

Zhob: In 2011, another clinic was established at the Human Development Foundation's (HDF) Community Health Centre.



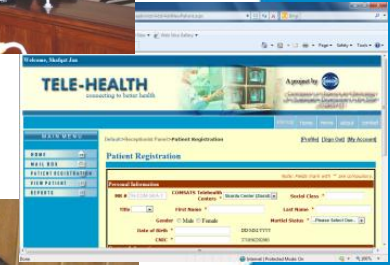
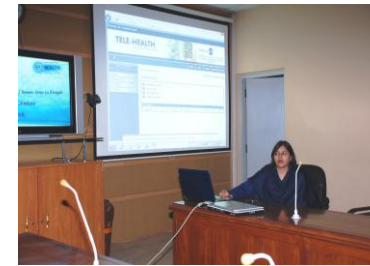
Recently, a Project on "Establishment of Tele-health Clinics Networks" by the COMSATS Internet Services (CIS) has been approved by the Ministry of Science & Technology. The project provides for establishment of 19 Telehealth clinics, mostly in rural areas of Islamabad, Lahore, Karachi, Peshawar, Quetta, Gawadar, and Multan.

- COMSATS Telehealth program has been presented at a number of eHealth and Telehealth related events and conferences at both national and International levels including World Summit on Information Society in Tunis in 2005.
- COMSATS is also a member of International Society for Telemedicine and eHealth (ISfTeH) and eHealth Association of Pakistan.

COMSATS seeks to extend its network of remote Telehealth clinics in order to benefit a large number of populations in rural areas. It also intends to collaborate with other organizations in Pakistan and other member countries working in this field for any possible joint ventures.

COMSATS eHealth Program

Connecting to better Health



Key Achievements

- COMSATS is the pioneer of live Tele-consultations in Gilgit-Baltistan and Balochistan provinces of Pakistan.
- Thousands of patients have benefited from Telehealth services, major beneficiaries being females and children.
- Indigenously developed web-based patient database allows convenient storage and retrieval of information of all the patients being presented for Tele-consultations.

Contact Us

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Introduction

eHealth is the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in the field of Health. Telehealth is one of the eHealth applications that encompass consultative, diagnostic and treatment services to patients by connecting them to doctors at distances for from them through use of online file (data) transfer and audio/visual means via telecommunication, internet or dedicated network.

Being an ardent supporter of the use of ICT for development, the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS) pioneered the Tele-health services in Pakistan. Since 2001, COMSATS has been actively involved in the development of eHealth in Pakistan.



COMSATS eHealth Program

Objective

- To promote and employ COMSATS' experience and use of Information and Communication Technology to enhance access of the population of remote areas to better healthcare.
- To use Telehealth as a medium to build capacity of health professionals in the remote areas

Telehealth Services

The COMSATS' Telehealth program was launched with a pilot project using indigenous resources and self learning efforts. Later, the technology and service were upgraded and extended to other remote areas.

COMSATS Telehealth model involves linking of a Telehealth clinic at any remote area with COMSATS Resource Centre in Islamabad through internet (Dial up, VSAT or broadband). The specialists visiting the Resource Centre are connected with the patients attending the Telehealth Clinic through audio-video tools for live Tele-consultations. The same link is also used for capacity-building of the staff at the Telehealth Clinics. Thousands of patients have so far benefited from this service.

Telehealth Resource Centre, Islamabad

Established in 2004, the Telehealth Resource Centre at COMSATS Secretariat is the hub of the organization's all Telehealth activities. The clinical and administrative activities of Telehealth are carried out from this Resource Centre, which is equipped with all the necessary audio-visual and other technical equipment along with the necessary expertise to carry out Tele-consultations with the remote Telehealth Clinics.



Remote Telehealth Clinics

Gujjar Khan: In 2001 a pilot Telehealth Clinic was established at a local clinic in Gujjar Khan.



Skardu: In 2004, a fully equipped Telehealth clinic at Abdullah Hospital was established in collaboration with the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada.

