

PAD Silver Jubilee Special

History of dermatology in Pakistan

Ijaz Hussain

Department of Dermatology, King Edward Medical College/Mayo Hospital, Lahore

“Those who do not remember their past are condemned to repeat it.” Santayana

Pakistan emerged as a sovereign country on world map on 14th August, 1947. Like all walks of life, there was acute shortage of medical and health facilities in the new born state. The majority of specialist doctors and teachers were Hindus and had left for India. There were only two medical colleges, King Edward Medical College, Lahore and Dow Medical College, Karachi, with no postgraduate medical institute in the whole country. Although, venereology out-patient clinics were run in the major hospitals, there was not a single qualified dermatologist at that time. Five to six lectures covering the common dermatological diseases were delivered by the internists. It can be said that dermatology, as a specialty, virtually started from scratch.

For descriptive purposes, three general periods of dermatology in Pakistan can be distinguished, from 1947 to 1975, from 1976 to 2000 and then from 2001 onwards.

From 1947 to 1975: Early progress

During the period from 1947 to 1975, a few names, who pioneered dermatology in

Address for correspondence

Dr. Ijaz Hussain,
Associate Professor,
Department of Dermatology, Unit I,
King Edward Medical College/Mayo
Hospital, Lahore, Pakistan.
Email: dr_ijazhussain@yahoo.com

Abbreviations used in the article

CPSP College of Physicians & Surgeons Pakistan

FCPS Fellow College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan

JPAD Journal of Pakistan Association of Dermatologists

KEMC King Edward Medical College

MCPS Member College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan

PAD Pakistan Association of Dermatologists

PMDC Pakistan Medical and Dental Council

public sector, teaching hospitals and military medical services, stand out prominently. These are Dr. Nusrat Ali Shaikh, Prof. Syed Ghulam Shabbir, Brig. Dr. Syed Muhammad Jaffer, Lt. General Mahboob Ahmad and Dr. Dur-e-Kamil.

Considering the scarcity of qualified dermatologists in the country, two class fellows and graduates of 1948 from KEMC, Lahore, opted for dermatology as postgraduate subject. Dr. Nusrat Ali Shaikh and Dr. Syed Ghulam Shabbir did their MRCP (Edinburgh) with dermatology as special subject in 1955 and 1957, respectively.

After returning from UK, Dr. Shaikh (**Figure 1**) joined the Skin and Social Hygiene Centre, Karachi. This was the first institute in public sector established for care of dermatological patients in 1952. He served as director of the center from 1956 to 1978. He, along with Prof. Syed Ghulam

Shabbir, started MCPS in dermatology. He was the founder President of the Pakistan Association of Dermatologists but unfortunately died a year later in 1980.

Another legend of that era was Prof. Syed Ghulam Shabbir (**Figure 2**). He succeeded in establishing dermatology as an independent specialty in a teaching hospital in 1960 when a 20-bedded in-patient ward was started in Mayo Hospital, Lahore. He was the first Assistant Professor of the subject in the country. Dr. Tahir Saeed Haroon happened to be the first medical officer in the new-born unit. In 1964, the first chair in dermatology was created and Dr. Syed Ghulam Shabbir was elevated as Professor of Dermatology. Due to his tireless efforts the department was relocated to a larger new building and the bed strength was increased to 56 in 1970. A leprosy clinic was added in 1972. He also started the histopathology laboratory on self-help basis. He described a genodermatosis 'laryngo-onycho-cutaneous syndrome *syn.* Shabbir syndrome' in Punjabi children, which is characterized by refractory, granulating erosions affecting periorificial areas, laryngeal, ocular and genital mucosa and early decaying teeth. After his retirement in 1987, Prof. Shabbir served as Professor Emeritus till his death in 2002. He trained many MCPS and MD students in the subject.

