BUDC holds 'Style Italiano' workshop

KARACHI: Bahria University Dental College (BUDC) operative dentistry department recently organized a workshop titled "Style Italiano Aesthetic Restorations" meant to upgrade clinical knowledge and skills of undergraduates, house officers and fresh graduates.

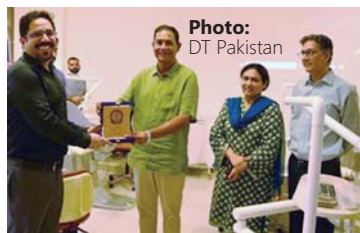


Photo: DT Pakistan

Style Italiano is an international forum with members all around the world, renowned for aesthetic restorative practices and methods. Founded in the early 2000s by two restorative dentists, it is now an ever growing community of dentists and has become a brand synonymous with aesthetic dentistry.

Dr Haroon Shah, a certified Style Italiano trainer and a well-established clinician, conducted the workshop in an effective manner.

It started with a lecture by Dr Haroon on aesthetic restorative techniques, encompassing the essentials of a sound procedure and the proper armamentarium and materials required for the desired result.

The lecture was followed by a demo on anterior composite restoration by Dr Haroon, where the workshop participants had some hands-on practice of the restorations.

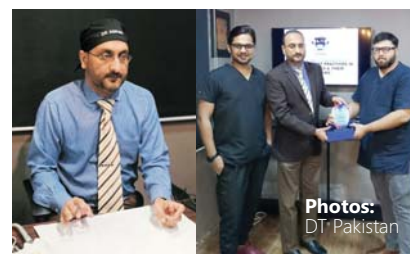
A memento and certificate of appreciation was presented to Dr Haroon by the Director General, Bahria University Health Sciences Campus, Vice Admiral (R) Athar Mukhtar, HI (M), who thanked Dr Haroon for successful conduction of the workshop.

The workshop culminated with award of certificates to the participants by Dr Wahab Kadri, Principal of BUDC, VP Dr Shama Asghar, HOD Operative Dentistry Department. A certificate of appreciation was also given to Dr Syed Adeel Ahmed, senior lecturer Operative Dentistry, for his role in organizing the workshop. **-PR**

Wrong Concept Practices and Mishaps in Root Canal Treatment by Prof Abrar

KARACHI: One day Rotary Endodontics Hands-on Workshop titled "Wrong Concept Practices and Mishaps in Root Canal Treatment and their Remedies" was successfully conducted at Irfans Dental Academy recently. The workshop was led by the esteemed Restorative & Endodontics Specialist, Prof. Syed Abrar Ali, who currently serves as the Head of Department and FCPS Supervisor in Operative Dentistry, Pedodontics & Endodontics at Hamdard Dental College.

The lecture session focused on addressing misconceptions and common errors in endodontic procedures, emphasizing their management. This knowledge was particularly crucial for general dentists and fresh graduates seeking a comprehensive understanding of root canal failures. The session fostered active participation and enabled participants to clarify their concepts surrounding this topic. During the hands-on demonstration, Dr. Abrar discussed various Rotary File Systems and showcased the process of creating a glide path, as well as performing manual and rotary filing techniques. He also demonstrated how to achieve the correct working length using an apex



Photos: DT Pakistan

locator, initially on an Endodontics Block and subsequently on an extracted tooth. Each participant was then given an opportunity to practice manual and rotary filing techniques on an extracted tooth.

The workshop received positive feedback from participants representing different dental institutes. They greatly appreciated Dr. Abrar's vast knowledge and his dedication to teaching. At the conclusion of the workshop, certificates were distributed to all participants by Dr. Abrar, Dr. Umer Bin Irfan (CEO of Irfans Dental Academy), and Dr. Adil Bin Irfan (MD of Irfans Dental Academy). Looking ahead, IDA is planning to organize another workshop in June, focusing on Oral Surgery Procedures. The workshop will feature Dr. Daud Sultan, an accomplished Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon and Assistant Professor at DIKIOHS. **-PR**

BUHS holds periodontology workshop

KARACHI: Bahria University of Health Sciences (BUHS) Periodontology department organized a clinical hands-on workshop under the umbrella of the Fifth International Conference, Karachi.

The workshop titled, 'A-traumatic tooth extraction-anti microbial socket preservation & Augmentation' was aimed to emphasize the fact that after exodontia, the topography of the site is important to maintain for future prosthetic replacement, especially the harmony of structure, for implant placement. It was conducted for house officers and lecturers of Bahria University Dental College, who were supervised by Prof Dr Farzeen Tanwir, HOD of Periodontology Department and other senior faculty members, including Assistant Professor Dr Tauqeer Bibi, Assistant Professor Dr Ahmed Bin Khalid and Senior Registrar Dr Natasha Zaidi.

