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DRAP RELEASES GUIDELINES FOR DRUG MANUFACTURERS

The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) has issued a consolidated guidance document for the drug manufacturers.

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PRESIDENT ARIF ALVI APPROVES PMDC BILL 2022

President Dr Arif Alvi has officially given his assent to the Pakistan Medical and Dental Council Bill 2022.

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NEW STUDY LOOKS AT FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE WILLINGNESS

According to the Pan American Health Organization, nine out of ten people are at risk for any type of oral disease.

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Dental equipment and supplies market is expected to rise to \$38.41 billion

DT Pakistan Report

KARACHI: A report published recently analyses global market trends as per the dollar soar in 2023 and categorically predicts the future costs of dental equipment used in public and private practice, distinguished between Therapeutic Dental Equipment, General Dental Devices, Dental Surgical Equipment and Dental Diagnostic Devices.

The dental equipment and supplies market research report, as published by the Business

Research Company, explores the dental equipment and market statistics in 2023 as compared to the previous year.

This report, claimed that the global dental equipment and supplies market rose from \$22.36 billion in 2022 to \$24.99 billion in 2023 at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 11.8%.

According to the report, the chances of global economic recovery post the Covid pandemic came to a halt as a result of the Russia-Ukraine war. The war between these countries resulted in the placement of economic sanctions on multiple countries, there was a sharp rise in the prices of commodities and increasing issues in the supply chain. Global inflation, therefore, ensued, affecting several markets including the dental equipment industry.

The report claims that by analysing these trends, it can be predicted that the dental equipment and supplies market is expected to rise to \$38.41 billion by 2027 at a CAGR of 11.3%.



Photo: dreamstime

Photo: Dailypakistan

Federal Govt approves Paracetamol price hike request

DT Pakistan Report

ISLAMABAD: The federal government has decided to increase the price of paracetamol tablets and syrup on demand of the pharma companies who have sought the increase to cope with the rapid rise in the cost of raw materials.



On the recommendation of the Drug Pricing Committee (DPC) of DRAP, the Ministry of Health prepared the price hike summary which will be presented to the Economic Coordination Committee (ECC) tomorrow for approval.

The proposal recommends increasing the price of paracetamol syrup 120 ml by Rs12.18 after which the price of the paracetamol syrup will raise from Rs104.82 to Rs117.

Furthermore, the Health Ministry urged to raise the paracetamol 500 mg tablet by Rs 0.80, after which the price of the paracetamol 500mg tablet will fix at Rs 2.67.

DRAP releases guidelines for drug manufacturers

DT Pakistan Report

KARACHI: The Drug Regulatory Authority of Pakistan (DRAP) has issued a consolidated guidance document for the drug manufacturers to ensure the quality of drugs and compliance with its Current Good Manufacturing Practices (CGMPs).

DRAP monitors the manufacturers to ensure compliance to minimum requirements for the methods, facilities, and controls used in manufacturing, processing, and packing of a drug product. These protocols are intended to make sure that a product is safe for use, and meets the prescribed standards of quality.

Although the Drugs (Licensing, Registering & Advertising) Rules, 1976 under the Drugs Act, 1976, provide detailed requirements on the CGMPs, DRAP intended to provide compiled guidelines in



Photo: Regdesk

the form of a document for the pharmaceutical and biological drugs manufacturers.

Through these guidelines, DRAP wants to ensure that the products are consistently produced and controlled to the quality standards appropriate to their intended use; they are manufactured as required by the marketing authorisation or product specification and all those risks have been diminished that are inherent in any pharmaceutical / biological

production operation, including contamination, cross-contamination and mix-ups (confusion), that cannot be detected completely through the testing of the final products.

This document will help the industry as well as the regulators to conform to the requirement of GMP for production, verification, and validation of the manufactured products and ensure that they are effective and safe.

President Arif Alvi approves PMDC Bill 2022

DT Pakistan Report

ISLAMABAD: President Dr Arif Alvi has officially given his assent to the Pakistan Medical and Dental Council Bill 2022 after it had been approved by the National Assembly and passed by the Parliament.



Photo: DT Pakistan

The President recently signed the bill exercising his powers under Article 75 of the Constitution, a statement made by the President House said.