The history of military dermatology is also rich in eminent dermatologists. Major (later Brigadier) Dr. Syed Muhammad Jaffer (**Figure 3**) was the pioneer. He graduated from the King Edward Medical College, Lahore in 1944 and joined the military services in the same year. He trained in dermatology with Dr. Stephen Gold at the

British Medical Hospital, Bangalore, and at St. John's Institute, London from 1948 to 1950 and then set up dermatology services at Military Hospital, Rawalpindi. He was an early Vice President of PAD. He participated actively in postgraduate training and organized MCPS in dermatology. His trainees included Major (later Lt. General) Mahboob Ahmad and Major (later Major General) Ashfaq Ahmad Khan. He headed the department till his retirement in November, 1977, except for a brief period from 1963 to 1964. He was replaced by Major Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad Khan in 1977.

Late Lt. General Mahboob Ahmad (**Figure 4**) did his MRCP (Edinburgh) in 1963. He led the department at military Hospital, Rawalpindi for a brief period from 1963 to 1964. He was then transferred to internal medicine department. Remaining out of the mainstream, he practiced, taught and supported dermatology. He served as Vice President of PAD, as well.

Dr. Dur-e-Kamil (**Figure 5**) will be remembered as the founder of dermatology in NWFP. He also graduated from the KEMC in 1955 and did his fellowship in dermatology from Canada in 1966. He was posted as Consultant Dermatologist at Lady Reading Hospital, Peshawar. Later, he helped with the establishment of leprosy unit at Mission Hospital, Peshawar. He was actively involved in imparting postgraduate training in dermatology at Lady Reading Hospital, Peshawar and had many publications to his credit. He died in 1990.

Dr. Abdul Basit is credited to be the founder dermatologist in the East Pakistan. He founded the first dermatological society



Figure 1 Dr. Nusrat Ali Shaikh, the founder President of PAD (1979).



Figure 3 Brig. Syed Muhammad Jaffer, the pioneer of dermatology in the military. Vice President, PAD.

(which later became the Bangladesh Dermatological Society) at Dhaka, in 1962.

From 1976 to 2000

This period marked the dawn of golden era in the history of dermatology when the second generation of dermatologists was ready to take over. Out of a score of dermatologists at that time, two names, Dr. Tahir Saeed Haroon and Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad Khan, stand out. These two contemporaries played a vital role in the recognition and proliferation of the specialty. Structured postgraduate training of FCPS was started

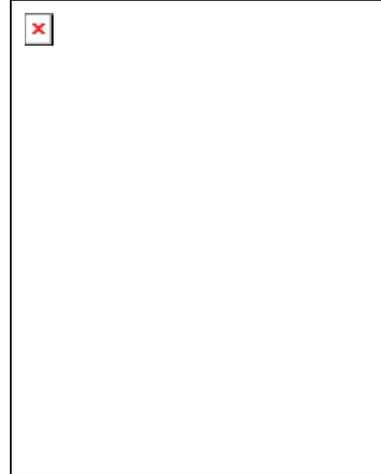


Figure 2 Professor Syed Ghulam Shabbir, the founder of the first teaching dermatology department in Pakistan. President PAD (1980-84).



Figure 4 Lt. General Mahboob Ahmad, another eminent figure of military dermatology. Vice President, PAD.

and Pakistan Association of Dermatologists was founded during this period.

Prof. Tahir Saeed Haroon (**Figure 6**) can be called a Champion of dermatology in Pakistan. Prof. Haroon, an alumnus of 1961 from King Edward Medical College, Lahore, did his MRCP from Glasgow in 1973. During his stay in UK, he trained with Dr. Alan Lyell (famous for Lyell's disease) and later served as a consultant

dermatologist at Bradford, West Yorkshire, only the second Pakistani to do so at the time. After returning to Pakistan in 1976, he established the department of dermatology at Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre, Karachi. As a real academician, he started courses for MCPS dermatology and then along with General (R) Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad Khan organized FCPS dermatology. He was the co-founder of PAD along with Dr. Nusrat Ali Shaikh, serving as the first General Secretary. He also organized the first PAD National Conference at Karachi in 1982. In 1989, Prof. Haroon moved to the King Edward Medical College, Lahore to head the department of dermatology at Mayo Hospital, Lahore. With him, the centre of dermatological activities shifted from Karachi to Lahore. The vision, vitality and enthusiasm of Prof. Haroon transformed the Mayo dermatology unit into a state of the art department. The existing facilities were upgraded and new sections pertaining to dermatopathology, mycology, immunofluorescence, laser, patch test, dermatosurgery, audiovisual aids and library were added. He was a true research worker and academician. He authored more than one hundred articles published in peer-reviewed national and international journals and various books besides contributing chapters to a number of textbooks. He trained 40 FCPS, 30 MCPS and 1 MD student. Even after his retirement in 2002, he remains the driving force behind the dermatology affairs of the country, PAD and JPAD. He is currently the President of the PAD, having served in the same capacity from 1984 to 1988.

