



News Letter

April - June 2006

Pakistan Society of Haematology

Presidents Column

Prof Khalid Zafar Hashmi, President PSH

The hollow heart of Medical Science

Why are neuroscientists, molecular biologists, geneticists, and developmental biologists, oncologists so uneasy about their futures? These are men and women whose discoveries have forever changed the way we understand ourselves. The crisis in morale among today's medical scientists stems, not from money problems, the stage of development in their fields or the level of research being conducted, - but from their failure to form themselves into proper humane communities.



Low morale results from too little kindness and decency. At its roots, low morale is just a consequence of the indifference of the medical scientists, who allow the social and emotional foundations of their field to rot away beneath them. The vulnerability of the science that focuses on the human body and mind lies in the obligation that all scientists have to their systems with dispassion. Dispassion requires that the medical scientist ignore his or her own vulnerability of mind and body. The strain of trying to meet the impossible standards of cool curiosity about ones own fate imposes an unbearable distance between the scientist of the mind and body - and the body and mind of the scientist.

Under the strain, medical research scientists are susceptible that their instruments and procedures have somehow freed them from the limitations of their mind and bodies.

The conscious expression of this dream is an obsessive response to the certainty of biological death; the belief that a big enough win in the game of science will beat death itself by conferring a form of immortality on the winner.

Through today's biomedical science claims to search for repairs of nature's defects, too many practitioners behave as if their real purpose were only to gain the mythical immortality of being the first to make a certain discovery.

The problem is not that science and medicine wish to avoid finding cures. It is that they are too strongly motivated by an irrational, unconscious need to cure death, to be fully motivated by the lesser task of preventing and curing disease - to delay their patients' and their own inevitable ends. The irrational, obsessive promises made by scientists and physicians in the past few decades have, in a way, institutionalized the denial of death. But these promises are not sustainable. A humane version of the biomedical sciences would, for instance, acknowledge that they are not about to transcend the limits of the human body, and so they would no longer make promises that they cannot keep.

Such a change cannot happen unless scientists consider the consequences of their own behavior towards each other. We should begin by rediscovering and rededicating ourselves to the meaning of the title we professors hold. To 'profess' evolved from Middle English 'Profession' – to take vows. Professors do not deserve the title unless they are willing to give their time and effort to affirm something beyond their data. Affirmation and vows are matters of the heart.

To be a professor, it seems to me, one must have something of importance to oneself that needs affirming and then one must affirm. Morale among professors in science will remain low until they decide that it is their strongest feeling, as well as their best data, that should determine professional behavior and status.

Ref: Robert Pollock Professor of Biological Sciences
Center for the Study of Science & Religion Columbia University.

Pakistan society of haematology Minutes of executive committee members Held on 27th April 2006

Executive Committee meeting was held at 1800 hrs on 27th April 2006 at Hotel Serena quetta. Announcement was made earlier for points but no agenda points were received. Meeting was Chaired By Prof Khalid Zafar Hashmi, president Pakistan society of hematology. Meeting was attended by:

1. Maj Gen Masood Anwar
2. Dr. Ghulam Nabi Kakipoto
3. Dr. Nisar Ahmed
4. Dr. Mohammad Luqman Butt
5. Dr. Farhat Abbas Bhatti

Agenda points

1. Local PSH Chapters: Feasibility, protocol, appointments and ruling of raising local PSH chapters.

Raising of local chapters will be done as per PSH constitution. Local chapters will use letterhead of PSH with all appointments mentioned on it. The local appointments will appear as co-coordinator, secretary and members at the end of list of PSH appointments.

2. Next PSH annual conference Decision: Lahore during the months of Feb-March, final dates and venue to be announced by organizers.

6. Dr. M Javed Asif

7. Dr. Nadir Ali

Meeting started with recitation of Holy Quran by Dr Farhat Abbas Bhatti, followed by financial report and discussion on agenda points.

Financial report: Dr. Nadir Ali read Account state. Handout containing detail of expenses, income and final balance amount were provided to all attendees and was approved by executive committee. State of account, expenses and income were also admired by all.

3. Asia Pacific bone marrow transplantation Conference 2008. Review and further discussion. Venue, sponsors and contributions.

Decision: Dr. Tahir Sultan Shamsi, Brig Khalilullah and Dr. Sulman N Adil will co-ordinate. Conference will be arranged at Rawalpindi. Dr Tahir Sultan Shamsi will contact with secretary Asia Pacific BMT to confirm the program and will co-ordinate further arrangements.

4. News letter: Contents and protocol for material for publication.



Decision: Material of academic interest with no personal projection or advertisement of institute. PSH Newsletter will cover activities organized under PSH banner only.

5. Other points raised by members

Haematology activities organized by members:

Decision: All hematology activities organized by the members anywhere should be conducted under the banner of PSH. This may be combined with the name of institute.

The meeting ended on vote of thanks by the President PSH Prof Khalid Zafar Hashmi.

Pakistan Society Of Haematology Minutes Meeting Of The General Body Held On 28th April 2006

General body meeting was held on 28th April 2006 the first day of 8th PSH conference at Quetta Serena Hotel.

