

College of Ophthalmology & Allied Vision Sciences, Mayo Hospital, Lahore

Advancing Eye Care with Vision

Australian High Commissioner Witnesses the Impact of a 27-Year Partnership



April 21 2026 | Mr. Timothy Kane, Australian High Commissioner, visited COAVS to review the eye health partnership between the Australian Government, the Fred Hollows Foundation, and COAVS. The collaboration (1998–2024) benefited nearly 6 million people and trained thousands of local health workers. | Prof. M. Moin presenting a commemorative shield to Mr. Timothy Kane.

In Focus

12 Experts and Educators Lead Elite Vitreoretina Examination Prep Course to Transform Subspecialty Training At Institute of Ophthalmology, Mayo Hospital Lahore

UK Expert Shares Insights on Corneal Cross-Linking (CXL) for Keratoconus

Orthoptics Embraces EcoVision



German Ambassador Tours COAVS, Inaugurates Cataract Surgery Initiative

June 08 2026 | Ms. Ina Lepel, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Pakistan, inaugurated the Cataract Surgery Support 2026 Initiative. She was briefed on the longstanding COAVS–CBM partnership and its achievements during her visit.

Preparing Future Vitreoretina Fellows

June 2-3 2026 | The **first-ever** Vitreoretina Examination Preparatory Course was successfully held at the Institute of Ophthalmology, Mayo Hospital, Lahore. Organized in line with the academic vision of Prof. Muhammad Moin, Pro-Vice Chancellor, KEMU, and Principal, COAVS, featured top centre, the course aimed to prepare candidates for vitreoretina examinations through focused lectures, **case-based discussions, and interactive learning.**

A total of 18 candidates from Lahore and Karachi participated, reflecting the growing demand for structured subspecialty training in vitreoretina. The course was coordinated by Dr. Muhammad Salman Hamza and Dr. Awais Asghar.



June 19, 2026: Panel of Examiners for the MS Ophthalmology and Master of Community Eye Health (MCEH) Examinations



UK Expert Shares Insights on Corneal Cross Linking (CXL) for Keratoconus

05 June 2026: Professor Muhammad S. Z. Ahmad, **Consultant in Cornea and Refractive Surgery at the Royal Liverpool University Hospital, United Kingdom**, delivered an academic guest lecture on "Corneal Cross-Linking (CXL) and Practical Implications in Keratoconus" at the College.

The lecture provided a practical overview of corneal collagen cross-linking in the management of keratoconus, covering patient selection, treatment protocols, postoperative care, and long-term clinical outcomes.

Research Highlight | A comparative study evaluating topical versus oral beta-blocker therapy in infants with proliferative superficial periocular capillary hemangiomas demonstrated equivalent therapeutic efficacy between the two treatment modalities.

See the study recently published in PJO Vol. 42 No.3 (2026) by Dr Zaib Un Nisa, AP, Paediatric Ophthalmology, COAVS/ Mayo Hospital Lahore.



V4E-COAVS Partnership to Expand Access to Corneal Transplants

June 12, 2026 | In a significant step toward combating corneal blindness in Punjab, the Vision for Education Foundation (V4E) and COAVS, Lahore, signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) to expand access to corneal transplantation services.

The event, organized by Prof. Muhammad Moin, Principal COAVS & Vice Chancellor KEMU, featured live corneal transplant surgery and educational sessions. **Two donor corneas facilitated by V4E were successfully transplanted by the COAVS surgical team on the same day.**

Addressing attendees, **Mr. Nazim Rajani, President, V4E**, urged people to discuss corneal

donation with their families and support the cause of restoring sight for those affected by corneal blindness.

Dr. Sidrah Latif, Ophthalmologist, delivered a detailed presentation on corneal transplantation. She discussed types of grafts, preoperative evaluation, factors affecting graft success, and post-operative care to minimize rejection and maximize visual outcomes. **During the session, Prof. Muhammad Moin guided postgraduate trainees on the principles of successful grafting techniques with meticulous surgical planning to maximize graft survival and visual rehabilitation.**

Universal Pre-Surgical HIV Testing Introduced



This quarter, the **Ocular Microbiology Laboratory** has initiated universal HIV testing services for patients undergoing surgical procedures. By enabling timely identification of patients with HIV,

it facilitates adherence to standard and transmission-based precautions where indicated, thereby minimizing the risk of occupational exposure and cross-transmission during surgical handling and related procedures.

Dr. Sana Aslam, Microbiologist, together with the laboratory team, is leading this initiative with a strong commitment to strengthening Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) practices and enhancing patient safety across surgical services.

Educational & Awareness Events



June 1, 2026 | Department of Orthoptics Marked World Orthoptic Day.