Maj. General Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad Khan (**Figure 7**), also a graduate of KEMC, in

1964, was basically an internist who later on received training in dermatology from UK. He was an excellent clinician and academician. He emphasized the significance of core knowledge of medicine for the externists. He upheld the standards of postgraduate qualification in dermatology. He was co-organizer of FCPS (dermatology) in Pakistan. Under his command, Military Hospital, Rawalpindi became a centre of excellence in Pakistan. He trained many MCPS, FCPS and MD (dermatology) students. General Ashfaq was President, PAD from 1997 to 1998. He was succeeded by Brig. Simeen Ber Rahman in 1999.

During 1970's, many new medical colleges and postgraduate institutes were established in the country. This ushered the opening of new avenues for the young dermatologists in the country. New departments were set up and new teaching posts were created.

Amongst the contemporaries of that period who merit mention are Prof. Iqbal Chaudhary [**Figure 8**] (Nishtar Medical College, Multan), Prof. Zafar Ahmad (Dow Medical College/Civil Hospital, Karachi), Dr. Aleem Saeed Qureshi [**Figure 9**] (The Aga Khan Medical University, Karachi), Dr. Mahmud Hasan Zubairy (Karachi), Prof. Ali Khan Tareen [**Figure 10**] (Bolan Medical College, Quetta), Dr. Manzoor ul Hasan (KEMC, Lahore), Prof. Abdul Ghafoor Qamar [**Figure 11**] (Quaid-e-Azam Medical College, Bahawalpur), Prof. Raza Muhammad Khan [**Figure 12**] (Khyber Medical College, Peshawar), Dr. Khadimullah Kakakhel (Khyber Medical College, Peshawar), Dr. Javed Anwer (Liaquat Medical University, Hyderabad), Dr. Hamid Zaib Khan (CDA Hospital,



Figure 5 Dr. Dure-e-Kamil, the first Consultant Dermatologist in the North Western Frontier Province. Vice President, PAD.



Figure 7 Major General Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad Khan, a legend in the military dermatology and President, PAD (1997-1998).

Islamabad) and many others. All these strived hard for the recognition and upgradation of dermatology in their respective institutions.

Dr. Aleem Saeed Qureshi was the first Joint Secretary of PAD, later General Secretary. He along with Prof. TS Haroon drafted its constitution. A graduate from Nishtar Medical College, Multan, in 1960, did his MCPS in dermatology in 1977. He then joined the Aga Khan University, Karachi as



Figure 6 Professor Tahir Saeed Haroon, a legendary teacher and academician and founding General Secretary of PAD. President, PAD (1985-1988 & 2002-2004).



Figure 8 Professor Iqbal Choudhary, a respected Senior Dermatologist. President, PAD (1989-1992)

a consultant dermatologist. He was very actively involved in the affairs of PAD till his death in 1995.

Dr. Khurshid Hassan Alvi (**Figure 13**) has also been closely associated with PAD since its early days. Later he served as President from 1998 to 2000.

In 1996, the first unit of Pediatric dermatology was established at Institute of Child Health, Lahore, by Dr. Farhana Muzaffar.



Figure 9 Dr. (late) Aleem Saeed Qureshi, the founding Joint Secretary of PAD. Later General Secretary. A moving force behind PAD.

