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COAVS NEWSLETTER

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

Advancing Eye Care with Vision



Prof Muhammad Moin visited The Fred Hollows Foundation Global Office, Sydney

August, 2026 I Prof. Muhammad Moin, Principal, COAVS visited The Fred Hollows Foundation (FHF) Global Office in Sydney, where he engaged with the Pakistani-Australian community. Speaking at a well-attended event, with Mr. Qamar Zaman, Pakistan's Consul General, as the Chief Guest, he highlighted the major achievements of COAVS and FHF in advancing eye care across Punjab.



WITH CONSUL GENERAL, SHANIERA AKRAM, FHF AMBASSADOR AND MR. FAROOQ AWAN

Corneal Training Advances

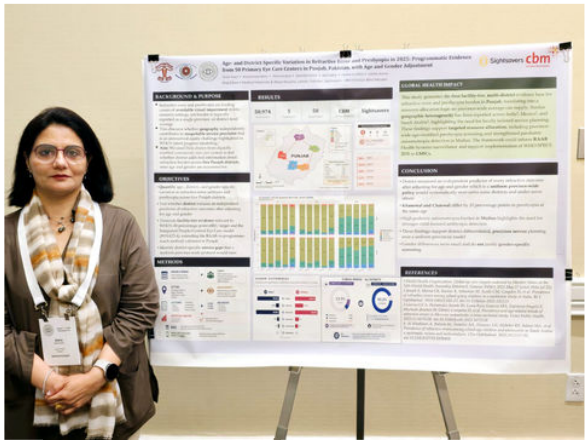
V4E Partenership Signed

Ophthalmology Pakistan Journal
Our Journal Achieves HEC Recognition

Contributing Expertise to One Health and Infection Prevention



July 29 2026 I Dr. Sana Aslam, Microbiologist/ Infection Control Officer, presented at a consultative workshop on the "Integrated One Health Approach for Managing Emerging Infectious Diseases" at the Institute of Public Health, Lahore. Her presentation, "One Health and the Role of Infection Prevention and Control Practices," focused on IPC strategies, antimicrobial resistance, and limiting disease transmission. The interdisciplinary event highlighted COAVS-KEMU's commitment to scientific excellence, cross-field collaboration, and patient safety.



Representation at Global Ophthalmology Summit, Philadelphia, USA

August 7–9, 2026 I Dr. Aisha Azam, Associate Professor, KEMU, attended the summit to present co-authored research on primary eye care quality and regional refractive error patterns in Punjab. This research aims to inform evidence-based resource allocation in low- and middle-income settings.

COAVS Representation at South Asia CQI Workshop



September 7–10, 2026 I Representing COAVS at the South Asia Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Workshop in Kathmandu, Nepal, Dr. Insha Tirmizi presented the department's recent cataract surgery outcomes audit during the country snapshot session.

Institutional Recognition & Academic Achievements

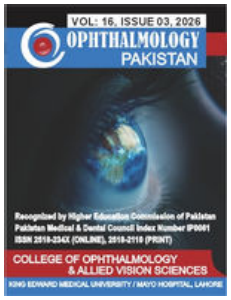
COAVS Hosted AHPC Visit



September 18, 2026 | A delegation from the Allied Health Professionals Council (AHPC) conducted an inspection visit to COAVS as part of the accreditation process. The council evaluated College's academic and clinical infrastructure to ensure compliance with regulatory standards.

The delegation expressed satisfaction with the learning environment and clinical exposure provided to students**, validating COAVS's commitment to quality education in vision sciences.** Reflecting Principal Prof. Muhammad Moin's drive for benchmark academic standards, the visit was coordinated by Ms. Beenish Latif, Optometrist, and the vision sciences team to ensure an effective evaluation.

Our Journal HEC Recognized







Ophthalmology Pakistan, Journal of COAVS, has achieved significant milestones, earning **HEC 'Y' Category recognition** on July 12, 2026, and **Scopus indexing** on October 12, 2026. This success was driven by Prof. Muhammad Moin, Editor-In-Cheif, Ms. Ummara Rasheed, Statistical Manager, Dr. M. Shaheer, Journal Editor, and Mr. Zahid Naeem, IT Manager. Prof. Mahmood Ayyaz, Vice Chancellor, KEMU, appreciated the efforts of the team.

COAVS Celebrated Academic Success in PMF Results



September 19, 2026 I COAVS marks an academic milestone as Punjab Medical Faculty (PMF) released the results. Following the Federal Board curriculum, the Ophthalmic Technician Diploma Programme achieved a 71.4% pass rate, while its inaugural batch of Dispensing Opticianry students successfully cleared their annual examinations. COAVS congratulates successful students and acknowledges the efforts of its faculty and staff in advancing academic excellence and quality professional training.