Orthoptics Embraces EcoVision

June 13, 2026 | SOOOP, in collaboration with the College, celebrated World Orthoptic Day with an academic capacity-building program themed "EcoVision." The program promoted sustainable orthoptic practice through **reduced plastic use, energy-efficient equipment, digital record-keeping, and virtual follow-up consultations** to reduce the carbon footprint of eye care while maintaining quality outcomes.

Prof. Mahmood Ayaz, VC, KEMU, the Chief Guest, and Prof. Muhammad Moin highlighted the evolving role of orthoptists in advancing sustainable eye care. Scientific sessions were delivered by Orthoptists Ayesha Sarfraz, Tayyaba Burhan, and Ajmal Chaudhry.



Community Eye Health Team Sharpens Project Management Skills



June 3–4, 2026 | The workshop was facilitated by Dr. Arif Hussain, Sara Ikram, Dr. Iqbal Javed and Rizwan Younis. The training refreshed participants' knowledge of the applied tools for

strategic planning and evaluation, stakeholder analysis, and risk assessment through interactive exercises and group discussions.

Educational & Awareness Events



Promoting Timely ROP Care

25 April 2026 | As Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) continues to cause preventable blindness among an increasing number of premature babies, an **ROP awareness workshop was conducted at Narowal Medical College**. The workshop was attended by the Principal NMC, Prof. Chaudhry Muhammad Kamran, faculty members from the Departments of Paediatrics and Ophthalmology, staff nurses, junior doctors, and specialists.

The session enhanced participants' motivation to strengthen ROP screening services and collaborate in the timely management of ROP to prevent avoidable childhood blindness. The workshop was led by **Dr. Lubna Siddiq, AP, COAVS**, as the guest speaker, with Dr. Zaib ul Nisa, AP, Paediatric Ophthalmology, and other faculty members from the College.



Comparative Study > BMC Ophthalmol. 2025 Jan 23;25(1):40. doi: 10.1186/s12886-025-03865-8.

Improving ROP management: insights from a comparative analysis of screening and treatment modalities in a tertiary hospital, Pakistan

Muhammad Moin ¹, Aisha Azam ², Lubna Siddiq Mian ¹, Ashal Pal ¹, Rutaab Kareem ¹, Noor Us Sehar ¹

For scientific insight, see the ROP management study published by the college



Eye Surgical Camp

April 4–5, 2026 | A two-day eye camp was organized at Mureedwala, Samundri, Faisalabad, where 70 cataract and one squint surgeries were successfully performed. Dr. Kamran Yousaf, Medical Officer, COAVS, served as the operating surgeon.



On-Spot Painting Fest 2026

April 18, 2026 | The Vision Dramatic Society successfully organized the highly anticipated On-Spot Painting Fest 2026, turning OPD into a vibrant hub of color and imagination. Joining the students in this artistic venture were Ms. Asma Iqbal and Dr. Kamran Yousaf, who actively participated alongside the young artists to offer encouragement and support.



International Nurses' Day

On 12 May 2026 | International Nurses Day was celebrated at the college by Nursing Instructor Ms. Abida Asghar and the students of the Ophthalmic Nursing Program. Prof. Muhammad, Moin and other faculty members also participated in the cake-cutting ceremony. The celebration aimed to recognize the valuable role of nurses in patient care and to strengthen the sense of belonging as an integral part of the eye care family.



Embedding Disability Inclusion in Emergency & Disaster Planning



June 23, 2026 | Disability Inclusion Orientation session was organized for the Disaster Management Committee at College. The orientation emphasized that **disability is a natural part of human diversity and can be experienced by anyone at any stage of life.** Participants discussed the importance of adopting a rights-based and inclusive approach by identifying and removing physical, communication, and attitudinal barriers **to ensure that persons with disabilities can safely access facilities, services, and emergency support.**

The session was facilitated by Ms. Sara Ikram, and members of the Disaster Management Committee, including Ms. Asma Iqbal, Team Lead, Ms. Abida Asghar, Nursing Instructor, Mr. M. Tahir, Biomedical Technician, Mr. Jawad Ahmed, Electrician, Mr. Asim Minhas, Accommodation Supervisor, and Mr. Sajjad Pasha, Lift Operator, participated in the orientation.

Quartely Report

Community
Screening: 260,032

School
screening: 33,950

Optometrist
examinations: 14,556



June 08 2026 | The visit of Ms. Ina Lepel, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Pakistan, accompanied by Prof. Mahmood Ayaz, Vice Chancellor, King Edward Medical University, Prof. Muhammad Moin, Principal, COAVS & Pro-Vice Chancellor, KEMU, Ms. Fehmida Hassan, Country Director, CBM Pakistan, and Prof. Asghar Naqi, Registrar, KEMU.