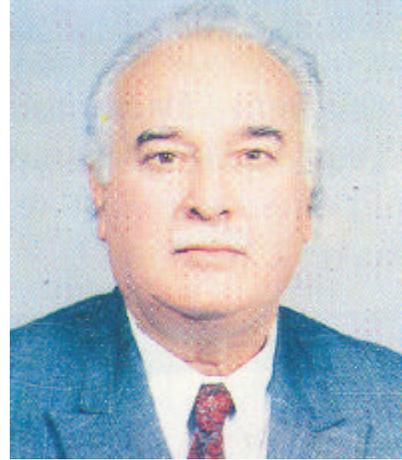


Figure 10 Professor Ali Khan Tareen, the founder of dermatology in Baluchistan. President, PAD (1993-1994)



Figure 11 Prof. Abdul Ghafoor Qamar, President, PAD (2001-2002)



Figure 12 Prof. Raza Muhammad Khan, one of the pioneers in dermatology in NWFP. President, PAD (1995-1996).



Figure 13 Dr. Khurshid Hasan Alvi, President, PAD (1999-2000).

From 2001 onwards

Since 2001, dermatology has gained sufficient momentum to keep it progressing in the fields of clinical work, research and academics. After the retirement of Prof. Tahir Saeed Haroon in 2002, Dr. Sabrina Suhail succeeded him at the Mayo Hospital. In 2004, an additional chair was created, currently occupied by Prof. Atif Hasnain Kazmi. In 2004, Prof. Atif Hasnain Kazmi inaugurated the first teledermatology unit at Mayo Hospital, Lahore.

Other principal figures of the third generation of dermatologists include Dr. Zarnaz Wahid (Dow Medical College/Civil Hospital, Karachi), Prof. Muhammad Jahangir (Allama Iqbal Medical College/Jinnah Hospital, Lahore), Prof. Muhammad Azam Bokhari (Punjab Medical College, Faisalabad), Prof. Iqbal Tareen (Bolan Medical College, Quetta), Prof. Ghulam Mujtaba (Nishtar Medical College, Multan), Dr. Muhammad Khalid (Quaid-e-Azam Medical College, Bahawalpur), Dr. Tariq Rashid (Allama Iqbal Medical College/Jinnah Hospital, Lahore), Dr. Shahid Javaid Akhtar (Punjab Medical College, Faisalabad), Dr. Hamid Zaki, Dr. Naseema Kapadia (Abbasi Shaheed Hospital, Karachi), Dr. Yasmeena Khan (Liaquat National Hospital, Karachi), Dr. Sharaf Ali Shah (Civil Hospital, Karachi), Dr. Badr Dhanani (Institute of Skin Diseases, Karachi), Dr. Naeem Iqbal (KV SITE Hospital, Karachi), Dr. Daulat Ram Pinjani and Dr. Manzoor Memon (Institute of Skin Diseases, Karachi), Prof. S.M. Shamim (Baqai Medical University, Karachi), and many more, all spiritual heirs to Prof. Tahir Saeed Haroon. Other prominent names are Prof. Azer Rashid (Khyber Medical College, Peshawar), Dr. Zubair Khan and Dr. Mairaj Muhammad Khan (Lady Reading Hospital, Peshawar), Dr. Abdul Mannan Bhutto (Chandka Medical College, Larkana), and Dr. Imranullah Khan (Ayub Medical College, Abbotabad).

Since 1999, the military dermatology has been led by Brig. Dr. Simeen Ber Rahman. She has been actively engaged in research activities especially leishmaniasis and has

been instrumental in upgradation of her department.

Other worth mentioning stalwarts of military dermatology are Col. Ahsan Hameed, Col. Khalid Hussain, Col. Rehanuddin, Col. Syed Dilawar Hussain, Col. Zafar Iqbal Sheikh and Col. Nasser Rashid Dar.

In 2004, Dr. Shahbaz A. Janjua, in collaboration with Dr. Ian McColl (Australia) and Dr. Jayakar Thomas (India) launched an on-line dermatology atlas (www.globalatlas.com) depicting the ethnic diversity of dermatoses.

Table 1 highlights the milestones in the history of dermatology in Pakistan.

