



SINDH INSTITUTE OF OPHTHALMOLOGY & VISUAL SCIENCES (SIOVS)

Newsletter

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MEETING WITH SIGHTSAVERS INTERNATIONAL, AN INGO IN PAKISTAN

On 23rd September 2025, a meeting was held at the Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences - SIOVS, Hyderabad, with the delegation of Sightsavers International led by **Ms. Munazza Gillani**, Country Head. During the meeting, **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur**, Executive Director SIOVS Hyderabad delivered a comprehensive presentation on SIOVS community-based projects, emphasizing recent initiatives and developments in preventive blindness programs in Pakistan, particularly the Cataract Support Program being implemented across multiple districts of Sindh in collaboration with Sightsavers International.

Ms. Gillani highly appreciated the efforts of **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur** and his community team for their dedication towards eliminating avoidable blindness in Pakistan. She also shared strategies for strengthening optical services for patients and presented details of the newly introduced Diploma in Optical Services course, recently launched in Punjab Province.

The meeting was well-attended by the teaching faculty of SIOVS and **Mr. Jalil Ahmed Rajper**, Deputy Director, Community Ophthalmic Services, from SIOVS, and **Mr. Ammir Hayat**, Finance Head from Sightsavers International Pakistan.



INTERVIEW FOR ADMISSIONS IN BS VISION SCIENCES 2025-26



The interview process for undergraduate admissions in the BS Vision Sciences Program at **Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences - SIOVS**, Hyderabad held was on **Saturday 25th September 2025** under the supervision of **Prof. Dr. Khalid Talpur**, Executive Director SIOVS.

A total of 18 aspiring students participated in the interview session.

The Interview was managed by combined efforts of School of Optometry, Department of Academics & Examination Department.

WELCOMING PROFESSOR IRFAN JEEVA AS VISITING PROFESSOR AT SIOVS

It is a matter of great distinction and pride for the Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences-SIOVS, Hyderabad to welcome **Professor Irfan Jeeva**, an internationally acclaimed Consultant Ophthalmologist, as Visiting Professor. His gracious offer to contribute to the academic and clinical mission of SIOVS on an honorary basis reflects his enduring commitment to advancing global eye health and education.

Professor Jeeva brings with him a wealth of expertise across multiple subspecialties, including Oculoplastics, Cataract and Refractive Surgery, and Paediatric Ophthalmology. His clinical acumen is matched by a deep dedication to teaching, training, and research, making him an invaluable asset to the Institute. In recognition of his outstanding contributions to ophthalmology, the Academic Council of SIOVS has unanimously resolved and accepted his offer and warmly welcomes him to the faculty.



Professor Jeeva's qualifications are both prestigious and diverse, underscoring his global standing in the field:

- Fellowship of the Royal College of Ophthalmologists, UK (FRCOphth)
- Fellowship of the European Board of Ophthalmology (FEBO)
- FEBO-CR: Cataract & Refractive Surgery specialization
- Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT), UK
- Diploma in Aesthetic Surgery, American Academy of Aesthetics

He has authored over 35 peer-reviewed scientific publications in high-impact journals and contributed as a co-author to World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines, reflecting his influence on international standards of eye care.

Currently serving as Clinical Governance Lead and Consultant Ophthalmologist at Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust, UK, Professor Jeeva plays a pivotal role in ensuring quality assurance and clinical excellence. His previous tenure as Service Line Chief for Eye and ENT at Aga Khan University (AKU) was marked by transformative leadership, including the redesign of clinical systems that earned him the Silver Medal for Patient Care at the International Hospital Federation Conference Awards.

His public health engagements include serving as Technical Advisor to WHO on Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) guidelines, further demonstrating his commitment to preventive and pediatric eye health on a global scale.

Professor Jeeva's appointment is expected to significantly enhance the academic and clinical landscape of SIOVS through:

- Advanced clinical training in subspecialties such as oculoplastics and refractive surgery
- Curriculum enrichment through lectures and workshops aligned with international best practices
- Collaborative research initiatives aimed at elevating the Institute's scholarly output
- Mentorship and capacity building for postgraduate trainees and young ophthalmologists
- Strengthening institutional visibility and credibility in global ophthalmic education and care.

His presence will not only raise the standards of eye health delivery but also inspire the next generation of ophthalmologists to pursue excellence in clinical care, research, and innovation.

Executive Director SIOVS Hyderabad **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur**, and Faculty of SIOVS extend their heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Professor Jeeva. His association marks a new chapter in the Institute's journey toward becoming a center of excellence in ophthalmology, both nationally and internationally.

