

Message from the Health Minister, Sindh

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Cite this message as: Pechuho AF. Message from the Health Minister, Sindh. Ann Pak Inst Med Sci. 2024;20(Suppl. 2):801. doi: 10.48036/apims.v20iSuppl.2.1266.

I am very delighted to learn that the '5th Annual Conference of Bring Brilliant Minds of Transfusion (BBMT) Pakistan' on Safe Blood Transfusion and Thalassaemia in which there will be participation of many distinguished international experts in addition to the leadership of the provincial blood transfusion programmes, blood transfusion authorities including Sindh, heads of important health organizations and high-level representatives from provincial health departments.

I commend the leadership and members of the Bring Brilliant Minds of Transfusion (BBMT)-Pakistan for organizing this vital event and for their commitment to advancing the field of transfusion medicine in Pakistan and beyond.

The Government of Sindh recognizes Health as a key for the development of our great nation. The vision of the Health Department is to work for the promotion of Health-for-all, a vision that strives for access, equity, efficiency and effectiveness of essential health interventions catering to the rights, needs and dignity of all segments of the population.

Blood safety is among the priority areas of the Health Department. This includes regulation of blood transfusion services, and we are addressing this challenging task with determination, commitment and dedication as an essential pre-requisite for an efficient and reliable blood transfusion service for all patients especially thalassaemia. The Health Department is making concerted efforts to strengthen the blood transfusion authority under the guidance of Dr. Dure Naz Jamal,

Secretary, Sindh Blood Transfusion Authority, who is also President of BBMT as well.

The Health Department, Government of Sindh, via its concerted health policies is committed towards safe blood provision and tackling thalassaemia through improved screening, best practices, and public awareness campaigns for voluntary blood donation and prevention of diseases.

Events like this conference provide an invaluable opportunity for us to reflect on our progress, identify areas for glueing the gaps and explore new strategies for enhancing blood safety and thalassaemia management.

I am particularly proud to acknowledge the efforts of BBMT-Pakistan in leading the way toward a more coordinated and effective approach to blood transfusion services. The collaboration between national and international experts, as well as the involvement of organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Society of Blood Transfusion (ISBT), is a testament to the global importance of this issue. I strongly encourage all participants to take full advantage of the diverse range of expertise present.

In conclusion, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to the BBMT-Pakistan leadership for their dedication to advancing transfusion medicine in Pakistan. Your efforts truly make a difference in the lives of countless individuals. I wish all participants a successful and enriching experience, and I look forward to the outcomes of this important gathering.

Thank you,

Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho

Minister of Health and Population Welfare
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