GSK Pakistan ranked among top employers for 3rd consecutive year

DT Pakistan Report

KARACHI: GSK Pakistan has been recertified by The Top Employers Institute as a Top Employer 2023 for the third consecutive year.

The Top Employers Institute programme certifies organisations based on the participation and results of their HR Best Practices Survey that covers six HR domains consisting of 20 topics, including people strategy, work environment, talent acquisition, learning, diversity, equity and inclusion, and wellbeing, among others. The programme has certified and recognised a total of 2,053 top employers in 121 countries/regions across five continents.



GSK Pakistan's HR Country Head Farqaleet Iqbal said:

"This indeed is a proud moment for GSK Pakistan and a testament to the dedication of our people who remained committed throughout the rigorous process required to get certified. Being one of the top employers in the corporate community allows

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IMPRINT INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Publisher and Chief Executive Officer
Torsten R. Oemus

Chief Content Officer
Claudia Duschek

Dental Tribune International GmbH
Holbeinstr. 29, 04229 Leipzig, Germany

Tel.: +49 341 48 474 302

Fax: +49 341 48 474 173

General requests:

info@dental-tribune.com

Sales requests:

mediasales@dental-tribune.com

www.dental-tribune.com

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dti Dental
Tribune
International

Publisher and CEO
Syed Hashim A. Hasan
hashim@dental-tribune.com.pk

Editor Clinical Research
Dr. Inayatullah Padhiar

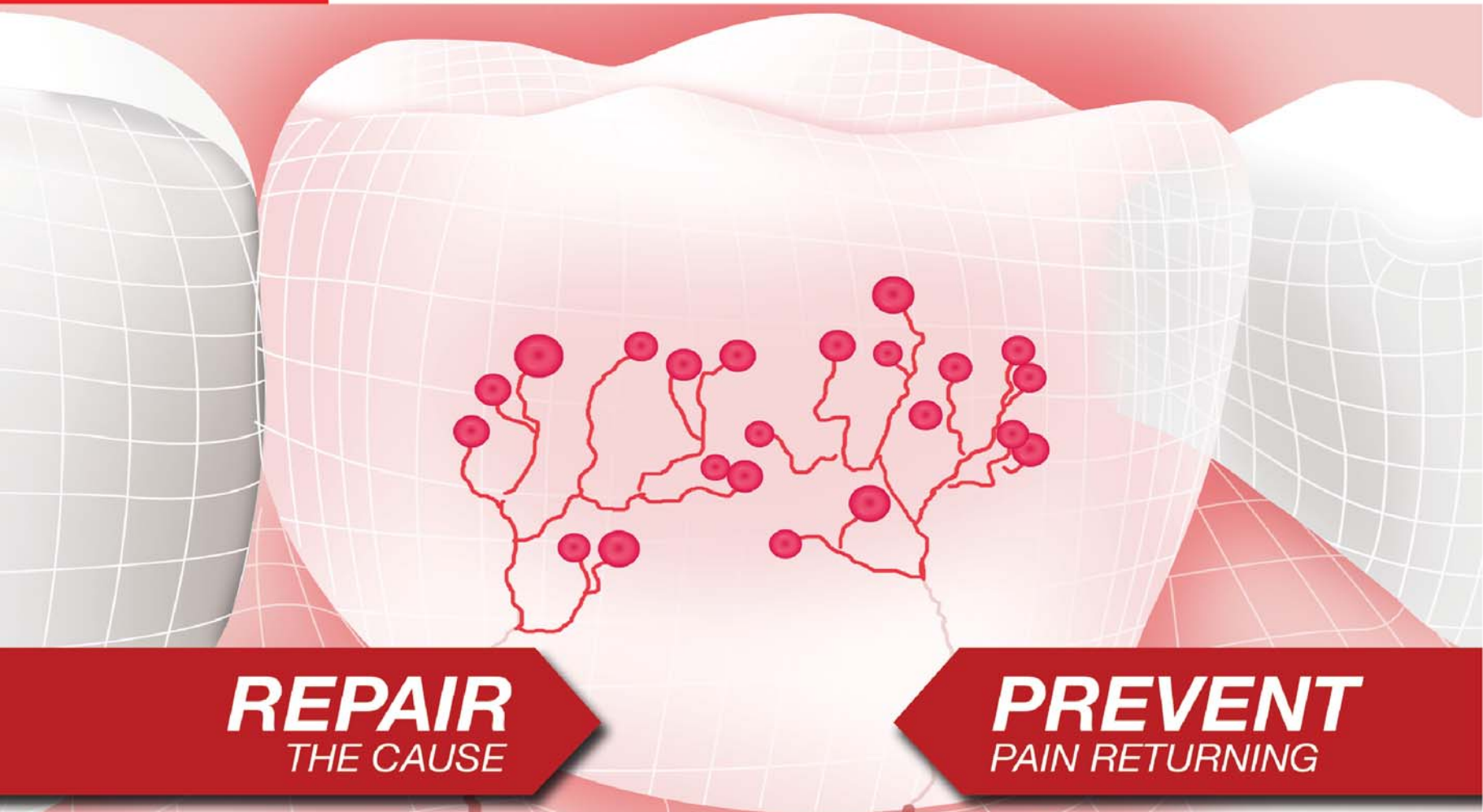
Editors Research & Public Health
Prof. Dr. Ayyaz Ali Khan