The workshop comprised an interactive lecture and hands-on performance on goat's



head, wherein each participant was taught basic principles of incision, flap designing, bone harvesting, membrane placement and different types of suturing techniques used in periodontal surgery.



Photos: DT Pakistan

This activity enabled the participants to improve their surgical knowledge and enhance their confidence to perform minor procedures in their daily practice. **-PR**

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References:

1. Akwagyriam et al, 2015. 2. Kakar et al, 2014 3. GSK data on file (GCCSS-GH-001 - parodontax complete protection toothpaste). 4. Akwagyriam et al, 2013. 5. Jose et al, 2018. 6. Attin T and Hornecker E, 2005. 7. Williams et al, 1992.

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Pak TraumaCon discusses facial, neck trauma

KARACHI: Experts emphasised the significance of immediate medical assistance for individuals injured in various accidents, including traffic incidents at Pakistan's first International Traumatology Conference on 'Trauma Care Challenges: The Way Forward in the Digital Era' organised by the Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Institute of Trauma (SMBBIT), that concluded here recently.

During the three-day event, titled Pak TraumaCon 2023, distinguished local and international speakers presented papers on Neurosurgery, Vascular Oral and Maxillofacial, Plastic Surgery and Thoracic Surgery, Interventional and Diagnostic Radiology and infection.

Prof Shahjahan Katpar for the first time represented Pakistan's oral maxillofacial surgical specialty as the co-chairman of the Scientific Session at an international conference. In an exclusive interview with Dental News, Prof Shahjahan Katpar stated, "I am honoured to have represented Oral Maxillofacial Surgical Specialty as the Co-Chairman of the Scientific Session at the first International Traumatology Conference. This opportunity has allowed us to share our expertise and highlight the vital role of a multidisciplinary approach in delivering optimal care to trauma patients. We are committed to further advancing traumatology in Pakistan and beyond."

Dr Mansur Ahmad, a founding member of the Pakistan Association of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons (OMFS), was the guest of honour. On its concluding day, the participants in the conference specifically focused on 'Facial & Neck Trauma', discussing advancements and best practices in trauma care.

The regional session on Facial & Neck Trauma was chaired by Prof Huma K Saigol from the Fatima Jinnah Medical University (FJMU), Lahore, and co-chaired by Dr SM Asad Shabbir Bukhari from Rawalpindi. The session was moderated by Prof Noor Ul Wahab from Ziadudin University.

The session commenced with opening remarks by Prof Shahjahan Katpar from DUHS & SMBBIT, and Dr Mansur Ahmed, also a consultant oral surgeon at Aga Khan University Hospital (AKUH), introduced the session. The experts delved into various aspects of facial and neck trauma management, highlighting specialised areas within the field.

Some notable presentations included those given by Prof Dr Mazhar Ul Hasan from DUHS & SMBBIT and Dr Saba Alkhairy from SMBBIT, discussing orbital injuries in the field of ophthalmology. Prof Dr Adnan Shah from the University of Manitoba, Canada, shared insights on managing zygomaticomaxillary complex fractures in oral and maxillofacial surgery. The session also featured presentations by Prof Huma Kayani Saigol, focusing on ophthalmology related to traumatology, and Dr Shabbir Bukhari, who discussed surgical



airway management of trauma in the field of ENT surgery.

Prof Katpar shed light on various aspects of maxillofacial surgical traumatology, elaborating comprehensive spectrum of procedures, techniques, and challenges encountered in this specialised field. Maxillofacial surgical traumatology encompasses the management of injuries to the face, jaws, and related structures. Prof Katpar's presentation provided a unique opportunity for attendees to gain in-depth knowledge about the surgical interventions, advancements, and innovative approaches employed in this field.

Additionally, Dr Nadeem Ahmed Siddiqui from (AKUH) gave presentation on the management of vascular injuries in the neck.

Prof Noor Ul Wahab, Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeon and Head of the Department at ZDC (ZU), shed light on the management intricacies of zygomaticomaxillary complex fractures. He spoke about complex fractures and highlighted the challenges involved in their management. With expertise in OMFS, Prof Wahab provided valuable insights into the latest techniques and advancements in treating such fracture. His presentation received great interest and appreciation from the audience.

Dr Maria Shabbir and Dr Munawar Larik from SMBBIT, along with Prof Katpar, presented a retrospective study on the frequency of orbital fractures in facial trauma patients.

One of the key highlights of the conference was the panel discussion moderated by Prof Katpar, focusing on polytrauma management and emphasising the importance of a multidisciplinary team (MDT) approach. This comprehensive approach under a single roof enables healthcare professionals to provide efficient and coordinated care to trauma patients.