Dermatology community today

Currently there are around 420 practicing dermatologists in the country (one dermatologist per 350000 population), in contrast to none in 1947 and a score in 1970's. The majority is in the private sector and in the larger cities so that the big cities are oversaturated whereas the rural areas and smaller towns (where the 70% of country's population dwells) are underserved. Socioeconomic factors and the government policies are partly responsible for this uneven distribution. Separate dermatology departments are functioning in almost all medical colleges in the public sector whereas only a few in the private sector have the dermatology faculty. These departments are manned by properly qualified teachers. A few departments are equipped with lasers, phototherapy units, dermatosurgery theatres, patch testing facilities and mycology and histopathology

Table 1 Milestones in the history of dermatology in Pakistan

<i>Year</i>	<i>Event</i>
1947	Pakistan came into being
1950	Brig. S.M. Jaffer first trainee in dermatology abroad.
1952	Skin and Social Hygiene Centre, Karachi established. First dermatology institution in the country.
1955	Dr. Nusrat Ali Sheikh became first qualified dermatologist Prof. Syed Ghulam Shabbir did MRCP, the second qualified dermatologist.
1960	First teaching dermatological unit established at KEMC/Mayo Hospital, Lahore.
1962	• Dr. Abdul Basit established the Dermatology Association in East Pakistan • Dermatology department created at the Military Hospital, Rawalpindi.
1964	First chair of dermatology at KEMC/Mayo Hospital, Lahore.
1966	Dr. Dur-e-Kamil appointed as first Consultant Dermatologist at Lady Reading Hospital, Peshawar
1970	MCPS dermatology started by College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan.
1972	Dermatology department established at Dow Medical College/Civil Hospital, Karachi.
1973	Dermatology department established at Nishtar Medical College/Nishtar Hospital, Multan by Prof. Iqbal Chaudhary.
1975	First MCPS dermatology qualified.
1976	• Prof. Tahir Saeed Haroon founded department of dermatology at Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre, Karachi. • Dermatology department created at Khyber Medical College, Peshawar by Prof. Raza Muhammad Khan.
1977	Major Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad Khan joined Military Hospital, Rawalpindi.
1978	Dermatology department established at Bolan Medical College, Quetta by Dr. Ali Khan Tareen.
1979	Pakistan Association of Dermatologists launched
1982	• First National Conference of dermatology under the aegis of PAD • Dermatology departments created at Services Hospital, Lahore and Liaquat National Hospital, Hyderabad
1983	Dermatology department started at Punjab Medical College/DHQ hospital, Faisalabad
1984	Dermatology department started at Quaid-e-Azam Medical College, Bahawalpur
1986	• FCPS dermatology started by College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan • Dermatology department created at Fatima Jinnah Medical College/Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, Lahore
1989	Prof. Haroon moved to King Edward Medical College/Mayo Hospital, Lahore
1990	• First FCPS dermatology qualified • Dermatology department created at Ayub Medical College, Abbottabad
1991	First issue of JPAD published
1994	Dermatology department at Allama Iqbal Medical/Jinnah Hospital, Lahore
1995	First laser in public sector installed at department of dermatology, Mayo Hospital, Lahore
1996	First unit of Pediatric dermatology started at the Institute of Child Health, Lahore
1998	JPAD recognized by Pakistan Medical and Dental Council
2000	Maj. General Dr. Ashfaq Ahmad Khan retired
2002	Prof. Tahir Saeed Haroon retired
2004	• First teledermatology unit inaugurated at Mayo Hospital, Lahore • First on-line atlas of ethnic dermatoses launched • JPAD made available on-line • Silver Jubilee conference of PAD at Karachi

laboratories. Private sector is sharing the burden of cosmetic dermatology; however, the academic activities are mainly confined

to the teaching hospitals. Different departments round the country are actively involved in imparting postgraduate training

for MD, FCPS and DCPS in dermatology. At present there are 7 chairs in dermatology in the whole country.