Editor - Online
Haseeb Uddin

Designing & Layout
Sheikh M. Sadiq Ali

Dental Tribune Pakistan
3rd floor, Mahmood Centre, BC-11,
Block-9, Clifton, Karachi, Pakistan.
Tel.: +92 21 35378440-2
Fax: +92 21 35836940
www.dental-tribune.com.pk
info@dental-tribune.com.pk

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TREATING SENSITIVE TEETH:
A SIDE BY SIDE COMPARISON

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TECHNOLOGY PLATFORM	PRO-ARGIN™	POTASSIUM NITRATE
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Clinically proven instant and superior sensitivity relief ^{¥, 2-5}	✓	
Acid-resistant occluding layer ⁶	✓	
Relieves the pain of sensitive teeth [†]	✓	✓
Inhibits Plaque and Calculus Buildup	✓	



With continued use. Also helps soothe. ¥ In combination 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(6): 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.

Minister for thorough evaluation of Sindh's healthcare services

DT Pakistan Report

KARACHI: Sindh Health Minister Dr Azra Fazal Pechuho on Friday stressed the need for drawing up an internal implementation checklist to evaluate the standards and delivery of health services in the province to provide universal health coverage to its people. The minister said this during a meeting with federal Ministry of National Health Services (NHS) Director General (DG) Dr Shabana Saleem, that was also attended by Sindh Health Secretary Zulfiqar Shah, provincial DG Dr Juman Bahoto, WHO Representative Dr Sara Salman, Provincial Focal Person for Covid Dr Sohail Sheikh and others.

The Joint External Evaluation Team of the federal ministry highlighted areas where it could support the province to bring improvement in its health sector. During the meeting, Dr Pechuho said the internal provincial implementation checklist should

be updated monthly.

She said in view of the external evaluation to be taking place in March, 2023, the province will conduct an internal review to identify its healthcare systems every fortnight and review their infrastructure and performance.

In terms of capacity building of Sindh's health systems, the minister stressed the need for strengthening the province's Centre of Disease Control (CDC) in terms of human resource (HR) as well.

She also emphasised adoption of a holistic approach to healthcare and evolving multi-sectoral coordination, having a willing and capable workforce, besides ensuring sustainable food security, a standardised and reliable lab network and continuous disease surveillance.

"Since we have expanded our testing capacity, we can now go on beyond Covid and add



Photo: DT Pakistan

measles and dengue to the primary healthcare testing," she added.

She said arrangements could be made for capacity building of human resources through donors. She ordered a review of labs, to identify their HR requirements and capacity for testing.

Dr Pechuho sought NIH support for the provision of HPV vaccine to Sindh for launching the campaign to vaccinate nine to 14 years old girls in the province.

The meeting was informed that currently 14 diseases were being managed and monitored by the Sindh Expanded Programme for Immunisation (EPI), and strengthening of phone networks was a must for better reporting and elimination of these ailments.