A major breakthrough at the conference was the introduction of MDT trauma patient care, which promotes a unified general anesthesia strategy. This initiative aims to establish a national policy in line with international standards, ensuring standardised care across the country. By implementing a common platform for trauma care, Pakistan is taking significant strides toward enhancing patient outcomes and improving the overall quality of trauma management.

Pak TraumaCon 2023 brought together medical and dental experts, educators, and scientists to share knowledge and discuss the latest advancements in the field. It serves as a

testament to Pakistan's commitment to providing top-notch care in traumatology and highlights its dedication to improving the overall well-being of its citizens.

The conference also featured an exclusive poster competition that showcased the contributions of various specialties from all over Pakistan. The participants included experts in orthopedics, anesthesia, neurosurgery, general surgery, thoracic surgery, vascular surgery, plastic surgery, oral & maxillofacial surgery (OMFS), and physiotherapy.

In the OMSF specialty, a poster titled "Pediatric case management of displaced & complicated zygomaticomaxillary complex (ZMC) fracture" was submitted by Dr Munawar-Ud-Din Larik, Dr Maria Shabbir, and Prof Shahjahan Katpar.

Dr Muhammad Mannan Ali Khan, Dr Badaruddin Sahito, Dr Tariq Ali Bhatti, Dr Husnain Ali, Dr Waqar Ali, and Dr S M Mohtashim Ali from DUHS & Civil Hospital were awarded the first prize in the Scientific Poster Presenter category for their poster titled "Vac Dressing - A Weapon In The Arsenal Of Orthopedic Surgeon In The Treatment Of Gustilo Anderson 3-B Fractures." Their poster highlighted innovative techniques in the management of complex fractures.

In the field of Anesthesia, Dr Rao Noman, Dr Sidra Javed, Dr Arshi Naz, Dr Samita Khan, Dr Humera Ismail, Dr Zahid Akhter Rao, and Prof Sadqa Aftab from SMBBIT were awarded second prize for their poster titled "Clinical Profile of Adult Tetanus Patients and The Impact of Early Tracheostomy on the Outcome; A Retrospective Observational Study." Their study sheds light on important aspects of patient care and outcomes in tetanus cases.

The third prize went to Dr Shabih Ayesha, Dr Murk Niaz, Dr Urooba Mateen, and Dr Syeda Mahrukh Fatima Zaidi from SMBBIT for their poster titled "Frequency and Clinicoradiological Characteristics Of Traumatic Thoracolumbar Fractures: An Institute-Based Experience." Their research contributed valuable insights into the frequency and characteristics of traumatic thoracolumbar fractures.

The conference also featured a multitude of educational pre-conference workshops, providing participants with an opportunity to delve into a vast array of specialties. The expert-led sessions focused on various specialties and allowed attendees to expand their expertise and gain fresh insights from accomplished professionals in their respective domains. **-PR**