45TH KAROPHTH ANNUAL CONGRESS OF OPHTHALMOLOGY & 2ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF WIOP

Participation of Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences - SIOVS, Hyderabad

The Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences (SIOVS), Hyderabad, had an active participation in the 45th Karophth Annual Congress Of Ophthalmology & 2nd Annual Conference of WIOP - 2025. was held from 29th to 31st August 2025 at Pearl Continental Hotel, Karachi. The presentations / topics from SIOVS were:

Prof. Dr Khalid Iqbal Talpur, Executive Director, SIOVS.

- Chairperson – Bayer’s Symposium
- Co-chairperson – Medical Education Seminar Session
- Speaker – Glaucoma-II Seminar Session

Dr. Shahzad Memon (Associate Professor)

- “Graft failure or rejection in penetrating keratoplasty” – CAP-II Seminar Session

Dr. Rafeen Talpur (Assistant Professor)

- “Optimizing Medical Retina Services in a Tertiary Care Hospital: The SIOVS Experience” – MRAP-I Session

Dr. Fariha Sherwali (Assistant Professor)

- “Orbital Case Series” – POA-I Seminar Session

Dr. Adnan Abdul Majeed (Consultant Ophthalmology)

- Phaco Wet Lab Training – Facilitator
- “The Art of Being an Ideal Resident” – Young Ophthalmologist Session
- “Tips & Tricks for a Crystal-Clear Cornea: Optimizing Outcomes in Phaco Surgery” – PACRS-I Session
- “Comparison of Anti-Inflammatory Effects of Prednisolone versus Nepafenac 0.3% after Phacoemulsification and Intraocular Lens Implantation” – Free Papers-I Session
- “Tumor & Associated Glaucoma: A Diagnostic and Therapeutic Challenge” – Free Papers-II Session

Dr. Ronak Afza (Senior Registrar)

- “Effectiveness of Ranibizumab in Macular Edema Due to Branch and Central Retinal Vein Occlusion: A Tertiary Care Experience” – Free Papers-II Session

Dr. Neelam Nizamani (Senior Registrar)

- “Artificial Intelligence in Retinopathy of Prematurity” – Free Papers-I Session

Dr. Hifza

- “Role of Imaging Techniques in the Diagnosis of ROP” – PVRS-I Session

Dr. Yar Muhammad Yarwah (Assistant Professor)

- “Mutation Screening of the CYP1B1 Gene Reveals Novel and Recurrent Pathogenic Variants in Pakistani Primary Congenital Glaucoma Patients” – Free Papers-II Session

Mr. Ahdi Hassan (Program Coordinator, Peek SIOVS)

- “Improving Eye Care Services at Basic Health Units to Reduce the Burden on Secondary and Tertiary Health Facilities in Sindh, Pakistan” – Free Papers-I Session



ENTRY TEST - BS VISION SCIENCES - 2025

The Entry Test for admission for the First Batch of BS Vision Sciences Program was successfully conducted at the Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences SIOVS, Hyderabad, on Sunday 24th August - 2025.

The Test was managed by combined efforts of School of Optometry, of Academics Department and Examination Department. The Logistics were efficiently managed by Engineering and Maintenance Department SIOVS Hyderabad. A total of Fifty-Four (54) candidates appeared in the admission test.



ANOTHER FEATHER IN THE CAP OF SIOVS



We are delighted to share that **Dr. Rafeen Talpur**, Assistant Professor Ophthalmology SIOVS Hyderabad, has successfully qualified two important examination.

1. **FCPS Vitreo Retina (2nd Fellowship)** From College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan.
2. **FCPS Royal College of Surgeons Glasgow UK.**

This remarkable achievement is a significant milestone in her professional journey and a proud moment for the entire Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences - SIOVS, Hyderabad community.

Her success reflects not only her unwavering dedication and clinical excellence but also the supportive academic environment at SIOVS, under the visionary leadership of **Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur**, Executive Director, SIOVS. His commitment to nurturing talent and promoting the highest standards in ophthalmic teaching and training continues to deliver outstanding results.

The Executive Director, faculty, and entire SIOVS family extend heartfelt congratulations to **Dr. Rafeen Talpur**, on this well-deserved accomplishment.

WORKSHOP ON NATIONAL CATARACT QUALITY GUIDELINES & LAUNCH OF COMPREHENSIVE EYE CARE PROJECT

On 12th August 2025, a significant milestone in eye care was marked at Mövenpick Hotel, Karachi with the Workshop on National Cataract Quality Guidelines & Launch Of Comprehensive Eye Care Project.