The minister said through a better telephonic network any health emergency occurring in remote areas of the province could be reported and responded to immediately.

9th PAO International Orthodontics Conference

KARACHI: More than 40 participants took part in the orthodontic Implant workshop organised by PAO on its 9th International Orthodontic conference at the Altamash Institute of Dental Medicine.

Dr Adli Al Gazzawi from Jordan conducted a hands-on workshop on goat heads to demonstrate the proper method of placing orthodontic Implants.

Event was facilitated by the Vice President of PAO and Principal of Altamash institute of Dental Medicine, Prof Dr Hasnain Sakrani & President of PAO, Prof. Dr Syed Shah Faisal. Counsellor of CPSP & Dean of Altamash Institute of Dental Medicine, Prof. Dr Ambreen Afzal also graced the occasion.

The workshop was arranged in collaboration with Pakistan Association of Orthodontics and Altamash Institute of Dental Medicine. **-PR**



Photos: DT Pakistan

GSK Pakistan ranked among top ...
Continued from page 2

us to showcase our proud legacy and provide a myriad of opportunities [offered] to professionals in Pakistan. This certification will help us reinforce our employer brand for our internal employees, so we feel even more proud to be working for a great organisation with excellent people policies and practices, and also help us attract great talent from outside to work with us!"

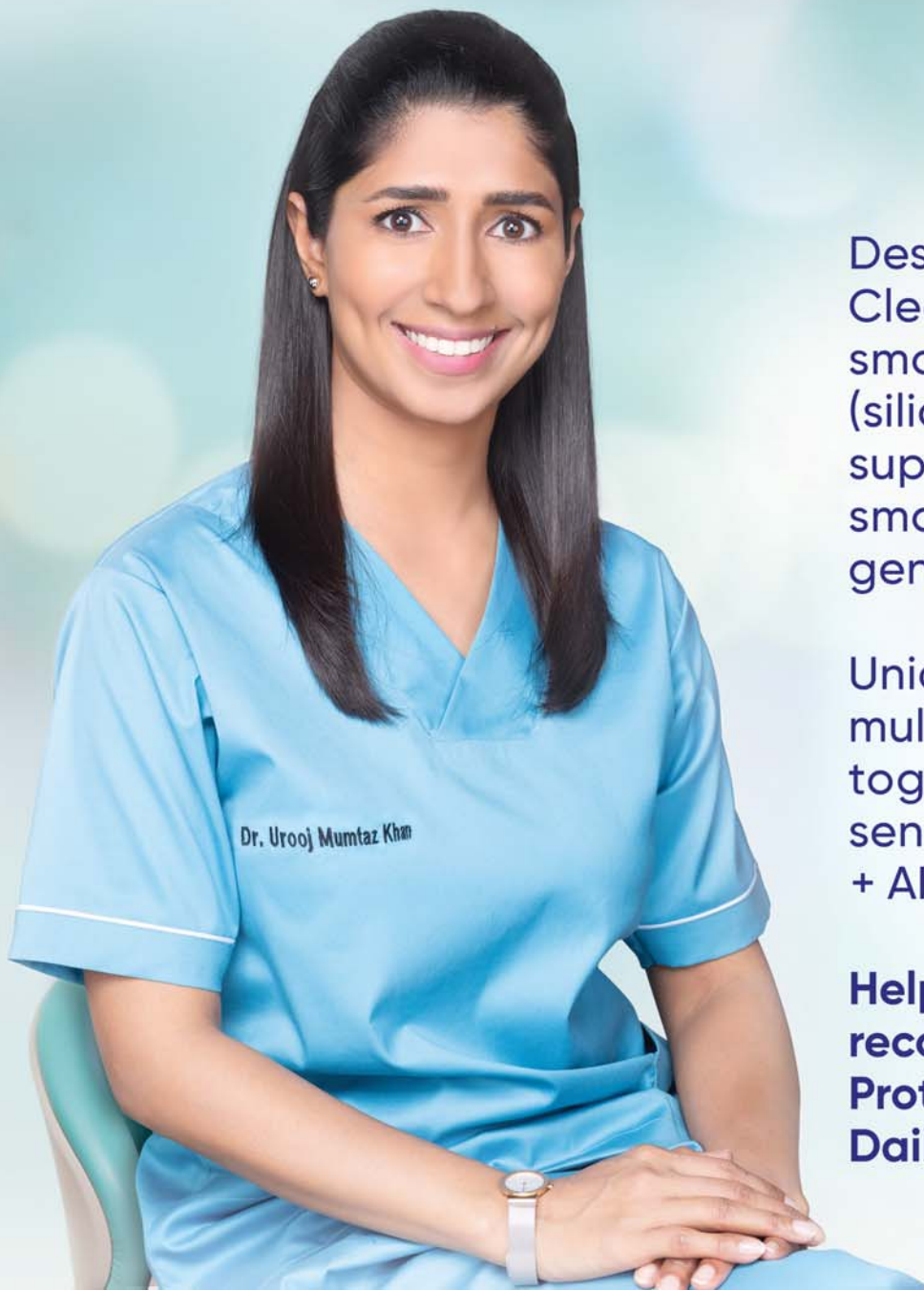
Institute Chief Executive Officer David Plink said:

