

WORLD GLAUCOMA WEEK (WGW) CELEBRATION

REPORT 2017

1. Introduction

World Glaucoma Week (WGW) is a joint global initiative of the World Glaucoma Association (WGA) and the World Glaucoma Patients Association (WGPA), to raise awareness of Glaucoma in general masses.

Glaucoma is a group of eye disease that cause progressive damage of the optic nerve at the point where it leaves the eye to carry visual information to the brain, if it is not treated on time may lead to the permanent blindness. The damage done to visual due to glaucoma is mostly irreversible it is also describe as “sneak thief of sight”.

Glaucoma is the second most common cause of blindness worldwide. It is estimated that 4.5 million persons globally are blind due to glaucoma¹ and that this number will rise to 11.2 million by 2020. It is noteworthy that due to the silent progression of the disease at least in its early stages up to 50% of affected persons in the developed countries are not even aware of having glaucoma³. This number may rise to 90% in underdeveloped parts of the world.

2. WGW Celebration by PICO in the year 2017

Pakistan Institute of Community Ophthalmology (PICO) HMC, Peshawar being the technical hand of the Government of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Health Department and member of International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) every year celebrates this week. Pakistan Institute of Community Ophthalmology (PICO) celebrated World Glaucoma week with full spirit this year. It was celebrated from 12th to 18th March 2017. Theme for this year was “**BIG**” (**BEAT INVISIBLE GLAUCOMA**).

Following major activities were planned for celebration of WGW by PICO:-

- i) Distribution of Awareness Material (Banners & Brochures).
- ii) Recording of a TV Program regarding the Glaucoma Focus Group Discussion.
- iii) One Week Free Eye Screening Camp for Glaucoma patients at Hayatabad Medical Complex, Peshawar.

iv) Free Eye Screening Camp at Madrassa-e- Junaidiya, Jamrud Road, Peshawar.

v) Holding of Speech Competition regarding Glaucoma at Hayatabad Medical Complex, Peshawar.

3. Detail of activities conducted in WGW Celebration 2017 at the provincial level

i). Planning Meeting

In order to celebrate world glaucoma week, PICO held a preparatory meeting regarding planning and preparation of activities for the upcoming WGW was held on 04/02/2017 under the chairmanship of Dr. Zahid Jadoon, Deputy Director PICO in the conference room of PICO. In the meeting the above mentioned activities were discussed and finalized for celebration of the WGW this year. In addition roles were also assigned to different officers in this regard.

ii) Dissemination of awareness material

On 7th March 2017 CEC Cell, PICO distributed the awareness material i.e. 01 banner and 100 brochures to the 24 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for awareness raising purpose regarding Glaucoma. The district eye specialists were asked to display the banner on main entrance of the hospital and the brochures to be distributed among the general people for awareness rising about Glaucoma.

iii) Recording of Glaucoma Patients Group Discussion

On Saturday the 11th March, 2017 a team of professionals from “Mashriq TV” came to PICO to record Glaucoma Patient group discussion and broadcast it on TV Channel. The patients’ group discussion of Glaucoma patients was recorded in the open air in PICO Lawn. In addition, the program also included interviews from Director, Consultant Community Ophthalmologist and the Program Officer PICO regarding the objectives of the Institute and different programs run by it in the prevention and control of avoidable blindness. The recorded program was broadcast / telecast on Mashriq TV on Wednesday 14th March, 2017 and was then uploaded on the You-tube.



iv) 6 Days Free Eye Screening Camp at HMC

Another important activity planned on the event of WGW celebration was holding of a free screening camp for Glaucoma patients in front of the HMC Casualty for full week. On 13th March 2017, camp activity was inaugurated by Dr. Shahzad Akbar, Medical Director, Hayatabad Medical Complex Peshawar. Chief Guest was received by Director PICO, HMC Prof. Dr. Nasir Saeed. Briefing was given regarding Glaucoma awareness and importance of Glaucoma week. Chief Guest appreciated all planned activities about Glaucoma week. During the 6 days activity of free eye screening camp a total of 400 patients were screened for Glaucoma.



v) Free Eye Screening Camp at Madrassa Junaidiya, Jamrud Road, Peshawar

Another free eye screening camp was conducted at the Madrassa Junaidiya, Jamrud road Peshawar on Tuesday 14th of March 2017 in which PICO team consisting of consultants, Doctors, optometrists, Ophthalmic Technician examined more than 600 religious students and teachers of the madrassa. More than 300 students suffering from eye diseases were provided free eye medicines on the spot.

vi) Speech Competition on Glaucoma at HMC auditorium

The mega event planned by PICO on the WGW celebration was holding of a Speech Competition Seminar on Glaucoma awareness at HMC auditorium among the students of different medical colleges of Peshawar.

