**One-Day Symposium on Drug Addiction: From Prevention to Intervention Report**

National Institute of Psychology, Quaid-e-Azam University Islamabad collaboration with ISSUP Pakistan and Hosla Addiction and Psychiatric treatment centre Islamabad organized a one-day symposium on ‘Drug Addiction: from Prevention to Intervention’ on June 28th, 2022 . The chief guest of the event was Dr. Iftikhar Ahmed, Director ISSUP Pakistan chapter, executive director of HOSLA Addiction and Psychiatric Treatment Centre, Islamabad.

The event was initiated with the recitation of the Holy Quran, followed by the first keynote lecture delivered by Dr. Naeem Aslam Chughtai (Assistant Professor, National Institute of Psychology, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad) on ‘An overview of Drug abuse: prevention to intervention’ in which he talked about the different techniques that can be applied to prevent drug addiction and the many interventions practiced for its intervention.

Soon after, the second keynote lecture was delivered by Dr. Jameel A. Malik (Associate Professor, National Institute of Psychology, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad) on ‘Substance Abuse in Youth: A tip of the Iceberg’. Dr. Jameel talked about how substance abuse impacts not only the individual but also those around him. He also highlighted the different walks of life that are influenced by substance abuse and the repercussions a substance abuser faces.

Following the keynote sessions, two indigenous experimental work on prevention and intervention were presented by Dr. Aftab Hussain and Ms. Maryam Khan. After the presentations, the audience was then invited to view the poster presentations in the gallery. The judges for the paper presentations were Dr. Iftikhar Ahmed (executive director of HOSLA Addiction and Psychiatric Treatment Centre, Islamabad), Dr. Shakira Huma Siddiqui (Head of the department of Psychology, NUML) and Dr. Nelofar Kiran Rauf (Assistant Professor, National Institute of Psychology, Quaid-i-Azam University Islamabad). The judges viewed every poster and gave their evaluation.

Soon after the poster viewing, The scientific session was commenced. The session was chaired by Dr. Jamil A. Malik and Dr. Iftikhar Ahmed and moderated by Ms. Zerafshan Khalid (MPhil Scholar, National Institute of Psychology, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad). Nine research papers were presented in this scientific session. The research papers drew attention to why youngsters are engaged in substance use and the social and public stigma faced by the people involved in substance use. They also highlighted the impact of addiction on mental health, the risk, and protective factors of self-harm among individuals with substance use and the different trends of substance use among women. Finally, the effectiveness of residential rehabilitation & counseling intervention in the treatment of substance use disorder was discussed thoroughly.

After the informative session, the session chair Dr. Jamil A. Malik (Associate Professor, National Institute of Psychology, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad) reflected that the research papers enhanced our knowledge related to the cause and consequences of Drug Addiction. He further added that that all the papers were sound in terms of practical and theoretical implications.

The session chair and guest of honor, Dr. Iftikhar Ahmed (executive director of HOSLA Addiction and Psychiatric Treatment Centre, Islamabad) congratulated the Director and faculty of NIP on conducting such successful symposium. He appreciated the fact that this symposium has given us a forum to talk about drug addiction and its impacts on mental health and performance of an individual.

Lastly, Prof. Dr. Rubina Hanif (Director, National Institute of Psychology, Quaid-e-Azam University Islamabad) thanked the Session Chair, congratulated the presenters, and appreciated the audience for taking an active part in the symposium.

Following the closing remarks, the end came to an end with the shield and certificate distribution ceremony. Shields and certificates were provided to the paper presenters, the winner of poster presentation and the guest of honor. Certificates were also provided to the all the participants. High tea was provided to the guests and participants.