



BULLETIN

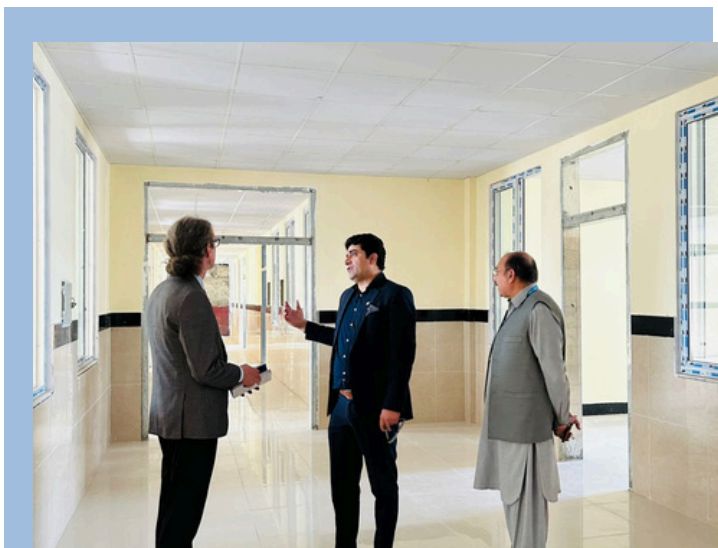


DISTRICT HEALTH OFFICE
HEALTH DEPARTMENT
MINISTRY OF NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICES REGULATIONS & COORDINATION
ISLAMABAD
December, 2024



UNICEF handed over a 50 KW hybrid solar system to Rural Health Center, Barakahu, Islamabad.

The system, installed by Solar Sigma, will provide sustainable power for improved healthcare services.



The District Health Officer, Health Department Islamabad, along with the Chief of Health, UNICEF, visited the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Center in Barakahu.

The visit focused on assessing the center's infrastructure and reviewing its potential functionality as part of efforts to prepare it for future operations.

This initiative reflects a commitment to establish accessible and quality healthcare services for mothers and children in the community, ensuring no one is left behind.



The Additional District Health Officer, Islamabad, chaired a meeting with NEOC representatives to discuss the pilot project for the Digital Information System for PEI (DISP). The initiative, targeting Islamabad, Sukkur, and Karachi, aimed to digitize tally sheets for improved accuracy and efficiency in polio eradication efforts. Geotagging of missed and refusal cases was highlighted as a key feature for targeted interventions. The project underscored a commitment to leveraging technology for public health advancements.



The District Health Office Islamabad held a transparent bid opening session for the procurement of furniture, fixtures, transport, and vehicles. The session saw active participation from reputable vendors, ensuring a competitive process aligned with procurement guidelines. This effort highlighted the office's dedication to transparency, efficiency, and improving health service delivery in Islamabad.



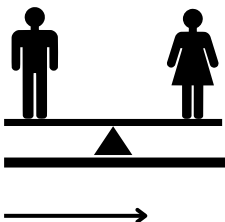
Refugee women are particularly vulnerable to gender-based violence (GBV), highlighting the urgency of united efforts. The District Health Office Islamabad collaborated with UNHCR, IOM Pakistan, UNFPA Pakistan, and other partners at the #16DaysOfActivism event to take a stand against GBV.



- Investing in education for women and girls
- Promoting women's leadership
- Providing support to GBV survivors



The District Health Office Islamabad, in partnership with Greenstar and @tciurbanhealth, organized bi-monthly Family Health Days at its Family Welfare Centers. These events provided free family planning methods and counseling, aiming to raise the Contraceptive Prevalence Rate to 60% and position ICT as a model district for reproductive health.





BIG Catch-Up immunization campaign

Participants, including community influencers, Lady Health Workers (LHWs), and health facility staff, were sensitized on the objectives and importance of these vital health initiatives, aiming to ensure every child is protected and no one is left behind.

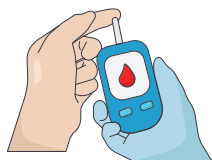


Samples from five patients were collected for laboratory tests for Hepatitis B/C, Dengue, Malaria, HIV, and UPT, and children were vaccinated.

Community engagement sessions were conducted at all health facilities in Islamabad to raise awareness about the BIG Catch-Up immunization campaign and routine immunization.



A free Mobile Health Screening Unit (MSHU) camp was held in Sihala on December 11, 2024, serving 98 patients, including 21 family planning clients.



Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Day



On Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Day, observed on December 12th, we reaffirm our commitment to the principle of **"Health for All."** UHC aims to ensure that everyone, regardless of their location or financial status, has access to the healthcare services they need without facing financial hardship. It covers a wide range of essential health services, from prevention and treatment to rehabilitation and palliative care.



This collaborative workshop focused on developing strategic plans for the next 4-5 years to strengthen immunization programs across Pakistan. Discussions centered on enhancing systems, addressing challenges, and implementing innovative strategies to improve immunization coverage nationwide.

The Gavi Joint Appraisal (JA) Workshop 2024, held at Ramada Islamabad, brought together representatives from UNICEF, WHO, the Federal Directorate of Immunization (FDI), and the Ministry of National Health Services, Regulations, and Coordination. The District Health Officer, Islamabad, and the Federal Health Secretary M/o NHSRC also participated in the event.





A Readiness Meeting for the SNID campaign (December 16-22, 2024) was held at the Chief Commissioner's Office, where the District Health Officer expressed confidence in the preparedness of frontline workers. The meeting highlighted the importance of collective effort to protect children and eradicate polio.



The District Health Officer Islamabad, Deputy Commissioner Islamabad, and Additional Deputy Commissioner (East) officially inaugurated the SNID campaign for December 2024 at the Islamabad Bus Terminal 26 Number Chungi. They administered polio drops to children, including those arriving from other cities



Key stakeholders, including the Additional District Health Officer from the District Health Office, WMOs, LHVs, in-charge medical officers from various health facilities, and representatives from Polyclinic, Jhpiego, and UNFPA, gathered for an insightful consultation on implementing a referral mechanism.



Participants reviewed the existing infrastructure, resources, and practices to identify gaps and lay the foundation for a stronger referral network. With clear pathways, decision-making tools, and defined networks, the initiative aimed to enhance healthcare delivery and ensure no patient was left behind.



The Additional District Health Officer (ADHO) led a meeting with Social Mobilizers and Family Welfare Assistants to enhance their field performance and improve service delivery. The session focused on strategies to increase contraceptive use, ensuring better access to family planning services for communities.

Participants shared the challenges they faced in their respective areas and discussed solutions for improving outreach and service provision. By working together, they aimed to provide families with the information and support needed to make informed choices about their reproductive health, with the goal of building healthier communities, one family at a time.



The 58th Meeting of the Quality Control Board, chaired by the Additional Secretary of MoNHSR&C, was held on December 17, 2024. Attendees included the Senior Inspector of Drugs (DHO) ICT, Additional District Health Officer (DHO) ICT Islamabad, Director of Quality Assurance and Lab (DRAP), and the Secretary of the Quality Control Board Islamabad.



The meeting reviewed 16 cases of violations, including pharmacies operating without valid licenses and selling expired medicines. Representatives from these pharmacies were present, and decisions were made, including the suspension of Drug Sale Licenses for some pharmacies and issuing warnings to others.



Sub-National Immunization Days (SNID) Polio Campaign



Dr. Shazia Gul (EPI In-charge) and Dr. Fawad (NSTOP Officer) actively monitored polio campaign activities across Islamabad, ensuring every child received vaccination.

The dedicated transit teams tirelessly administered polio drops, reaffirming the commitment to a Polio-Free Islamabad. District monitors played a crucial role by providing supportive supervision to their teams, working diligently to ensure no child was left behind.



The Bachelor of Science (BSc) in Midwifery Program was officially launched on December 19, 2024, in Islamabad. The event aimed to address Pakistan's high maternal mortality rate by introducing a comprehensive midwifery education program.



Dr. Mukhtar Malik, Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Health, graced the event as the Chief Guest. Other distinguished guests included the Director General (Health), Chief Health Officer of UNICEF, Director General Academics of HEC, Vice Chancellor of the Health Services Academy, the President of the Pakistan Nursing and Midwifery Council (PNMC), and the Additional District Health Officer (DHO) ICT.



The Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC) meeting was successfully conducted at the District Health Office, Islamabad. Chaired by Dr. Shazia Gul, Incharge EPI/PEI, the meeting addressed grievances regarding the procurement of stationery and miscellaneous store items.

The session emphasized transparency, fairness, and accountability in the resolution process, ensuring that all concerns were reviewed thoroughly with the involvement of all stakeholders.



