



SKMCH&RC marked World Cancer Day by conducting activities with patients; a virtual panel discussion by clinical experts; and media coverage. Dr Muhammed Aasim Yusuf, Acting CEO of SKMT, participated in an exclusive online session organised by the Union for International Cancer Control, to discuss the mission and journey of making world class cancer care accessible to everyone, irrespective of ethnicity, gender, or financial status.



A patient stands in front of a Tree of Life decorated with messages for cancer patients to mark International Childhood Cancer Day on February 15, 2021.

## PESHAWAR



Donors and supporters visiting the Intensive Care Unit at SKMCH&RC, Peshawar for a room dedication ceremony.

### CORRIGENDUM

The image published under 'Equipment Update' in the previous edition was of a CT simulator instead of a linear accelerator with cone beam CT. The error is regretted and the updated version is available online.

## KARACHI



From left to right: Dr Muhammed Aasim Yusuf, Acting CEO of SKMT, and Mr Irfan Siddiqui, President & CEO of Meezan Bank at the signing ceremony to assist SKMT in implementing a Shariah compliance framework for collection, utilisation, and management of Zakat funds.

Mr. Tariq Azam, Director Marketing SKMCH&RC and Mr. Abdul Mannan, Chief Information Officer, Bykea, signing an agreement to assist SKMCH&RC in collection of donations this Ramzan.



### THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS



### PLEASE DEPOSIT YOUR ZAKAT, SADQAT AND DONATIONS AT ANY OF OUR OVERSEAS OFFICES GIVEN BELOW

USA	France	Australia	United Kingdom	Canada	Norway	Gulf
4 Forest Park Dr. Farmington CT 06032 +1 860 674 8865	84 Rue Maurice Berteaux 95360 Montmagny +33 6 07 64 47 88	Suite 12 Level 1 89 Jones Street ULTIMO Sydney NSW 2007. +61 2 9211 8465	P.O. Box 786 66 Little Horton Lane Bradford BD5 0YE +44 12 7442 4444	7800 Kennedy Road Suite 101 Markham Ontario L3R 2C7 +1 905 470 8111	Hogasveien 104 1259 Oslo +47 930 63 545	Building No. 4 Office No. 112 P.O. Box 506032 +971 4 457 2434

Published by Media & Communications Department - Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Centre  
7 A Block R-3, Johar Town, Lahore - Pakistan | Tel +92 42 3590 5000 Ext 7150 | UAN 111 155 555  
Email: [communications@skm.org.pk](mailto:communications@skm.org.pk) | [www.shaukatkhanum.org.pk](http://www.shaukatkhanum.org.pk)

2022 Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Centre. All rights reserved.  
No part of this publication may be used in any form without prior written approval from Media & Communications Department.

# HOPE

Zakat Edition 2022

Hundreds of sisters have little brothers who are fighting cancer at Shaukat Khanum Hospital. These patients need our Zakat and donations as their sisters have only one prayer...

## 'Bless my brother with a long life'

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE, READ UPDATES ON:-

- Survivor's story
- Radiosurgery without knife
- The impact of your support
- Construction update for SKMCH&RC, Karachi
- News & highlights



Please make checks payable to "Imran Khan Cancer Appeal, Inc." and mail to/deposit at:  
Imran Khan Cancer Appeal, Inc. 4 Forest Park Dr. Farmington, CT 06032, USA

### For more information, please contact:

Tel: +1 (860) 674 8865  
9 am to 1 pm (EST)  
Fax: +1 (860) 674 9007

### Donate online at:

[www.shaukatkhanum.org.pk](http://www.shaukatkhanum.org.pk)  
Email: [shkm2@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shkm2@sbcglobal.net)

For further information, please call: +44 1274 424 444  
or write to us at [info@ikca.org.uk](mailto:info@ikca.org.uk)

Imran Khan Cancer Appeal, Inc. is a registered, nonprofit charitable organization under section 501(c) (3) of the IRS.  
Your contribution may be tax deductible to the full extent permitted by law. Our EIN # 13-3626299



## Survivor's Story: Ahmad Abdullah

Each year, cancer upends the lives of thousands of families around the world. At Shaukat Khanum Hospitals in Lahore and Peshawar, patients from across the globe receive specialised, world-class cancer treatment regardless of their ability to pay. Eight-year old Ahmad Abdullah is the face of the Shaukat Khanum Zakat Campaign for 2022. Retrace his cancer journey with us, here, through the eyes of his mother.