Advancing Eye Banking and DMEK Tissue Preparation





June 15–July 30, 2026 I To advance the eye bank process, Dr. Sidrah Latif, Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, KEMU, visited Eversight in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and the Kellogg Eye Center. The purpose of the visit was a detailed tour and understanding of eye bank operations at Eversight facilities, including all aspects from donor eligibility and evaluation to grief counseling, retrieval, packaging, and distribution. Eversight provided hands-on training for Descemet's Membrane Endothelial Keratoplasty (DMEK) graft tissue preparation, along with the observation of endothelial keratoplasties at the Kellogg Eye Center. It is hoped that this will further develop lamellar tissue transplants in Pakistan.







Milestone Corneal Retrieval Training Completed at Tilganga

September 14, 2026 I In pursuance of the Government of Punjab and COAVS initiative to establish an eye bank, personnel training has officially commenced. As part of this program, technicians Muhammad Irfan and Zubair Dona completed a six-week training program at the Tilganga Institute of Ophthalmology (TIO) in Nepal. The training was made possible through funding by Dr. Maqbool Ahmad and conducted under the patronage of Dr. Reeta Gurung, CEO of TIO.

During their time at TIO, both technicians gained extensive hands-on experience in donor family counseling, grief counseling, tissue retrieval, tissue packaging, and tissue evaluation.



15th Ophthalmology Preparatory Course at Institute of Ophthalmology, KEMU, Mayo Hospital Lahore



Sep 1–2, 2026 I The 15th KEMU/Mayo Hospital Ophthalmology Preparatory Course for FCPS/MS (IMM) Examination brought together 28 candidates from medical institutions across Lahore, Faisalabad, Sargodha, Okara, Rawalpindi, and Peshawar. The training featured a mock examinations alongside formative and summative assessments.

Surgical Workshop on Enucleation and Lateral Orbitotomy







July 28, 2026 I The Institute of Ophthalmology, KEMU, Mayo Hospital, Lahore, in collaboration with the Pakistan Orbit and Oculoplastics Association (POA), successfully organized a surgical workshop on Enucleation and Lateral Orbitotomy. Organized by Prof. Nasir Chaudhry, HOD, Eye Unit 2, and Dr. M. Salman Hamza, General Secretary POA, the event aimed to promote structured surgical training and advance orbit and oculoplastics education.

Under guidance of master trainers including Prof. Muhammad Moin, Prof. Imran Akram Sahaf, Prof. Emeritus Asad Aslam Khan, and Prof. Nasir Chaudhry, more than 25 residents and trainees from various institutions participated in the session. Through expert-led teaching and surgical demonstrations, attendees gained insights into surgical planning, anatomical considerations, operative techniques, and perioperative management.

Educational webinar on Ptosis

July 19 2026 I The Pakistan Orbit & Oculoplastics Association (POA) and the Oculoplastics Society of Pakistan and SAARC (OPSSA) co-hosted a webinar on Ptosis, focusing on complex case management.

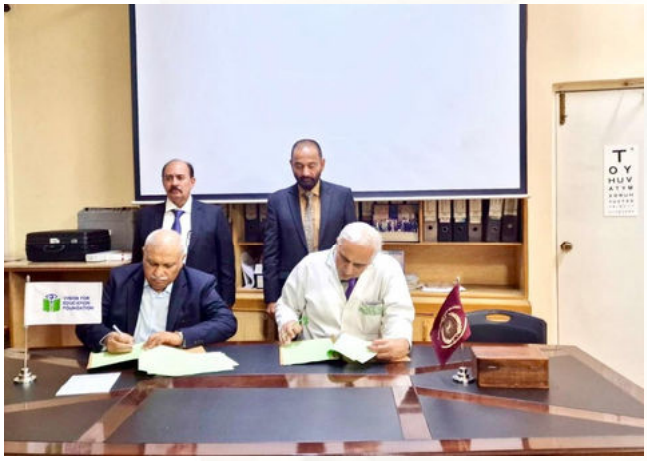
Expanding Pediatric Vision Care



Establishment of ROP Treatment and Research Center

September 12, 2026 I College formally established the Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) Treatment and Research Center to prevent irreversible blindness in premature infants through early screening and advanced treatment. Inaugurated by Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Moin and Prof. Dr. Asad Aslam Khan, center aims to integrate clinical care with research and training. Both ophthalmologists emphasized that early intervention is vital to preserving neonatal vision and improving pediatric eye care standards across Pakistan. Moving forward, Dr. Lubna Siddiq, Assistant Professor, COAVS, will serve as the lead for the center.