"Exceptional times bring out the best in people and organisations. And we have witnessed this in our Top Employers Certification Programme this year, exceptional performance from the certified Top Employers 2023. These employers have always shown that they care for the development and well-being of their people. By doing so, they collectively enrich the world of work. We are proud to announce and celebrate this year's group of leading people-oriented employers, the Top Employers of 2023."

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Ahmed bin Saeed inaugurates AEEDC Dubai 2023

DT Pakistan Report

DUBAI: His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman of Dubai Academic Health Corporation and Chancellor of the Mohammed Bin Rashid University of Medicine and Health Sciences, inaugurated the 27th edition of the annual UAE International Dental Conference and Arab Dental Exhibition, AEEDC Dubai 2023. The three-day conference at the Dubai World Trade Centre brought together leading international names in the field of dentistry and oral health.

The inauguration was attended by His Excellency Awadh Seghayer Al Ketbi, Director General of the Dubai Health Authority (DHA); His Excellency Helal Saeed Al Marri, Director General of the Dubai Department of Economy and



Tourism (DET); His Excellency Lieutenant General Mohammed Ahmed Al Marri, Director General of the General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs (GDRFA), Dubai; His Excellency Amb. Dr Abdul Salam Al Madani, Executive Chairman of the AEEDC Dubai and Global Scientific Dental Alliance, and Chairman of INDEX Holding; Dr Amer Ahmad Sharif, CEO of Dubai Academic Health Corporation; and several international dignitaries and dental industry professionals.

His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed and his accompanying delegation toured the exhibition, visiting the stands of numerous international companies and medical health authorities. His Highness spoke with industry professionals from South Korea, Italy, Germany, Brazil, Switzerland, Turkey, China, Spain, France, UAE, and other countries. HH was briefed on their leading solutions and projects that support the dental and oral healthcare sector, which include upgrading



diagnostic and treatment services. More than 66,000 participants from 155 countries are expected to attend AEEDC Dubai 2023, which has earned the distinction of being 'the largest annual scientific dental conference and exhibition in the world'.

Al Madani said: "AEEDC Dubai 2023 has expanded the conference and exhibition to cover all advancements in the dental world.



The 27th edition, the largest in its history, will host leading dentists and professionals from across the globe. The conference promises a cutting-edge scientific programme, exciting announcements, and record deals on the exhibition floor."

AEEDC Dubai 2023 features over 4,800 brands from 3,600 companies in the oral and dental health industry, with 70% of them being international. The conference includes specialised talks from 110 expert speakers, training courses, workshops, scientific posters, and student competitions showcasing research and case studies.

Dr Tariq Khoory, Honorary Chairman of AEEDC Dubai, said: "AEEDC Dubai 2023 will continue to build on its impressive achievements to remain the world's largest annual dental conference and exhibition. Experts from around the world have gathered in Dubai to examine the latest advancements in the dental industry, including essential tools

and technologies that improve treatment processes."

Guest of Honour

South Korea is the Guest of Honor at AEEDC Dubai 2023. Korean firms have a history of participation at AEEDC Dubai dating back to 2008, starting with only nine companies. South Korean attendance has dramatically increased over the years, with over 130 companies



now participating annually and occupying approximately 3,000 sqm of exhibit space at AEEDC Dubai.