We first noticed bruising around Ahmad's neck and on his arms when he was four years old, in 2017, while we were living in Saudi Arabia. At first, we attributed this to play fighting amongst siblings. After a few days, however, when the bruises did not subside, my husband became quite worried. He knew that unexplained bruising could be a sign of something more sinister. He immediately took our son to a local hospital where Ahmad underwent various blood tests, the results of which showed a dangerously low platelet count, indicating the possibility of blood cancer.

We went to several different hospitals in Saudi Arabia, but none would accept Ahmad for treatment. In this race against time, we left our other three children behind and took Ahmad to Pakistan. Our life had suddenly been turned on its head, but we clung desperately to the only hope we had left - Shaukat Khanum Memorial Cancer Hospital and Research Centre (SKMCH&RC), in Lahore. Here, a bone-marrow biopsy confirmed the diagnosis of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia (ALL), a type of blood cancer. To say that this felt like an apocalyptic moment would be an understatement. I would not wish it on anyone. My husband kept saying that his long-term goal of building a house in Pakistan no longer mattered, he just wanted his son to live.

At SKMCH&RC, Lahore, Ahmad, in common with all the children under treatment there, was treated like a member of the family. A playroom staffed by qualified play therapists helped divert his attention from his treatment. The Hospital provided nutritious meals and, to my surprise, took great pains to cater to my child's food preferences. We did not have enough resources to pay for Ahmad's prolonged cancer treatment, which was estimated to last for four years, but Shaukat Khanum did not abandon us. Ahmad received financially supported treatment, and I repeatedly witnessed patients receiving the same quality of treatment at the hospital, regardless of their ability to pay.

Ahmad has now thankfully completed active cancer treatment and is now on regular follow-up. He goes to school now and it makes me extremely happy to see my son enjoy, once again, a normal childhood, after his long ordeal with cancer. Shaukat Khanum Hospitals are a huge blessing. I lack the ability to fully express my gratitude but, in a small attempt to say thank you personally, I started a YouTube channel, the earnings from which I have been donating to SKMCH&RC for giving my son another chance at life. Ahmad says he wants to grow up to become a doctor and return to Shaukat Khanum Hospital as a healer, rather than as a patient. I hope and pray that my son's dream comes true.



## The Impact of Your Support

In 2021, your Zakat and donations enabled us to provide financially supported treatment worth Rs. 9.7 billion to over 75 percent of our cancer patients.

### Clinical Activity at a Glance - 2021 SKMCH&RC (Lahore, Peshawar & Others)

**12,018**  
New Registrations

**63,725**  
Chemotherapy Sessions

**6,277,572**  
Pathology Tests

**210,667**  
Outpatient Visits

**19,128**  
Surgical Procedures

**198,393**  
Imaging Studies

**14,840**  
Admissions

**77,809**  
Radiation Treatments

**1,963,904**  
Pharmacy Dispensing

## Clinical Service in Focus: Radiosurgery without Knife

At SKMCH&RC, Lahore, installation of a second True-Beam linear accelerator with stereotactic radiosurgery capability is in its final stages, with an expected completion date in late March, 2022. This state-of-the-art linear accelerator replaces an older accelerator in the department of Clinical and Radiation Oncology, which is equipped with a total of five linear accelerators. This is the largest department in the country, delivering more than 50,000 radiation therapy sessions each year.

SKMCH&RC, Lahore now provides Stereotactic Radiosurgery (SRS) for lesions in the brain and other parts of the body, using the most advanced Linear Accelerator (LINAC) based system. This allows all our cancer patients to access world-class radiotherapy, regardless of their ability to pay. The TrueBeam linear accelerator is capable of delivering radiation therapy using a precisely focused radiation beam to treat tumours, as well as other abnormalities, in the brain, neck, lungs, liver, spine and other areas with a high degree of accuracy, while minimising damage to surrounding normal tissues. It is faster and more accurate than older technologies, delivering radiation to targets as small as 0.5 millimetres, usually in less than 15 minutes. SRS with LINAC is a non-invasive procedure, is safer than traditional surgery, and patients can resume normal activities almost immediately. At SKMCH&RC, we aim to continuously upgrade our equipment and technology, so as to be able to provide the best possible treatment to all our patients.



### Construction Update for SKMCH&RC, Karachi



Construction Area	Structural Works Percentage Completed*
<b>Main Hospital Building</b>	
➤ Lower Ground Floor	100%
➤ Ground Floor	100%
➤ First Floor	100%
➤ Second Floor	75%
➤ Third Floor	08%
Walk-in Clinic	100%
Administration Building	67%
Radiation Bunkers	86%
Parking Plaza	55%
*End-February 2022.	