



# **International Workshop on Fundamental Techniques in Viral Diseases Diagnostics**

**Venue: COMSTECH Secretariat, Islamabad**

**January 25-27, 2021**

## **Programme**



**Day-1 (25<sup>th</sup> January 2021) – Monday**  
(Timing according to Pakistan Standard Time)

**Inaugural Session**

<b>09:00 - 09:30 Registration</b>	
09:30-09:35	<b>Recitation of the Holy Quran</b>
09:35-09:40	<b>Welcome to the Participants</b> <i>Ms. Khazima Muazim</i>
09:40-10:05	<b>Keynote Address</b> <i>Prof. Dr. S. M. Wasim Jafri</i> <i>Professor of Medicine</i> <i>Aga Khan University, Pakistan</i>
10:05-10:20	<b>Welcome Address</b> <i>H.E. Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary H. I., S. I., T. I.</i> <i>Coordinator General, COMSTECH</i>
10:20-10:25	<b>Vote of Thanks</b> <i>Dr. Atia-tul-Wahab</i>
<b>10:25-11:00 Tea Break</b>	
<b>Session I - Viral diseases, their origin, history and transmission</b>	
<i>Chair: Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary H. I., S. I., T. I.</i>	
11:00-12:00	<b><i>Viral diseases-Global clinical impact diagnosis, treatment and prevention</i></b> <i>Prof. Dr. Wasim Jafri</i> <i>Aga Khan University Hospital</i>
12:00-13:00	<b><i>Virus Genomics and Evolution</i></b> <i>Prof. Dr. Di Liu</i> <i>Wuhan Institute of Virology, Chinese Academy of Sciences</i>
<b>13:00 – 1400 Lunch and Prayer Break</b>	
<i>Chair: Prof. Dr. Wasim Jafri</i>	
14:00-15:00	<b><i>Introduction to coronaviruses and development of Test system for the detection of SARS-CoV-2 antibodies</i></b> <i>Prof. Dr. Bertram Flehmig</i> <i>University of Tuebingen, Germany</i>
15:00-16:00	<b><i>SARS-CoV-2 Spike: A major determinant of viral infectivity and spread</i></b> <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 (26<sup>th</sup> 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> <b>Prof. Dr. Hongping Wei</b> <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> <b>Dr. Jiqin Wu</b> <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> <b>Dr. Muhammad Rashid</b> <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> <b>Dr. Saba Farooq</b> <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> <b>Dr. Ishaq Khan</b> <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> <b>Prof. Dr. Anders Vahlne, M.D., Ph.D.</b> <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> <b>Dr. Almas Jabeen</b> <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> <b>Dr. Haana Iqbal</b> <i>National Institute of Virology, International Center for Chemical and Biological Sciences, Karachi, Pakistan</i>
-------------	---

**Day-3 (27<sup>th</sup> 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>