The event commenced with the recitation of the Holy Quran by Prof. **Dr. Saleh Memon**, followed by a welcome address from Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur, Executive Director SIOVS and National Coordinator for PCB Pakistan.

Mr. Farooq Awan, Country Manager The Fred Hollows Foundations (FHF) Pakistan presented the agenda, covering the key phases of cataract surgery:

- . Pre Operative Phase
- . Intra-Operative Phase
- . Post-Operative Phase
- . Equipment & Medicine Supply

It was resolved that the National Cataract Quality Guidelines will be developed in close consultation with Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur, Prof. Dr. Saleh Memon, Dr. Abdul Fattah Memon from Al-Ibrahim Eye Hospital Karachi, Dr. Mazhar Awan from Vision Trust Foundation Karachi, Dr. Shabir Bhutto from Larkana, Dr. Israr Bhutto from JPMC and other renowned eye care consultants.

At this occasion, Senator Nadeem Bhutto inaugurated the **Comprehensive Eye Care for Female Agriculture and Garment Factory Workers Project (CEC-II)** for District Thatta and Sanghar. On behalf of the Secretary Health, **Mr. Allah bux**, Chief Technical Officer Health Department Government of Sindh, participated in the event, reaffirming the Government's commitment to improving cataract surgery standards in coordination with SIOVS Hyderabad.

This initiative marks an important step towards enhancing quality, safety, and accessibility in cataract care across Pakistan.



1st SEMINAR ON RETINOPATHY OF PREMATURITY (ROP)



On Saturday, 12th July 2025, the Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences (SIOVS) successfully organized its first Seminar on Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP). The event aimed to raise awareness and foster collaboration with regional pediatricians to prevent ROP and its complications.

The seminar was graced by the presence of esteemed Pediatric and Ophthalmology Consultants, including:

Prof. Dr. Hassan Memon, Former Head, Department of Pediatrics, LUMHS Jamshoro

Prof. Dr. Abdullah Rizwan Ahmed, Professor of Ophthalmology, Indus Medical College, Tando Muhammad Khan

Prof. Dr. Farzana Parveen Shaikh, Professor of Pediatrics, LUMHS Jamshoro

Dr. Saroop Chand Assistant Professor, LUMHS Jamshoro

Dr. Abdul Rehman Pirzada, Visiting Professor / Public Health Expert

Dr. Saqib Raza, Pediatrician, KKF Hyderabad

The seminar commenced with a warm welcome by Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur, Executive Director of SIOVS.

The panel discussion featured:

Prof. Dr. Hassan Memon, Former Head, Department of Pediatrics, LUMHS Jamshoro.

Prof. Dr. Farzana Parveen Shaikh, Professor of Pediatrics, LUMHS Jamshoro.

Dr. Nazish Rizwan, Assistant Professor & Head, Pediatric Ophthalmology, SIOVS Hyderabad.

Scientific sessions included:

Epidemiological Background of ROP **Dr. Hifsa**, SIOVS Hyderabad

Clinical Aspects & Treatments of ROP **Dr. Neelam**, SIOVS Hyderabad

Diagnostic Tools for ROP **Dr. Nazish Rizwan**, SIOVS Hyderabad

Neonatologist's perspective **Dr. Laila**, Children's Hospital, Lahore

The seminar concluded with insightful closing remarks by Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur, reaffirming SIOVS's commitment to collaborative efforts for the prevention of childhood blindness due to ROP

INTERNATIONAL ENGEEMENTS OF PROF. DR. KHALID TALPUR RELATED TO COMMUNITY EYE HEALTH

Prof. Dr. Khalid Iqbal Talpur, Executive Director SIOVS and Chairman, National Committee for Eye Health, Pakistan recently engaged in impactful discussions with eminent global leaders in eye health and research during his recent visit of United Kingdom.

1. Prof. Andrew Bastawrous, Professor of Global Eye Health at London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Founder & CEO of Peek Vision, innovating technology to make eye health accessible to underserved communities.

2. Dr. Babar Qureshi, Director of the Inclusive Health Initiative with CBM International and Global Eye Health and Public Health Expert, known for his extensive work in strengthening eye care systems worldwide.

3. Dr. Sadiq Bhanbhro, International researcher and advocate for community health equity Sheffield Hallam University U.K

The major aim was to bridge gaps, share knowledge, and work towards a world where quality eye care is accessible to all.

These interactions mark a significant step in promoting international partnerships aimed at advancing eye health, enhancing patient care, and promoting research collaborations at SIOVS.