Foundation of Pakistan Association of Dermatologists

Pakistan Association of Dermatologists (PAD) came into being in January, 1979. The idea to provide a forum for the dermatologists of the country to meet together and their colleagues from allied disciplines was conceived by Dr. Nusrat Ali Shaikh, Dr. Tahir Saeed Haroon, Dr. Aleem Saeed Qureshi and Dr. Zarina Fazal Bhoy. The constitution was drafted by Dr. Tahir Saeed Haroon and Dr. Aleem Saeed Qureshi. Other objectives of this forum were to hold regular meetings to discuss clinical dermatology and present scientific papers on dermatology and relevant subjects, to improve patient care, to encourage research in dermatology, to promote teaching of dermatology to the medical postgraduates and undergraduates and to formulate policies on matters of dermatological interest in Pakistan and bring them to the notice of the Government and other relevant authorities. Karachi was selected as the Headquarter of the Association. The first office bearers of this nascent association were Dr. Nusrat Ali Shaikh (President), Dr. Tahir Saeed Haroon (General Secretary), Dr. Aleem Saeed Qureshi (Joint Secretary), Dr. Dr. Mrs. Malik Tharani (Treasurer), Prof. Syed Ghulam Shabbir (Chairman Editorial Board) and Dr. Zarina Fazal Bhoy, Dr. Jalil Siddiqui, Dr. A. Sajid Khan and Dr. Iqbal A. Chaudhary as Executive members.

At the time of inception, PAD comprised of only 33 members. Over the years it grew

and currently in 2004, it has 225 members in its fold. The first national conference of Dermatology was held at Karachi in 1982 whereas the first International Conference was organized at Rawalpindi in 1983. Since 1982, these annual conferences have become a regular event. These are attended by a large number of delegates not only from Pakistan but also from other countries. These conferences provide interaction between senior academicians and youngsters and promote continuous medical education programme. New office bearers are selected after every two years in the general body meeting. So far 12 biennial and 10 annual conferences have been organized. In December, 2004, PAD is holding its Silver Jubilee Conference at Karachi, where it originated 25 years ago.

Besides annual conferences, PAD has been actively involved in various academic and clinical activities. Monthly clinical meetings are held in different cities in which interesting clinical cases are discussed and lectures are delivered on dermatological and allied subjects by the dermatologists and other eminent personalities. Youngsters are particularly encouraged to participate. Courses and seminars on dermatology are arranged for family physicians. Free consultation camps are held in outreach areas to provide free clinical consultation and drugs.

Various recommendations are sent to the government, from time to time. A scheme to provide financial assistance to postgraduate trainees is under consideration. PAD is also a member of International League of Dermatological Societies (ILDS) and South

Asian Regional Association of Dermatology (SARAD).

Associate d dermatological organizations

In 1996, the alumni of Bangkok Institute of Dermatology, Thailand gathered under the forum of Association of Bangkok Alumni of Dermatology (ABAD). ABAD comprises of 51 members and it holds regular annual meetings.

Welfare Association for Dermatological Patients (WADeP) was started by Dr. Manzoor Memon, Karachi. In collaboration with local NGOs, it holds fortnightly free skin camps in the out reach rural areas of Sindh Province. So far, around 600 such camps have been arranged in the interior Sindh.

Journal of Pakistan Association of Dermatologists

Journal of Pakistan Association of Dermatologists (JPAD) is the official journal of the association. Published quarterly, it primarily aims at documenting the local research. The first issue of JPAD was made public in 1991 by Dr. Sharaf Ali Shah (**Figure 14**) who continued to publish it against great odds for the next five years. In 1997, Dr. Yasmeena Khan (**Figure 15**) took over as the editor of JPAD. Due to her tireless efforts the standard of the journal was improved and it was published regularly. It was recognized by PMDC in 1998. In 1999 it was registered with ISSN and indexed in Embase/ Excerpta Medica, Netherlands, and Index Medicus WHO Alexandria, Egypt. In the year 2000 it was included in Extramed consortium in UK. In



Figure 14 Dr. Sharaf Ali Shah, the first Editor of JPAD (1990-1996)



Figure 15 Dr. Yasmeena Khan, Editor, JPAD from 1997 to 2003.



Figure 16 Dr. Ijaz Hussain, the current editor

the following year it was listed in Ulrich's Periodicals Directory, New Jersey USA and in Indian National Scientific Documentation Centre Delhi, India. In 2003 Dr. Yasmeena Khan was succeeded by the author [IH] (**Figure 16**). Recently, the on-line version of

JPAD (www.jpap.org.pk) has been launched.

