



## PRESS RELEASE



### **PMC Clarifies Allegations Made by NEO News Regarding the Issuance of Inspection Scores of Private and Public Medical Colleges**

NEO news, a television channel owned by Chaudhry Abdur Rehman who is also the chairman of Azra Naheed Medical College and the President of an association of some private colleges, in a program 'Seedhi Baat' recently made false and malicious statements regarding the recently issued inspection scores of private and public colleges.

It was falsely imputed that the recently released inspection scores of private and public colleges are 'farzi' and 'false and have been done or manipulated by Pakistan Medical Commission and alleged favours granted to some colleges giving them A+ scores'. The inspection scores released by the Commission categorically states the dates when each inspection was held and, being the last valid inspection, is the current score obtained by each college.

The inspection scores of Aga Khan Medical College, CMH Lahore Medical College and Allama Iqbal Medical College, Lahore were a result of inspections held in 2019 by the erstwhile PM&DC – not PMC. The inspection results issued by the Pakistan Medical Commission represent the last valid inspection held in respect of each college as per the records. These are not rankings as falsely alleged. The Commission, in fact, has converted the inspection scores to alphabetical grades A+, A, B, C and F to ensure that scores cannot be used by anyone to even presume a ranking of any college. Similar scoring conversion structure was put in place by PM&DC in 2019.

While in the past, passing marks for a college to be recognized were 90%, the Medical & Dental Council has amended that and set up a more flexible scoring system allowing colleges to improve rather





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than overnight suspending admissions or shutting down a college as was done in the past. The benchmark which all colleges are required to achieve in order to ensure quality is an A score (85% or more). However, a college acquiring a C (70%-77.5%) score in an inspection is granted two years to achieve the desired A score while a college acquiring a B (77.5% to 85%) score is given one year to achieve the desired A score. The purpose of this is to facilitate the colleges and the students studying in the colleges with the objective to improve the quality of education and in which the Commission will work with these colleges to improve their quality. To further facilitate colleges who had their last inspection as an F or No Score, the Commission has also decided to inspect these colleges on priority in the calendar year 2021 so that their current standard is properly measured and improvements from the last inspections are properly recorded. In addition, to ensure that these colleges do not suffer in any manner during current admissions, their scores for purposes of the regulations would be deemed to be a C score for the current year.

While the National Inspections undertaken by PM&DC in 2019 were directed by the Honourable Lahore High Court to be only communicated confidentially to colleges, twenty colleges of their own choice at the time of the release of the last inspection scores requested the Commission to update their scores obtained in the National Inspections of 2019 and only upon their consent were their inspection scores made public.

Inspections scores are not private documents. They are public record of the Commission and every citizen under the law has a right





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to access these. Students seeking to apply to medical and dental colleges have a right to know where each college stands in terms of their last inspection.

Unfortunately, a handful of colleges under the umbrella of PAMI want to avoid any regulatory controls of the Pakistan Medical Commission and non-transparency in terms of merit and standards have recently indulged in a public campaign of spreading false and misleading facts to aid their interests. Many of these colleges are those who had attained very high scores in earlier inspections as released in the recent list but in 2019 National Inspections had failed or barely passed. Their concern is understandable that the transparency policy of the Commission may cause their actual standards to become public.

PAMI has also filed a Writ Petition before the Honourable Islamabad High Court seeking to restrict the use of the 2019 Accreditation Standards for purposes of inspections and to restrain public disclosure of inspection scores of colleges. PMC has contested the said Writ Petition and multiple private colleges have also appeared before the Honourable Islamabad High Court objecting to the relief being sought by PAMI regarding inspections and public disclosure of inspection scores. The matter was heard and the Judgment reserved today by the Honourable Islamabad High Court.





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S. No	Name of Institute	Date of Inspection	Grade
1	Abbottabad International Medical College	17-12-2019	A
2	Aga Khan University Medical College	05-08-2019	A+
3	Akhtar Saeed Medical & Dental College	26-08-2019	A
4	Al Aleem Medical College	29-08-2019	B
5	Avicenna Medical College	28-08-2019	A
6	Bahria University Medical College	07-08-2019	B
7	CMH Institute of Medical Sciences Bahawalpur	22-08-2019	C
8	CMH Kharian Medical College	31-07-2019	A
9	CMH Lahore Medical College	30-08-2019	A+
10	CMH Multan Institute of Medical Sciences CIMS	20-08-2019	A
11	Fazala Medical College	29-07-2019	B
12	FMH College of Medicine & Dentistry	27-08-2019	A+
13	Frontier Medical College	29-07-2019	B
14	Islamic International Medical College	31-07-2019	A
15	Jinnah Medical & Dental College	05-08-2019	No score
16	Liaquat National Hospital Medical College	08-08-2019	A
17	Shifa College of Medicine	30-07-2019	A
18	University College of Medicine & Dentistry	26-08-2019	A
19	Dental College Lahore Medical & Dental College	19-08-2019	C
20	Dental Section Jinnah Medical & Dental College	05-08-2019	No score