South Korea is a leading country in the medical device market. Dentistry is a highly respected profession in South Korea, with over 80% of its dentists capable of performing implant surgery, among the highest in the world. His Excellency Byung-Jun Moon, Consul General of the Republic of Korea in Dubai and the Northern Emirates, expressed his gratitude: "We are grateful to INDEX Holding, INDEX Conferences and Exhibitions, and the organising committee for this incredible honour. We are thrilled to be the Guest of Honor country this year, as dentistry is a highly regarded industry and profession globally. Our participation at AEEDC Dubai is a significant opportunity for our companies to expand their business worldwide."

His Excellency Lorenzo Fanara, Ambassador of Italy to the UAE, was present at AEEDC Dubai 2023

to support Italy's participation, with 39 Italian companies attending this year. He said: "Italian products are known for their quality and reliability, and Italian dental products are no exception, blending cutting-edge technology with attention to design and healthy living. Last year saw a remarkable recovery in the dental manufacturing sector, which now has a 5% annual growth rate and is one of Italy's most export-oriented industries. With Italy being the main European trading partner for the UAE, AEEDC offers opportunities to strengthen the relationship between Italy and the UAE in a sector that values innovation, technology, and design."

AEEDC Dubai 2023 features a range of activities, such as AEEDC Dubai Stars, a two-day event



Photos:
DT Pakistan

attended by celebrities, influencers, and prominent personalities from the Arab world. The event includes discussions, inspirational stories, and competitions for dentists and medical students in various specialities.

AEEDC Dubai 2023 is organised by INDEX Conferences and Exhibitions Org. LLC, a subsidiary of INDEX Holding. The event is backed by several organisations, including DHA, the Ministry of Health and Prevention - UAE, the International Congress For Health Specialties (ICHS), the Global Scientific Dental Alliance, various dental federations, the Executive Board of the Health Ministers Council for Gulf Cooperation Council States, Gulf Health Council, Riyadh Elm University, Arab Academy for Continuing Dental Education, Saudi Dental Society, Saudi Orthodontic Society, Saudi Prosthodontic Society, International Association for Dental Research, The Greater New York Dental Meeting, and Manitoba Dental Association.

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References:

1. Akwagyriam et al, 2015. 2. Kakar et al, 2014 3. GSK data on file (GCC55-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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*removal of plaque, after a professional clean and twice daily brushing.

Brush twice a day and not more than 3 times, minimize swallowing and spit out.

If irritation occurs, discontinue use. Not suitable for children under 12 years. Keep out of reach of children.

JSMU welcomes new MBBS and BDS students on orientation day

KARACHI: Jinnah Sindh Medical University's Sindh Medical College (SMC) and Sindh Institute of Oral Health Sciences (SIOHS) welcomed their new MBBS and BDS batches with orientation ceremonies.

is one of the best universities in Pakistan, the students who have graduated from the University are making the country proud by serving all over the world. He hoped that one day these new



Photos:
DT Pakistan

The ceremonies began National Anthem, followed by a warm welcome from the Dean and Principal SMC Prof Ghulam Sarwar Qureshi and Principal SIOHS Prof Zubair Ahmed Abbasi.

Afterwards, hundreds of participating students of both programmes were introduced to the University, teachers, course, facilities provided by the university and code of conduct. Other important issues were also brought to light.

Vice Chancellor Prof Amjad Siraj Memon welcomed the new students through video link and said that today you have achieved an important milestone in your career. Both medical and dental fields are related to mankind and with your admission in JSMU, you have been connected with the profession of serving humanity, he said.

Registrar Dr Azam Khan administered the oath to the new entrants instilling in them a sense of duty and allegiance to the noble profession of medicine.

On this occasion, Dean and Principal of Sindh Medical College Prof Sarwar Qureshi, congratulated the students and said that JSMU

entrants would also become shining stars in the fields of Medical and Dental Sciences.



The guest of honour at the BDS reception, Prof Mervyn Hosein, addressed the students and said that they had entered

professional life and will learn to live together in a society along with education because doctors are taught about humanity. He described the experience of entering a medical college as a life-changing event requiring hard work and full commitment.