Undergraduate education

Dermatology has not been an examination subject; hence, its teaching has not been so regular and uniform. Recently, Pakistan Medical and Dental Council has conferred on dermatology the status of essential specialty for undergraduates, the new curriculum is in the preparatory phase and it is hoped that it would be implemented in true letter and spirit.

Postgraduate education

At the time of independence, in 1947, there was scarcity of health facilities including an acute shortage of medical teachers and specialists. There was no postgraduate medical institution in the country. Although Punjab University awarded MD and MS degrees, medical graduates had to proceed to UK for higher medical education. Government of Pakistan responded to this challenge by establishing College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan (CPSP) on the pattern of Royal Colleges of UK in 1962. The objective was to introduce and promote postgraduate specialization in the country. CPSP started postgraduate qualification at two levels i.e. Membership (MCPS - Member College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan) and Fellowship (FCPS - Fellow College of Physicians and Surgeons Pakistan). MCPS was aimed at providing district level specialists and FCPS to provide teachers in the medical colleges.

MCPS and FCPS in dermatology were started in 1970 and 1986, respectively. Dr.

Ch. Muhammad Rashid, who qualified in 1975, was the first MCPS in dermatology. Similarly, Col. (R) Dr. Ahsan Hameed has the honour to be the first FCPS in dermatology in 1990. Till the year 2004, 160 MCPS and 75 FCPS dermatology were registered with CPSP and these constitute the major bulk of dermatologists in the country. Others hold MRCP (UK), American board/diplomat in dermatology, diploma in dermatology from St. John's Institute of Dermatology, London, diploma in dermatology from Bangkok, Thailand and diploma in dermatology from Singapore, masters in dermatology from UK and diploma/fellowship in dermatology and venereology from Austria.

Research and publications

Research activities, mainly clinical, have been largely confined to the teaching hospitals. Nonetheless, research in areas of mycology and leishmaniasis has been of a high standard and it has been acknowledged world over.

The culture of medical writing has not flourished; nevertheless, there have been individual efforts, mostly from teaching institutions. There has been intermittent flow of research articles published in the peer-reviewed journals, many of them have been indexed in MEDLINE. A number of treatises and monographs have been authored (**Table 2**).

Table 2 Books and monographs written by Pakistani dermatologists

<i>Book/monograph</i>	<i>Author/editor</i>
ABC of Dermatology (nine editions)	Prof. Tahir Saeed Haroon
Skin and Systemic Disease	Prof. Tahir Saeed Haroon
Amraz-e-Jild (Urdu)	Prof. Tahir Saeed Haroon
Common Skin Diseases	Prof. Tahir Saeed Haroon
Skin Diseases (Specialist Quarterly)	Prof. Tahir Saeed Haroon
Skin Diseases -2 (Specialist Quarterly)	Prof. Tahir Saeed Haroon
Skin Cancer (Specialist Quarterly)	Prof. Tahir Saeed Haroon
Chamri Jon Bimaryun (Sindhi)	Prof. Tahir Saeed Haroon and Dr. Sulaiman Shaikh
MCQs in Dermatology	Prof. Tahir Saeed Haroon and Dr. Manzoor ul Hasan
Apras (Urdu)	Dr. Sharaf Ali Shah
Manual of Dermatology	Dr. Zohra Zaidi
An Atlas and Textbook of Pediatric Dermatology	Dr. Yasmeena Khan
Textbook of Dermatology	Dr. Khadimullah Kakakhel
A Monograph on the Management of Pemphigus	Dr. Shahid Javaid Akhtar
Management of Acne	Dr. Umair Mansoor Bajwa
Uses and Misuses of Topical Steroids	Dr. Umair Mansoor Bajwa
An Approach to Practice of Dermatology	Dr. Syed Muhammad Shamim
Amraz-e-Jild (Urdu)	Dr. Syed Muhammad Shamim

Future

Despite difficulties, dermatology in Pakistan has flourished and evolved into a well-respected independent specialty. Considering the vigour and potential of youngsters, the future of dermatology in Pakistan seems bright.

Acknowledgement

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