

EDITORIAL

RESEARCH LEADS TO HUMAN PROGRESSION

Research lies in the heart of the King Edward Medical University's strategy for becoming one of the world's most competitive knowledge-based institution in the near future. To meet this target, KEMU must invest more in research. As well as exploiting its technological outputs more effectively, than in the past.

The medical research is an active process that leads to human progression by identifying, measuring and solving the human health issues. The role of Annals of KEMU is neither to carryout to control the KEMU research.

There are many avenues on which medical researches are working to improve human health. Initially the responsibility of a researcher is to discover the epidemiology and anthropology of human diseases. However, the main focus of the research work is now on faster discovery and development of pharmaceuticals, therapies, diagnostics, and tools and also for allowing faster access to the patients for intervention therapies.

The globalization of trade, knowledge and the emergence of new global threats to human environment and health demand that medical research must look outwards. Pakistani researchers must have access to worldwide research expertise and also ensure that it is understood by Pakistani citizens and remains relevant to their needs and aspirations.

A "National Research Policy", addressing three key problems to research i.e. (i) the availability of dedicated funds, (ii) source of scientific and technological ideas, skills and the know how and (iii) conversion of scientific expertise into marketable products and services; must be developed and managed in the country.

The United States and Japan currently spend far more on research than Europe which plans to increase its spending on research to 3% GDP by 2010. In Pakistan, there is no separate budget for research. It is proposed that with spending of 1% of GDP, a "National Research Fund" should be established, to be increased subsequently.

The overall goal of Annals of King Edward Medical University is to promote the cause of medical research and its publication to make Pakistan the world leader in medical research for the benefit of the economy and society.

Prof. Syed Muhammad Awais

(Sitara-e-Imtiaz)

Editor