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PRESS RELEASE

On the invitation of Mr. Bilawal Bhutto Zardari a delegation of Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) met him on 4th May, 2020 at Bilawal House Karachi. Syed Murad Ali Shah, Chief Minister of Sindh and Dr. Azra Fazal Pechuho, Health Minister Sindh were also present in the meeting. The delegation of PMA comprised of Dr. S.M Qaisar Sajjad, Secretary General PMA Centre, Dr. Qazi Wasiq Treasurer PMA Centre and Dr. Sharif Hashmani, President PMA Karachi.

The Delegation of PMA briefed the leadership of PPP about all the problems being faced by doctors during the hard time due to the pandemic of Coronavirus these days. We again requested them to continuously supply PPEs to the health care providers.

PMA also requested them to immediately implement the notification of refunding of deduction made from doctors' salaries and also announce risk allowance for all healthcare providers. The Sindh Government promised that refund will be paid to all doctors with the next month salary. They also informed that bonus of one month salary will be paid to all doctors. PMA requested to include the doctors serving in private sector to be benefited from Shuhda package. PMA stress upon to provide PPEs to all GPs and Activate network of community clinics, Family Physicians & registered General Practitioners with proper PPEs & SOPs. Promote home isolation, where possible with monitoring and reporting of data by registered General Practitioners & community clinics. Promotion of tele- health and tele-medicine was also discussed.

PMA also suggested to established designated hospitals for coronavirus at district level. Dr. Qaisar Sajjad, stressed upon the government to increase the testing capacity. Doctors and all health care workers in the province should be tested for coronavirus. Serology test should be made functioning for hot spot information and for future guideline.

Mr. Bilawal was informed that PMA is continuously supplying PPEs to the doctors and has prepared guidelines for GPs and Family Physicians to run the clinics.

Mr. Bilawal was also informed that due to non-functioning of PMDC fifteen thousand fresh graduates could not be registered. The immediate registration of these young doctors could overcome the shortage of doctors.

PMA suggested an effective campaign to launch public awareness for hand hygiene, social distancing and compulsory use of mask for all should be made mandatory with necessary provision of law.

Dr. S.M.Qaisar Sajjad
Secretary General
Pakistan Medical Association (Centre)