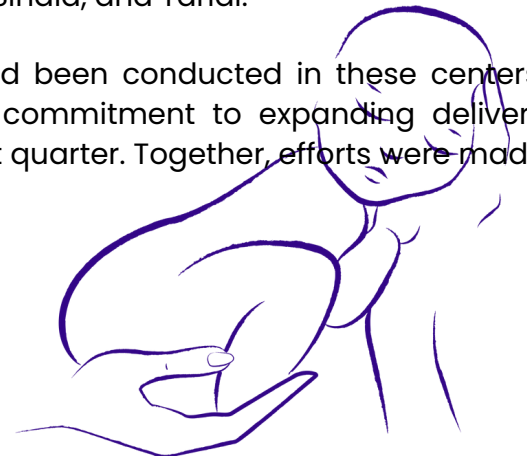


The District Health Office Islamabad organized a training session for the drivers of the DHO, including both newly recruited and experienced personnel. The session aimed to enhance the drivers' understanding of vehicle periodic maintenance, pre-driving and post-parking inspections, and the implementation of essential safety measures during road breakdowns. This training ensured that they were equipped to support healthcare operations smoothly while prioritizing their own safety and that of others on the road.



An annual review meeting on the 24/7 Basic Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (BEmONC) intervention facilities was held under the chairmanship of the District Health Officer Islamabad, in collaboration with Jhpiego. The session focused on the performance of the 24/7 MCH centers established in three Rural Health Centers (RHCs): Bhara Kahu, Sihala, and Tarlai.

The review highlighted that over 50 successful deliveries had been conducted in these centers. Plans for the upcoming year were also discussed, with a commitment to expanding delivery services across all health facilities in Islamabad during the first quarter. Together, efforts were made to advance accessible and quality maternal healthcare for all!





A two-day Master Training under the School Health Program equipped teachers with the skills to identify early health issues in students and refer them to nearby Basic Health Units for timely care.

Area Education Officers actively monitored the training, and the Additional District Health Officer, Islamabad, along with the Deputy Director of FDI, graced the event with their presence, sharing valuable insights and distributing certificates to participants. Together, efforts were made to build stronger schools and healthier communities!



At the National TB Review Meeting, the Assistant District Health Officer Islamabad presented valuable statistical insights.



The strategic priorities remained focused on enhancing TB diagnosis and treatment infrastructure, strengthening community engagement and awareness programs, and fostering robust collaborations with stakeholders to achieve a TB-free Islamabad.

Efforts were committed to working collaboratively towards a healthier capital city.

Improving Healthcare Together!

The District Health Office, Islamabad, and GSM-TCI Islamabad recently held a workshop on the RAISE tool, bringing together a diverse group of stakeholders. This collaborative effort aimed to identify areas for improvement in the district's health system and family planning services. The insights gathered helped shape future strategies to enhance service delivery and increase family planning uptake.



The District Health Officer, Islamabad, visited the construction site of the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Center in Humak. During the visit, the DHO assessed the construction quality and reviewed the progress of the work.

The DHO stressed the importance of maintaining high construction standards to ensure a safe and reliable healthcare environment for the community.





The inaugural meeting of the Technical Committee, chaired by the Additional District Health Officer ICT, was held to discuss the introduction of DMPA-SC as a self-care option for federating units, marking a significant step toward improving reproductive health accessibility and empowering communities.



A meeting chaired by the Coordinator to the Prime Minister on Health, attended by the District Health Officer (DHO) Islamabad, ADCE, ADHO, and other key stakeholders, focused on enhancing vaccination coverage for children under five.

It was decided that buses in Islamabad would require vaccination certificates for passengers with children under five to boost immunization compliance and protect children's health.



The District Health Officer, Islamabad, chaired a meeting with representatives from the Capital Development Authority (CDA) to finalize the PC-I for the establishment of a state-of-the-art Drugs Testing Laboratory in Islamabad. This initiative marked a significant step toward ensuring the quality and safety of medicines for the community.

District Health Office's Achievements, Challenges Future Strategies



In a dynamic orientation session, Dr. Muhammad Zaeem Zia, District Health Officer Islamabad, briefed CSS officers on key aspects of Primary Health Care (PHC). This session was chaired by the Special Secretary and Director General Health with other key stakeholders in attendance. Discussions focused on advancements in Universal Health Coverage (UHC), 24/7 healthcare services, mobile health units, and telemedicine initiatives to improve accessibility across Islamabad. The session also emphasized capacity building, partnerships, and innovative approaches to strengthen healthcare systems, ensuring quality health services for all.

