

E-MAILS TO THE EDITOR

At Fatima Memorial College of Medicine and Dentistry we are in the process of starting our institutional journal, therefore, all prerequisite requirements are being taken care of: a very strong IRB, allocation of funds, a biostatistician. I am a member of this research cell. InSha Allah together we can work towards this new goal.

Prof Dr Nazia Yazdanie

FMH College of Medicine and Dentistry, Lahore

Sir, first of all my apologies for lack of communication to your good self for a long time. I was too busy in my new commitments at RMI. It is one of the very progressive institutions. I am also convenor CPSP orthodontic and working on Orthodontic FCPS curriculum and examination policy. Recently I have been appointed as curriculum committee member in PMC. Therefore I couldn't make it.

You are right there is no culture of research in our country specially in dentistry.

We have to switch to innovative research. You must be knowing Dr Sultanzeb passed away due to COVID-19. A big loss to our community.

In Rehman College of Dentistry I have established a research department. I have two PhDs and all the resources that are needed.

Sir I am always available for any service and will be following all your guidelines.

Prof Dr Ghulam Rasool

Rehman College of Dentistry

Hayatabad - Peshawar

Thank you sir for asking our opinions.

In my opinion research can be started easily without spending too much. I don't think dentists will contribute money for research because many are not willing even to pay for their own publications. Authors can ask pharmaceutical companies to sponsor a research project.

When there is a will there is a way. These days many authors just want publication for promotion. Only few people are research minded in our profession. These are my observations. This thinking must change. We must develop research culture.

Dr Saeeda Abdullah

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Thank you very much for the important mail. The application to Scopus and WoS is good news, but it has nothing to do with our internal issues of research opportunities. The focus for future research should be at three levels. Students/interns (House officers), Postgraduate students output (FCPS, MSc, MDS, PhD), and finally the faculty (Teaching staff of all ranks). Professors should not be exempted from the continuous contribution to scientific literature.

Regarding, establishment of research units at every College is very encouraging and at par with developed countries. We have to promote the culture of science but unfortunately, our teaching staff in Pakistan are part time teachers. They have half a day of teaching and their main focus is on their private practices so they have no time. Same situation is in the medical field and research output is very average at every level. We need full time faculty, facilitated by hiring authorities.

Raising funds and establishing a joint fund at every college needs commitment. So in my humble opinion, this proposal may not fly in current circumstances due to lack of research of interest at national level.

Prof Khalid Almas

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