Meeting started with recitation of Holy Quran. Prof Khalid Zafar Hashmi chaired meeting. Meeting

comprised of annual report, financial report and discussion on agenda points. The minutes of last general body meeting could not be read due to non-availability.

Annual report

Dr Nadir Ali secretary / treasurer PSH presented following annual report:

"It is almost one year that present team has taken over the responsibility. During this period our target was to enhance academics. We arranged Symposium on blood transfusion in collaboration with dept of hematology Liaquat National Hospital, Workshop and symposium on malignant

hematology in collaboration with Bismillah Taqi Institute of blood Diseases, Symposium on pediatric hematology in collaboration with Dept of Hematology Children Hospital Lahore and 8th annual National PSH Conference at Quetta in collaboration with dept of hematology Bolan Medical

College Quetta. I am also delighted to inform you that there is a significant addition in membership during this tenure. During one year 40 members are added in the family."

The progress was well appreciated by all attendees.

Financial report

Dr. Nadir Ali read account state. Detail of expenses, income and final balance amount were provided to all attendees and was approved by executive

Agenda points

1. PSH membership: Those members who were registered as junior members but now has acquired the post graduate qualification must be pursued to become regular members, those who are not life

members must be pursued to clear dues to enable vote in next PSH elections

Decision: Executive committee members in Lahore, Rawalpindi and Karachi will help to pursue the members for update of membership and clearance of dues.

2. ISH Membership: Forms, terms and conditions are available with secretary PSH; members of PSH are suggested to get membership of PSH. Decision: Dr Nadir Ali will post forms to all members, and will collect forms back. A combined bank draft of ISH membership along with forms will be submitted to ISH.

Local PSH Chapters: Feasibility, protocol, appointments and ruling of raising local PSH chapters.

Raising of local chapters will be done as per PSH constitution. Local chapters will use letterhead of PSH with all appointments mentioned on it. The local appointments will appear as co-coordinator, secretary and members at the end of list of PSH appointments. committee. State of account, expenses and income were also admired by all.

3. Next PSH annual conference

Decision: 9th PSH annual conference will be held at Lahore during the months of Feb-March, final dates and venue to be announced by organizers. 10th annual PSH conference will be combined with Asia Pacific bone marrow transplant conference at Rawalpindi. If Asia Pacific Conference in Pakistan is not materialized National bone marrow transplant conference will be arranged.

4. Asia Pacific bone marrow transplantation

Conference 2008. Review and further discussion. Venue, sponsors and contributions.

Decision: Dr. Tahir Sultan Shamsi, Brig Khalilullah Hashmi and Dr. Sulman N Adil will co-ordinate. Conference will be arranged at Rawalpindi. Dr Tahir

Sultan Shamsi will contact with secretary Asia PacificBMT to confirm the program and will co-ordinate further arrangements.

5. News letter: Contents and protocol for material for publication

Decision: Material of academic interest with no personal projection or advertisement of institute. PSH Newsletter will cover activities organized under PSH banner only.

6. Other points raised by members

a. Haematology activities organized by members
Decision: A joint resolution was passed. "All hematology activities organized by the members any where should be conducted under the banner of PSH. This may be combined with the name of institute. PSH should be projected everywhere, we must use this platform to stay united. It will not only increase our force, it will enhance our effectiveness as a society as well."

b. Gold medal from PSH to the best postgraduate student of the year.

Decision: A gold medal will be awarded by PSH in annual PSH conference to the best postgraduate research. The research material will be submitted to secretary PSH three months prior to conference (dead line 15th Nov 2006 for the next conference) and will be assessed by five referees, and award will be decided.

The meeting ended on with vote of thanks by the President PSH Prof Khalid Zafar Hashmi.

About PSH

Pakistan Society of Hematology (PSH) is a non-political, non – sectarian Govt registered organization consisting of hematologists of Pakistan. PSH promotes the advancement of hematology including transfusion medicine, through encouragement of

research, improvement of teaching & technical methods, organization of scientific meetings, publication of scientific material, and is affiliated with other National & International organizations. PSH also provides forum for the persons practicing hematology and transfusion medicine to discuss problems and to formulate agreed viewpoints at National and International forum.

Membership (1). Members: MBBS or equivalent plus post graduate qualification in hematology /transfusion medicine and show evidence of active work in hematology during the last three years including the period spent in training for post graduate examination in hematology/transfusion medicine. (2). Associate members: Those who possess the prescribed for a member but not completed three years of active work in hematology (3). Junior members: Registered students of postgraduate training in hematology/transfusion medicine for at least one year. (4). Corporate members: Those with MBBS qualification and have keen interest in hematology, and become members on payment of Rs 500 per annum. They will not be eligible for vote or contest of any office. For Further info please e mail to: mjrm@hotmail.com