Principal SIOHS Prof Zubair Abbasi told the students about the importance of time and said that the past time cannot be returned, so utilize it in better ways, also focus on acquiring skills. He noted that patients have become smart, they choose the best doctors for their treatment, so one have to be among them.

Dean SIOHS Prof Yawer Ali Abidi informed the students about the dress code, codes of conduct, education system and also advised them to focus on education not just to pass the exams but for honoring a university which is among the most prestigious universities of the country. **-PR**

Baqai welcomes new PVC and Principal of dental college

KARACHI: Baqai Dental College has recently welcomed two new leading members of the faculty as Pro Vice-Chancellor and Principal of Baqai Dental College. These two positions shall be taken on by Dr Kashif Ikram and Dr Talha M Siddiqui respectively.

Dr Kashif Ikram is a seasoned Implantologist and Oral Surgeon with 20 years of experience under his belt. After completing his BDS from Baqai Dental College he completed his Fellowship Diploma of the Faculty of Dentistry (FFDRCS) from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Ireland as well as his Fellowship in Dental Surgery from the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of England. It is a historic landmark for the college that Dr Kashif Ikram, as a dental professional, has been promoted to this position at the University level.

Dr Talha M Siddiqui, the current HOD of Operative Dentistry, and former Vice Principal of Baqai Dental College shall now assume office as the Principal of the college while Dr Ain ul Haq shall become Vice Principal Academics and Prof Dr M Farhan Khan, the Vice Principal Administration of Baqai Dental College. Baqai has welcomed these leading members of the dental faculty to ensure quality education and smooth running of the affairs of the college.

Dental Tribune Pakistan congratulates the three doctors on their accomplishments, as a part of the essential faculty of Baqai Dental College. **-PR**



Prof Dr Kashif Ikram
Pro Vice Chancellor



Prof Dr Talha M Siddiqui
Principal



Dr M Ainul Haq
Vice Principal Academics



Prof Dr M Farhan Khan
Vice Principal Administration

HEC bans Isra University from offering admissions

HYDERABAD: The Higher Education Commission (HEC) has barred ISRA University from taking admissions for its Fall 2022 intake. The institution has also discouraged students from



Photo:
DT Pakistan

applying to any of the university's six campuses, including the Karachi and Hyderabad campus. HEC has stated that this applies to medical and dental admissions for Fall 2022 as well. In an alert released recently, HEC has said:

"In order to protect the future of students, admissions in all disciplines in ISRA University have been stopped from Fall 2022. This will include all admissions including medical colleges, in the principal seat in Hyderabad as well as Karachi and Islamabad

Continued on Page 9

MS, MD degrees to be recognised as equal to FCPS in Saudi Arabia

ISLAMABAD: Saudi Arabia and other Arab states have officially announced that it recognises the Masters of Surgery (MS) and Doctor of Medicine (MD) degrees as equivalent to the Fellow of College of Physician and Surgeons (FCPS) and Membership of College of Physicians and Surgeons (MCPS).

This is a positive development from the 2017 decision made by

Saudi Arabia that doctors with MS and MD degrees shall no longer be considered top tier



Photo: istockphoto

medics, and that these qualifications shall be considered as 'research degrees'.

As a consequence of this decision, thousands of Pakistani doctors, employed at Arab hospitals and medical institutions were no longer allowed to so. Around 4500 of these doctors were asked to hand in their resignation or face deportation.

The Association of University Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan (AUPSP) has lauded the efforts of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) and Pakistani embassy in Saudi Arabia for their joint efforts in addressing the issue.

AUPSP General Secretary Dr Asad Noor Mirza said that recently, HEC executive director, Dr Shaista Sohail had written a letter to the secretary general of the Saudi Commission for Health Specialities informing him that in Pakistan had recognized the degrees MD/MDS/MS/MPhil as equal to FCPS.

The letter stated:

"The Pakistan Medical and Dental Council monitors and regulates policy for medical practice, ethics and licentiates and classifies both these clinical streams under Level-3 qualifications permitted to practice as specialists and consultants in their respective field of medicine and surgery."