Study explores use of intra-oral cameras in Thai prisons

By Jeremy Booth,
Dental Tribune International

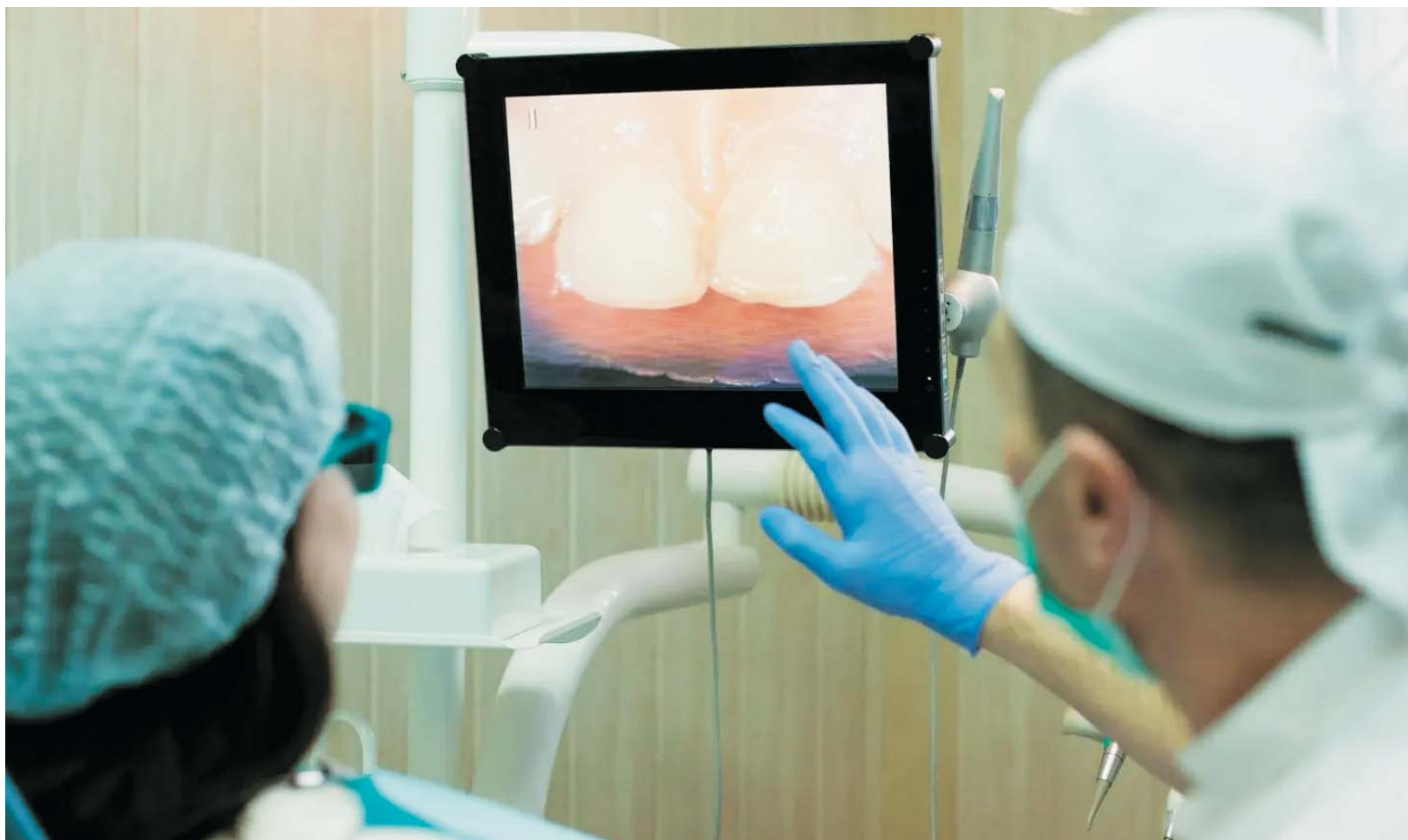
BANGKOK, Thailand: The use of telehealth services increased rapidly during the COVID-19 pandemic, prompting wider acceptance of digital consultations and interest in

screenings compared with that of physical oral examinations. Prisoner health volunteers—prisoners given basic medical training in order to promote disease prevention and health and conduct disease surveillance in Thai prisons as part of a healthcare project started in

collected pertained to 215 teeth. The researchers found that the teledentistry and direct oral examinations resulted in a diagnostic accuracy of at least 80% for all patients. The volunteers were found to be less effective in determining the need for dental scaling and surgical

evaluation, such as active or arrested dental caries," the researchers wrote.

Discussing the results, the authors said that teledentistry screenings in prisons could enable prompt assessment and prioritisation of oral care needs and reduce the number of direct



A recent study by researchers in Thailand shows that the use of teledentistry to screen for oral diseases in prison populations could help to improve oral healthcare accessibility. (Image: ART_Photo_DN/Shutterstock)

using telehealth as a tool to improve healthcare access and equity. A study by researchers in Thailand has explored the efficacy of using intra-oral cameras to conduct remote screening for oral diseases in the Thai prison population, for whom access to care is constrained because of limited prison staff, among other reasons. They found that the cameras enabled an acceptable level of diagnostic accuracy that could help to prioritise treatment and facilitate greater access to care.

The researchers aimed to test the diagnostic accuracy of remote

2019—were taught to use intra-oral cameras to capture photographs of symptomatic areas in the mouths of prisoners who had reported dental problems. Based on the captured data, treatment needs were independently determined by the volunteers and a dentist, and the results were compared with assessments by a second dentist, who performed oral examinations of the same prisoners.

A total of 152 male prisoners confined at the Sisaket provincial correctional facility in Thailand were screened by the volunteers and dentists and the data

removal of impacted teeth.

The researchers concluded that the use of teledentistry to screen for oral problems enabled the treating dentists to achieve an acceptable diagnostic accuracy, but that the technology used was not sufficient to identify all dental problems and treatment needs. Diagnosing periodontal problems was identified as an area of weakness, owing to difficulties in capturing subgingival calculus deposits with the intra-oral cameras. "Furthermore, the imaging cannot provide information that can be obtained from tactile

dental examinations required, thereby enabling the facilities to use their limited healthcare resources better. They said that, for further studies, "using the [intra-oral camera] to record a video for additional information, such as tooth mobility and gingival bleeding, may be required to increase diagnostic accuracy of dental treatment need".

The study, titled "Facilitating dental disease screening program in prisoners using an intraoral camera in teledentistry", was published online on 29 April 2023 in *BDJ Open*.