Proceedings Of Seminar on 25Th Feb 2006 on pediatric Coagulation Medicine

A seminar on pediatric coagulation medicine was organized by the hematology and transfusion Medicine division of the Children's hospital, Lahore in Collaboration with Pakistan society of Hematology, Lahore chapter on 25th Feb 2006. The program began with an inaugural address by Prof Tahir Masood Ahmad, Dean, The children's hospital & Institute of Child Health, Dr Nisar Ahmed, head of Haematology & Transfusion Medicine Department Children's Hospital, Prof

Abdul Hayee and Prof Yasmeen Lodhi, Prof of Haematology. Col Tahir Jameel being the moderator. Dr Samina Naeem (KEMC Lahore) delivered the first presentation focusing on coagulation disorders in the newborn, HIT & TTP. Brig Mohammad Ayyub Commandant Armed Forces Institute of Transfusion scabbard the audience by his ever interesting speeches. He spoke on pediatric thrombophilia highlighting maturely the inherited risk factors for venous thrombosis. The last talk of the first session was by Dr Asma Sadia (Resident, Children's Hospital, Lahore) on inherited platelet disorders in children, she charged her valuable experiences at Children's Hospital. There was a short tea break before the next session began.

Prof S M Haneef & Dr Fozia Butt chaired the second session & moderated by Dr Tahira Fayyaz. It started off with a very informative & impressive presentation by Dr Tahira Zafar (PIMS The Children's Hospital, Islamabad) on hemophilia. She emphasized on the urgent need for a comprehensive hemophilia care center in Pakistan.

Dr Mohammad Tariq of Shoukat Khanum Memorial Hospital Lahore gave the next presentation, discussing the recent advances on vW Disease.

The last speech was by Dr Shahla Tariq (President Hemophilia welfare Society Lahore) who being a hemophilic herself, gave a moving speech on psychological aspects of hemophilia and how we could help to reduce them by creating awareness, providing counseling and education. She also invited volunteer help for Pakistan hemophilia Welfare Society, Lahore chapter.

There was a short question & answer session at the end. The symposium was concluded by closing remarks by Prof Abdul Hayee followed by vote of thanks by Dr Nisar Ahmed to the chairman, guests

and all the participants of the seminar- Lunch was served afterwards.

Pakistan Society of Haematology 8th National haematology Conference

8th National haematology conference was Held at Quetta Serena Hotel Balochistan Pakistan on April 28-29, 2006. Pakistan Society of Haematology in Collaboration with Dept of haematology Bolan Medical College Quetta Balochistan arranged the conference.

The conference was preceded by pre-conference workshop that was participated by over 30 doctors. Dr Moinuddin, Prof Of Haematology Baqai Medical University Karachi conducted the first workshop titled "Haematology Educational Interactive Workshop" The second workshop titled "Examination of peripheral blood and bone marrow: contribution in the diagnosis of hematological disorders" was conducted by Prof Khalid Zafar Hashmi, Prof of Haematology Liaquat National Hospital Karachi & by Dr. Nadir Ali consultant haematologist Combined Military Hospita Malir Cantt Karachi.

On 28th April The inauguration ceremony was privileged by honorable chief gust Mr Amanullah Khan The Chief Justice Balochistan High Court. Speakers from all over the country presented valuable research throughout the scientific sessions on both days. The other salient features of the conference were, the lectures of renowned haematologists: Prof Dr Khalid Zafar Hashmi, President Pakistan Society of Haematology, Maj Gen Masood Anwar, Principal Army Medical College, Prof Dr Moinuddin, Prof of Haematology Baqai Medical University Karachi, Dr Tahir Shamsi consultant haematologist Bismillah Taquee Institute of Health Sciences & Blood Diseases Centre, Karachi. A gala dinner and entertainment program was

arranged which was well appreciated by all participants. On 2nd day a symposium on blood transfusion was arranged that included lectures and experiences of practical value by Dr Ghulam Nabi Kakipoto, consultant haematologist Aga Khan University Hospital, Col Farhat Abbas Bhatti, consultant haematologist PNS Shifa Hospital Karachi, Dr Sulman N Adil, consultant haematologist Aga Khan University Hospital, and Lt Col Iltaf Hussain Choudary, consultant haematologist Armed Forces Institute of Transfusion.

The conference was attended by delegates from AFIP Rawalpindi, AFIT Rawalpindi, Army Medical College Rawalpindi, Seikh Zaid Hospital Lahore, Children's Hospital Lahore, Aga Khan University Hospital Karachi, Liaquat National Hospital Karachi, Bismillah Taquee Institute of Health Sciences & Blood Diseases Centre Karachi in addition to a large number of local participants. Although it was the first time that Quetta hosted PSH annual conference, it was very successful in the terms of zeal and interest of local doctors from all over the Province.

I bow my head to Almighty Allah for his blessings. I am greatly indebted to Prof Khalid Zafar Hashmi, president Pakistan Society of Haematology, and Prof. Mohammad Luqman Butt, Chairman organizing committee, for untiring efforts that made this conference possible.

Correspondences:

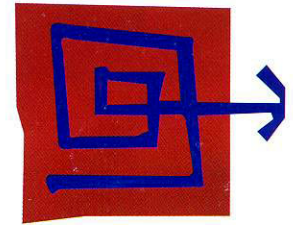
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