

Proposal for

eHealth Awareness and Advocacy Seminars

Partners and Organizers:

- eHealth Association of Pakistan, (eHAP)
- National Health Management Information System, Ministry of Health- Islamabad
- Pakistan Institute of Medical Sciences - Islamabad
- Health Informatics Department, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology
- Holy Family Hospital, Rawalpindi
- Aga Khan University, Karachi
- Aman Foundation, Karachi
- Provincial Health Departments, Punjab/KPK/Sindh/Balochistan.
- ICT RnD Fund, Ministry of Information Technology

Introduction

- eHealth refers to the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for improving health services, health information, and capacity of healthcare providers.
- There is well established evidence to suggest the impact of eHealth and its applications, such as Telemedicine or Telehealth, Health Informatics, mobile Health (mHealth) and eLearning.
- With current growth in ICT, it is possible to expand the use of eHealth to more parts of Pakistan, but this would require evidence of success in local context using sound methodologies to convince the policy-makers at institutional and government levels.
- The eHealth Association of Pakistan (eHAP) a non-profit organization was formed in 2008, with aim to;
 - share and enhance knowledge regarding eHealth in Pakistan;
 - advocate policy support for broader implementation of eHealth programs
 - bring together eHealth experts and other stakeholders from different parts of Pakistan on a single platform.
- eHealth Association of Pakistan (eHAP) is the flag bearer of eHealth activities in Pakistan. It is the group of stakeholders from Health, Technology, Telecommunications and Industry groups to lead eHealth activities in Pakistan. eHAP is National representative member for International Society of Telemedicine and eHealth (ISfTeH) and International Medical Informatics Association (IMIA) in Pakistan
- National Health Management Information System, Ministry of Health- Islamabad is working with any objective to assist mid and senior health managers in making more informed decisions, lead by National HMIS/Disease Surveillance Cell, in coordination with Provisional HMIS Cells.

Background and Rationale for conducting the Seminar

With current growth in Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), it is possible to expand the use of eHealth to more parts of Pakistan, but this would require awareness of eHealth, evidence of success in local context using sound methodologies to convince the policy-makers at institutional and government levels. It is also important to look for culturally and socially appropriate solutions for the country. Current level of awareness and evidence does not provide convincing support to eHealth activities due to lack of properly designed research studies and evaluations. As use of ICTs in Pakistan is growing, reduction in Internet charges, lowering of hardware cost and high penetration of mobile connectivity is providing a fertile ground for ICTs to be used in Health sector.

Proposed Seminars/Workshops Program:

The concept and vision of eHealth is yet to be widely disseminated in the health sector. In view of the rapid expansion in use of ICT for health promotion this area needs more focus and ownership. Towards this goal, eHealth Association of Pakistan (eHAP) in association with National Health Management Information Program of Ministry of Health and other partners intends to organize a set of four 'one day advocacy seminars' in 3 provincial capitals Lahore, Peshawar and Quetta and Hyderabad. The program will be a mix of presentations (conducted by eHAP Members and eHealth experts) along with interactive discussions with the participants.

Seminar Objectives

- To promote eHealth awareness among health and IT related Institutions and organizations.
- To build collaboration among institutions and promote eHealth development in Pakistan.
- To look for possibility of Collaborative projects.

Beneficiary of Seminars/Workshops:

Healthcare providers, Managers, and clinicians, IT professionals, informatics researchers, Students, Staff, Faculty, Government Health Care officials and Policy makers.

| July 30, 2011 | | | |
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| Time | Event | | Venue |
| 9:00-9:15 | Introduction to Seminar | Dr.Haroon Roedad Khan President eHAP | Shams Auditorium |
| 9:15 - 9:30 | Welcome Address | Dr. Asif Zafar Malik | |
| 9:30 -10:00 | Address by ICT RnD | Mr. Mohammed Ahmed | |
| 10:00- 10:15 | University of Health Sciences and eHealth | Porf. Dr. Malik Hussain Mubbashar VC/CE UHS | |
| 10:15- 10:30 | Address by Chief Guest | Mr. Mohammad Jahanzeb, Secretary Health Punjab | |
| 10:30-11:00 | | Tea Break | Dining Hall |
| Theme: Initiatives on Information Management in Pakistan | | | |
| 11:00-11:25 | HMIS System in Pakistan | Dr. S. M. Mursalin | |
| 11:25-11:50 | Challenges of setting HMIS in a public sector Hospital | Dr. Kamran Hussain | |
| 11:50-12:15 | Health Information Management at Primary Care in Mardan, KPK | Dr. Shabina Raza | |
| 12:15-12:40 | eHealth in Nursing Care in Pakistan | Ms.Saleema Gulzar | |
| 12:40-13:05 | HMIS in Pakistan | Dr Haroon | |
| 13:05-14:00 | | Lunch | Dining Hall |
| Theme: Initiatives on eHealth for Care Provision | | | |
| 14:00-14:15 | eHealth at Primary care in Gilgit Baltistan | Dr. Hammad Durrani | |
| 14:15-14:30 | Telemedicine/eHealth program at Holy Family Hospital | Dr. Asif Zafar | |
| 14:30-14:45 | Telemedicine initiatives at COMSATS | Dr. Azeema Fareed | |
| 14:45-15:00 | Initiatives by Sehat First in Karachi | Dr. Shahida Saleem | |
| 15:00-15:15 | Aman Telehealth Services | Dr.Zahid Ali Faheem | |
| 15:15-15:45 | Tea Break | | Dining Hall |
| Theme: Towards eHealth strategy for Pakistan | | | |
| 15:45-16:00 | Telehealth/eHealth Strategy for Pakistan | | |
| 16:00-17:00 | Group Discussion Leads | - Dr. Haroon Khan - Dr. S. M. Mursalin | |
| 17:00 | Final remarks | Dr. Aijaz Patoli | |