"Both these streams of qualifications i.e. MS/MD/MDS and FCPS, MCPS, etc. are at par with each other ... and both are treated alike under the HEC Faculty Appointment Criteria." They letter requested that these degrees be added to the list of clinical degrees in Saudi Arabia's Professional Qualification Requirements under the same categories as for FCPS.

He informed that recently, a delegation visited Riyadh to have a meeting with the Saudi Commission for Health Specialities Secretary general. The delegation received assurance that MS and MD degrees shall receive an equal status to the FCPS and MCPS degrees. **-PR**

CPCD conducts conference on Oral Pathology and Aesthetic Dentistry

ISLAMABAD: The Conference of Oral Pathology and Cosmetic Dentistry (CPCD) shall soon conduct its first international conference of Cosmetic Dentistry, as well as its second international conference of Pakistan Society of Oral & Maxillofacial Pathology (PSOMP).

Under the broad theme of Oral Pathology and Aesthetic Dentistry, the conference shall discuss an array of topics surrounding the main objective of the conference 'Broadening Dental Horizons through Integration'.

The highlights of the course are as follows:

1. WHO Salivary Gland Neoplasms

2. Exclusive Session by WHO Team Member

3. Exclusive Session on Aesthetic Dentistry

4. Launching Ceremony of PFLD

5. Pre- & Post-conference Workshops

6. Post-graduate & Undergraduate Research Competition

7. Approved CME Hours

8. Student & Dentist of the Year Awards

9. Dental Entrepreneur of the Year Award

10. Launch of Pakistan National Oral Cancer Registry

The course also included numerous lecturers by international speakers. Some of the international and local speakers on the panel for the International

Conference of Cosmetic Dentistry are:

Prof Dr WM

Tilakarantne,

Professor and Senior Consultant, University of Malaya, Prof Dr Aslihan

Usumez, DDS, MSc, PhD, Prof Dr Col (R) Nadira

Mamoon, Consultant Pathologist, Shifa

International Hospital, Prof Dr Mulazim Hussain Bukhari,

Principal, AJKMC, Dr Shwana Kamran

Consultant Hematologist, SIH, Prof Dr Joharia Azhar

Vice Principal and HOD AIMI (Conference Chair), Prof Dr

Arshad Malik Dean HBS Dental College (Patron) and

lastly, Prof Dr Nauman Rauf Khan Principal & HOD

SMDC (Patron in Chief) **-PR**



Hamdard Dental Hospital recognises efforts of faculty members

KARACHI: A very unique example set by the Operative Department, Hamdard University Dental Hospital.

Professor Dr Abrar Head of the Operative Department, recently appreciated the post graduate FCPS faculty members by awarding them Gold medals because of their great contributions in upgrading the department.

The efforts of the following faculty members were recognised and appreciated through the distribution of medal by Prof Dr Abrar.

I. Dr Zohaib Younus

II. Dr Fariha Irfan

III. Dr Hina Khan **-PR**



Photos: DT Pakistan



HEC bans Isra University from ...

Continued from page 8

till the resolution of the ongoing crisis."

Previously, the institution had warned Isra University, to get their administrative and admission issues in order, HEC warned that the university's No Objection Certificate (NOC), would be canceled if the issues were not resolved within a one month time period.

Since then, HEC Chairman Dr Mukhtar Ahmed had held a meeting with ISRA University Vice-Chancellor Dr Nazir Ashraf Laghari and leading members of the Qazi family, who reportedly look after the affairs of the Karachi and Islamabad campuses of the university.

An agreement was reached during the meeting amongst all parties, and internal

affairs were to be sorted out soon. However, HEC Chairman, Dr Mukhtar Ahmed warned that if this was not accomplished, HEC would have to consider revoking the university's charter.

Prof Sattar Memon, Chief Executive Director, Medical and Dental, ISRA University, spoke to Dental News Pakistan and commented on the matter saying:

"We had inducted for the Fall 2022 admissions on the instruction of the PMDC, which had given us the go-ahead to enroll the new batch. We have recently found out, through the media that HEC had banned admissions, even though no official letter or reason has been provided to the university. Regardless, we will remain in contact with HEC to rectify the matter". **-PR**