



Pakistan Medical Commission

Mauve Area, G-10/4, Islamabad

www.pmc.gov.pk

Tel: 92 51 9106152, Fax: 9106159

Email: Info@pmc.gov.pk

Dated: 7th Oct, 2020

Prof. Dr. Gulshan Ali Memon

Chairman

Provincial Admission Committee

Peoples University of Medical & Health Sciences for Women

Shaheed Benazir Abad

Nawabshah.

Subject: **Press Release re Entry Test for Sindh Medical and Dental Colleges**

Dear Sir,

This refers to the Press Release issued by yourself as the Chairman Provincial Admission Committee of Sindh. The Press Release has created some concerns amongst students and queries have been received at the Pakistan Medical Commission.

We seek to clarify some of the issues.

As per Section 18(3) of the Pakistan Medical Commission Act, 2020 the Government of Sindh, as also all other provincial governments, have the absolute right to determine the admission policy and conduct the admissions to all Public Colleges located in Sindh. For the admission to Public Colleges the Government of Sindh may include any criteria that it finds appropriate including an Entry Test.

However, as mandated under Section 18(1) read with Section 18(2) of the Pakistan Medical Commission Act, 2020 admission to a medical college, public or private, requires having mandatorily passed the Medical and Dental College Admissions Test (MDCAT) conducted by the Pakistan Medical Commission all over Pakistan. Furthermore, pursuant to the proviso to Section 18(3) of the Pakistan Medical Commission Act, 2020 the weightage to the MDCAT exam shall be 50% at the minimum purposes of determining merit in public colleges.

Therefore, the Entry Test being conducted by the Provincial Admission Committee of Sindh, is presumed to be an additional criteria for students seeking admission in Public College in Sindh. This would be deemed to be in addition to the mandatory criteria of students having qualified the MDCAT exam. It would be therefore, beneficial for the students seeking admission in Public Colleges in Sindh if the Provincial Admission Committee or the Government of Sindh can clarify the exact criteria for admission to Public Colleges in view of the above and what weightage the students would receive for the Entry Test being conducted on 18th October 2020 towards calculation of their merit.

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Please also note that the Entry Test cannot be mandatory required for admission to Private Colleges in Sindh or elsewhere as the Provincial Government's right to frame policy is restricted to Public Colleges. In respect of Private Colleges, the Pakistan Medical Commission has approved and notified the Admissions Regulations 2020-2021 which clearly state the criteria for the admission to Private Colleges which will include the mandatory MDCAT conduct by the Commission and their marks obtained in the relevant high school leaving certificate. The admissions to the private colleges is being conducted by the Commission through a centralized national process.

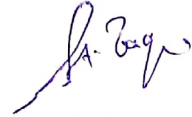
The Commission has further taken appropriate steps to ensure that the MDCAT exam to be conducted by the Commission is based on only a common syllabus already issued by each provincial admitting authority. Therefore, there shall be no questions which are outside the syllabus already issued for the Entry Test of Sindh. Hence, no student in Sindh or anywhere else in Pakistan will be required to study any additional syllabus or material to what they have already been preparing for. This has been done to ensure that no student is put at a disadvantage while also ensuring that all students in Pakistan are able to take a single MDCAT hence ensuring a national merit.

For purposes of ensuring the common syllabus a committee has been formed coordinated by the Controller of Examination at NUMS which will have participation of every provincial admitting authority including yourself to ensure that syllabus remains effectively common in lines with the policy of the Commission and to everyone's satisfaction.

Lastly, please rest assured that the central admission to private colleges this year will be conducted strictly on merit and no student will be required to seek direct admission or spend money on acquiring separate prospectus etc. of private colleges. Furthermore, it will also save students the added expenditure in the past where they took multiple entrance exams conducted by each provincial admitting university separately as a single MDCAT would be sufficient for seeking admission to any private college and to any public college subject to any additional requirements imposed by the relevant Provincial Government.

We hope the above clarifies the process and status of the MDCAT and admissions and would enable you to issue the necessary clarifications for the students of Sindh and put their minds at ease.

Sincerely,



Dr. Arshad Taqi
President, PMC