Strengthening Eye Health Through Awareness

Around **50 eye health awareness sessions** were conducted by Social Organisers (SOs) at Health Houses, BHUs, RHCs, and other community settings this quarter.



Field Monitoring Visit in District Chakwal

Monitoring visit was done in District Chakwal to review programme progress, observe door-to-door (D2D) screening activities, and gather beneficiary feedback to strengthen service delivery.



Comprehensive Eye Care for Female Agriculture & Garment Factory Workers Project II

**(Bahawalpur, Ladhraan &
Vehari)**



Quartely Report

**Screening/
Refraction: 57,911**

**Spetacles
Dispensed: 4,241**

Surgeries: 1949



Capacity Building and Community Awareness Expands

Community eye health activities continued to gain momentum with 6,712 people reached through awareness sessions. In addition, 750 screening kits were provided to BHUs, LHWs, and Vision Centres, while 120 Medical Officers, 108 LHSs, and 1,368 LHWs received training to strengthen the delivery of inclusive Primary Eye Care (IPEC) services.



Eye screening camp and eye care awareness session for Minorities in a Church at Lodhran | 12th June, 2026



Vision testing by Optometrist at RHC, Uch Shareef, being run with the support of FHF



Better Skills, Brighter Vision!
Primary Eye Care (PEC) Training for Medical Officers at THQ Hospital Hasilpur



Eye Health Awareness Session for Female Agricultural Workers in District Bahawalpur



Upgradation and Revamping of THQ Hospital Kehrora Pacca



Mr. Farooq Awan and Dr. Iqbal Javed in discussion with MS THQ Hospital Kehrora Pacca on Upgrading the Eye Department



Meeting with Assistant Commissioner Kehrora Pacca regarding the renovation of Eye Department, THQ Hospital.



Post-revamping



Pre-revamping



H.E. Timothy Kane, Australian High Commissioner, Tours Ophthalmology Department & COAVS



**Improving National Systems in Pakistan for
Integrated Action on Refractive Error (INSPIRE)**
(Sheikhupura & Multan)

**Pakistan Inclusive
Eye Health**
(Khanewal & Sargodha)



**Combined
Quarterly Report**

**Examination by
Optometrists: 106,171**

Refraction: 55,800

**Advised
Spectacles: 45,046**

Accessibility audits in Sargodha health facilities, led by Dr. Shafiq ul Rehman, President, Milestone, identified barriers and proposed practical improvements for inclusive eye care.



District Coordination Committee Meeting, PIEH, Sargodha, chaired by **Dr. Kashif Verk, CEO Health Sargodha**.



CPD session on **Neuro-ophthalmology** was organised at DHQ Sargodha, led by Dr. Rizwan Nasir, HOD, Eye Department.



Successful DCC Meeting for PIEH, Khanewal with District Health Authorities and Civil Society Representatives.



April 28 2026 | Ms. Ayesha Sarfraz, Orthoptist, conducted a refresher on disability inclusion and safeguarding for the core Opticianry Faculty with the



support from Sightsavers. The session reinforced **a zero-tolerance approach to abuse, harm, and neglect in healthcare settings**.



NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL - JUNE 2026

01

PARTNERSHIPS & COLLABORATIONS

21 APR 2026

Australian High Commissioner Reviews 27 Years of Sight-Saving Partnership

08 JUN 2026

German Ambassador Ina Lepel Launches CBM Cataract Surgery Initiative

12 JUN 2026

Vision for Education and COAVS Join Hands to Restore Sight

02

CLINICAL EXCELLENCE

25 APR 2026

Dr. Lubna Siddiq Leads ROP Awareness Workshop at Narowal Medical College

02-03 JUN 2026

First Vitreoretina Examination Preparatory Course Successfully Held

05 JUN 2026

UK Cornea Expert Prof. Muhammad S. Z. Ahmad Delivers CXL Lecture

19 JUN 2026

Postgraduate Trainees Take MS Ophthalmology and MCEH Examinations

03

TRAINING & CAPACITY BUILDING

28 APR 2026

Ayesha Sarfraz Leads Safeguarding and Disability Inclusion Refresher Training

03-04 JUN 2026

Community Health Team Strengthens Project Management and Evaluation Skills

23 JUN 2026

Disaster Management Committee Oriented on Disability Inclusion

04

AWARENESS DAYS & CELEBRATIONS

01 JUN 2026

Department of Orthoptics Marks World Orthoptic Day

13 JUN 2026

SOOOP and COAVS Celebrate World Orthoptic Day with EcoVision Theme

05

RESEARCH & PUBLICATIONS

Topical and Oral Beta-Blockers Show Comparable Outcomes in Periocular Infantile Haemangioma

06

EXTRA-CURRICULAR

18 APR 2026

Young Artists Paint Life into OPD Walls