The Seminar started with the recitation of the Holy Quran. Then Prof. Dr. Nasir Saeed, the Director PICO welcomed the chief guest Prof. Dr. Muhammad Daud, respected judges for the competition Prof. Dr. Niamat Ullah Kundi, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Salim Gandapur, and Prof. Dr. Shad Muhammad. afterward, he gave a brief introduction on Glaucoma.

The Speech competition was held between the medical students of Khyber Medical College, Khyber Girls Medical College, Rehman Medical College and Pak International Medical College and Pakistan Institute of Community Ophthalmology, Peshawar. The students were given 7-10 minutes for their speeches. After the end of the competition, the results were announced, the 1st position was obtained by the student of Khyber Medical College; the 2nd position was clinched jointly by the students of Pak International Medical College and Pakistan Institute of Community Ophthalmology, Peshawar and the 3rd position was won by the student of Rehman Medical College, Peshawar. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Daud, the Chief Guest presented the 1st, 2nd, 3rd Prizes to the winners of the speech competition. The Speech competition ended with very informative thoughts of the Chief Guest.



4. Detail of activities conducted in WGW Celebration 2017 at the district level

i) GLAUCOMAWEEK REPORT (DISTRICT MANSEHRA)

World Glaucoma Week was celebrated in DHQ Hospital Mansehra by the Eye Department of DHQH Mansehra and SIB Project teams.

Key activities planned in this week were.

- a. Awareness Walk in the Hospital premises.
- b. Glaucoma screening (3 days).
- c. Distribution of awareness material among the medical stores/medicine shops.

Detail of Glaucoma week activities:

- a) On Monday 13th of March glaucoma week was properly started by awareness walk with the Hospital staff and SIB teams and on the same day awareness material was distributed among different Hospital

departments. Also an information desk was organized outside the emergency department at DHQ Mansehra for the awareness of general public.

b) Glaucoma screening was started on the second day which continued for 3 days. The timing of the screening camp was from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm each day. Air puff tonometer was brought for screening aside the information desk, each individual was screened and those with an increase IOP were referred to hospital Eye department for detailed eye examination. A total of 435 patients were screened for Glaucoma in three days.

c) Lastly teams distributed awareness brusher among the medical stores outside the hospital and community. All these activities were highly appreciated by the community. The awareness material was distributed among 190 medical stores in the area.

PHOTO GALLERY





ii) GLAUCOMAWEEK REPORT (DISTRICT SWABI)

The Sib team comprised of two optometrists and two social organizers performed following important activities in DHQ Swabi on the eve of WGW celebration in coordination with the District Eye Department.

- a). Awareness Sessions in the Hospital premises.
- b). Glaucoma Screening 2 days.
- c). Awareness material distribution among the educated patients

Details of activities done during WGW

- a) On the very start of the week SIB team displayed the large size banners at the entrance gate of main OPD, and inside the eye OPD clinic. These banners contained important information regarding the WGW celebration.
- b) Glaucoma screening was started on the second day which continued for 2 days. The timing was from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm each day. Since DHQ hospital Swabi is a very old hospital with limited rooms, the team decided to screen the patients of general OPD for glaucoma. Tonometry was performed for each patient. Those with raised IOP were selected for detailed examination. A total of 298 patients were screened for Glaucoma in two days' screening.
- c) During the screening activity, the social organizers were specially focusing on the education of the patients regarding the Glaucoma disease; its effects and treatment by distributing the brushes among the patients, staff nurses, and doctors of the hospital.

PHOTO GALLERY



iii) WORLD GLAUCOMAWEEK CELEBRATION REPORT OF DHQH HARIPUR

The following activities were performed on WGW celebrations.

- a). Awareness walks in the Hospital premises.
- b). Glaucoma screening (3 days).
- c). Brushers distribution among the medical stores.
- d). Awareness messages aired on FmRadio 88.60, 6 times

Detail of Glaucoma week activities:

a) On Tuesday 14th of March glaucoma week was properly started by an awareness walk with the Hospital staff and SIB teams within the premises of the hospital. The Hospital Administration, doctors, nurses and paramedics participated in this walk.

and on the same day brushers were distributed among different Hospital departments also an information desk was settled outside the emergency department at DHQ Haripur.

b) Glaucoma screening was started on the 3rd day which continued for 3 days. The screening timing was from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. Air puff tonometer was brought for Screening in main OPD, each individual were screened and individual with an increase IOP(>22 mmhg) were referred to hospital Eye department for detailed eye examination. A total of 422 patients were screened during the three days' screening activity.

c) The teams distributed awareness brushers among the 161 medical stores outside the hospital and community. All these activities were highly appreciated by the community.

d) Lastly, the awareness message was also aired in FM radio 6 times for the information and awareness of the general masses.

PHOTO GALLERY

