



International Workshop on Fundamental Techniques in Viral Diseases Diagnostics

Venue: COMSTECH Secretariat, Islamabad

January 25-27, 2021

Programme



Note: Timings of the program are in Pakistan Standard Time.

Day-1 (25th January 2021) - Monday

Inaugural Session

09:00 - 09:30	Registration
09:30-09:35	Recitation of the Holy Quran
09:35-09:40	Welcome to the Participants <i>Ms. Khazima Muazim</i>
09:40-10:05	Keynote Address <i>Prof. Dr. S. M. Wasim Jafri</i> <i>Professor of Medicine</i> <i>Aga Khan University, Pakistan</i>
10:05-10:20	Welcome Address <i>H.E. Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary H. I., S. I., T. I.</i> <i>Coordinator General, COMSTECH</i>
10:20-10:25	Vote of Thanks <i>Dr. Atia-tul-Wahab</i>
10:25-11:00 Tea Break	
Session I - Viral diseases, their origin, history and transmission <i>Chair: Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary H. I., S. I., T. I.</i>	
11:00-12:00	<i>Global clinical impact Diagnosis, treatment and prevention</i> <i>Prof. Dr. Wasim Jafri</i> <i>Aga Khan University Hospital</i>
12:00-13:00	<i>Virus Genomics and Evolution</i> <i>Prof. Dr. Di Liu</i> <i>Wuhan Institute of Virology, Chinese Academy of Sciences</i>
13:00 – 1400 Lunch and Prayer Break <i>Chair: Prof. Dr. Wasim Jafri</i>	
14:00-15:00	<i>Introduction to coronaviruses and development of Test system for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies</i> <i>Prof. Dr. Bertram Flehmig</i> <i>University of Tuebingen, Germany</i>
15:00-16:00	<i>SARS-CoV-2 Spike: A major determinant of viral infectivity and spread</i> <i>Prof. Dr. Daniel Sauter</i> <i>Institute for Medical Virology and Epidemiology of Viral Diseases</i> <i>University of Tuebingen, Germany</i>

Day-2 (26th January 2021) -Tuesday

Session II –Method development for viral detection and development of vaccines and application of existing drugs for treatment and prevention against viral diseases

Chair: Dr. Sumbla Farooq Sheikh

Co-chair: Dr. Atia-tul-Wahab

09:30-10:30	<i>Developing Methods for rapid detection of emerging viruses</i> Prof. Dr. Hongping Wei <i>Wuhan Institute of Virology, Chinese Academy of Sciences</i>
10:30-11:00	<i>Insights into SARS-CoV-2 polymerase catalysis and remdesivir intervention</i> Dr. Jiqin Wu <i>Wuhan Institute of Virology, Chinese Academy of Sciences</i>
11:00-11:40	<i>Current techniques and technologies in the clinical diagnosis of Arboviral diseases</i> Dr. Muhammad Rashid <i>National Institute of Virology, International Center for Chemical and Biological Sciences, Karachi, Pakistan</i>
11:40-12:20	<i>Viral hepatitis in Pakistan- Challenges and priorities</i> Dr. Saba Farooq <i>National Institute of Virology, International Center for Chemical and Biological Sciences, Karachi, Pakistan</i>
12:20-13:00	<i>Effectiveness of real-time PCR pool testing for screening of COVID-19 infection in Pakistan: A Practical Approach for the clinical laboratory testing</i> Dr. Ishaq Khan <i>Consultant PHRL</i> <i>Khyber Medical University, Pakistan</i>

13:00-14:00 *Lunch and Prayer Break*

Chair: Dr. Muhammad Rashid

Co-chair: Dr. Yan Wang

14:00-15:00	<i>Why SARS-CoV-2 caused a pandemic but not SARS-I and MERS and how different countries have dealt with it. Can we predict new corona virus pandemics?</i> Prof. Dr. Anders Vahlne, M.D., Ph.D. <i>Division of Clinical Microbiology</i> <i>Karolinska Institutet, Karolinska University Hospital</i> <i>Stockholm, Sweden</i>
15:00-15:30	<i>Immunopathogenesis of viral diseases</i> Dr. Almas Jabeen <i>Dr. Panjwani Center for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research, Karachi, Pakistan</i>

Session III – Preventive measures against the spread of viral diseases in health care professionals and state of the art diagnostic laboratory setup.

15:30-16:00	<i>Biosafety measures for effective prevention and protection against viral diseases in medical facilities</i> Dr. Haana Iqbal <i>National Institute of Virology, International Center for Chemical and Biological Sciences, Karachi, Pakistan</i>
-------------	---

Day-3 (27th January 2021) – Wednesday

Session IV – Development of novel therapeutic drugs and vaccination for treatment and prevention against viral diseases

<i>Chair: Dr. Saba Farooq</i> <i>Co-Chair: Dr. Almas Jabeen</i>	
14:00-14:30	<i>Existing strategies for vaccine development and combating novel viruses with special focus on COVID-19 pandemic. (online)</i> <i>Prof. Dr. Thomas Iftner</i> <i>Institute for Medical Virology and Epidemiology of Viral Diseases</i> <i>University of Tuebingen, Germany</i>
14:40-14:50	<i>Closing Session (on-line)</i>