LoI Signed for Lahore School Eye Screening

VISION FOR EDUCATION FOUNDATION

September 17 2026 I COAVS and Vision for Education (V4E) Foundation Pakistan have signed Letters of Intent to strengthen child eye health and prevent avoidable blindness. Signed by Professor Dr. Muhammad Moin, Principal, COAVS, and Mr. Nazim Rajani, President, Vision for Education Foundation Pakistan, the partnership combines COAVS's clinical and academic expertise with V4E's community outreach experience.

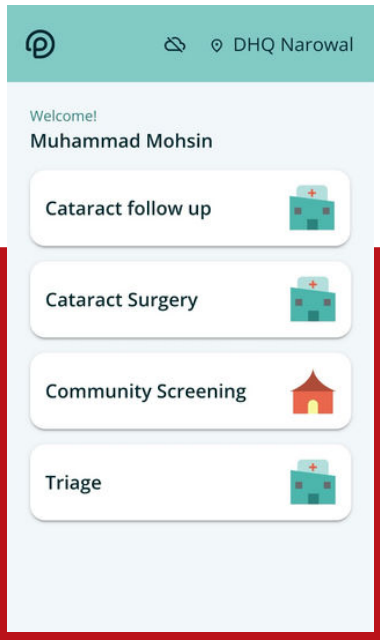
Through the School Eye Screening Programme in Lahore, the institutions will provide schoolchildren with vision screening, refraction, spectacles and timely referrals, supporting equitable access to quality eye care.

Community Eyecare

COAVS is currently working across 9 districts of Punjab through dedicated community eye care programs.

Inclusive Eye Health-Peek Project Punjab **(Layyah, Chakwal and Sadiq Abad)**

Total Screening 211,895 **Total Refractions** 15,392



PEEK CAPTURE CATARACT VERSION LAUNCHED UNDER CBM CATARACT SURGERY SUPPORT PROGRAM

August 8 & September 19, 2026 I The Peek Capture Cataract Version was launched under the CBM Cataract Surgery Support Program. In connection with the new version, capacity-building trainings for new users and focal persons from 45 CBM-supported hospitals were held at College.

The trainings focused on using the software to record cataract surgery data, including post-surgery follow-up.

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

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

Total Examinations 127,013 **Total Refractions** 58, 068



Review Meeting, PIEH

August 19, 2026 I Sightsavers, LRBT, CHIP, and COAVS convened in Sargodha to assess ongoing field operations and formulate solutions for overcoming challenges.



Accessibility Upgrades

Accessibility upgrades have been carried out at THQ Kot Momin and Ophthalmology Department, Dr Faisal Masood Teaching Hospital Sargodha under Pakistan Inclusive Eye Health Project.

Comprehensive Eye Care for Female Agriculture & Garment Factory Workers Project II (Bahawalpur, Ladhran & Vehari)

The Fred Hollows Foundation

Screening/Exminations 61,214 **Total Surgeries** 2012

September 7–10, 2026 I Dr Iqbal Javed and Dr Insha Tirmizi represented COAVS at the South Asia Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Workshop, hosted by the Fred Hollows Foundation at the Tilganga Institute of Ophthalmology (TIO) in Kathmandu, Nepal, accompanied by Mr Farooq Awan, Country Manager, FHF. The workshop brought together teams from seven countries, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Myanmar, Jordan, Palestine, Nepal, and Afghanistan to review cataract quality data, visit TIO's clinical facilities, and draft country-level CQI work plans for 2027-2029.

Dr Insha presented the department's recent cataract surgery outcomes audit as part of the country snapshot session, revealing a cataract surgery success rate of 87% exceeding the WHO benchmark of >80%, while Dr Iqbal mentioned Pakistan's CQI work plan going forward.

COAVS at South Asia CQI, Kathmandu



Quarter at a Glance, COAVS

Training and Professional Development

15 June–30 July I Technicians Complete Tilganga Training on Corneal Retrieval

28 July I Institute Organizes Surgical Workshop on Orbital Procedures

1–2 September I 35 Candidates Join 15th KEMU Preparatory Course for FCPS exams

14 September I Dr. Sidra Learns DMEK at Eversight, USA

Interdisciplinary Forums and Scientific Contributions

29 July I Dr. Sana Aslam Speaks at One Health Forum

7–9 August I Scientific Posters Feature at Global Ophthalmology Summit, USA

7–10 September I COAVS Presents Cataract Audit at CQI Workshop in Kathmandu, Nepal

Partnerships and International Engagement

August I Prof. Muhammad Moin Visits Fred Hollows Global Office, Sydney

17 September I COAVS and V4E Sign Partnership Letter of Intent

Institutional Recognition and Academic Achievements

12 July I COAVS Ophthalmology Journal Earns HEC Recognition

18 September I AHPC Visit

19 September I Ophthalmic Technology & Dispensing Opticianry Achievements

12 September I ROP Treatment and Research Center Inauguration