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PAKISTAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



Ref: No. 005/PMAC/2021
April 14, 2021

Mr. Asad Umar
Honorable, Federal Minister for Planning,
Development, Reforms and Special Initiatives
Government of Pakistan
Islamabad.

Dear Sir,

Respected Asad Umar Sahib,

Pakistan Medical Association (PMA) is a national organization representing medical fraternity of Pakistan. PMA works for the betterment of patients and physicians and it also acts to achieve the highest possible standards of medical care, ethics, education and health-related human rights for all people.

From the day one, PMA has been very vocal over the Coronavirus issue. It has been again and again requesting people to follow the preventive measures and also suggesting government to implement SOPs strictly to prevent Covid-19 in the country.

We are once again very much concerned over the seriousness of the Covid situation in the country, which is worsening day by day. The number of patients is rapidly increasing in Punjab and KPK. The situation in Sind is better than other provinces but we fear that it could gradually deteriorate in Sind also.

Even at this appalling situation, when burden of Covid-19 over healthcare workers and hospitals is mounting, doctors are serving the nation with courage, honesty and dedication but unfortunately they are not getting vaccinated. The priority registration of doctors has been suspended since 17th March. Even the page for priority registration for doctors has been removed from the website. This suspension is very distressing for medical fraternity. It is drooping down their moral. They are very much disturbed and feel discouraged. This is only Pakistan in the world where medics are going through this gloomy situation. They are the frontline soldiers who are fighting without being protected. By now 193 doctors and 30 paramedics have lost their lives (the list of shaheed doctors & paramedics is attached).

Now there is no debate that doctors are hesitant to get vaccinated, they are eagerly willing to be vaccinated. We request you to immediately restore the priority registration of healthcare workers for vaccination to protect them from the deadly virus, so that they can serve the nation with courage and peace of mind.

Secondly PMA feels that our process of vaccination is very slow, the process of registration through 1166 is a perplexing process so we suggest that availability of Computerized National Identity Card should be made mandatory, people be vaccinated under a walk-in facility and register people at the vaccination centers. WE should vaccinate 70 to 75% population as soon as possible to eliminate Corona in the country. If the vaccination process is not expedited it might take years to achieve the goals of vaccination campaign and we could face the Polio like situation. We also request you to put an end to age limit for speedy vaccination.

We look forward to have an early and positive response from you Sir.

Sincerely

Dr. S.M. Qaisar Sajjad
Secretary General
Pakistan Medical Association (Centre)
Cell No.0331-2223770

