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## Pakistan Receives an IAEA-WHO-IARC imPACT Mission



*Pakistan imPACT Review Mission experts Dr. Akram Al-Ibraheem (left) and Dr. Elisabete Weiderpass (right) discuss cancer services with Dr. Nasir Mahmood (centre) at the Centre for Nuclear Medicine at the Mayo Hospital in Lahore. (Photo: IAEA/PACT)*

Cancer experts from the IAEA, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) have assessed Pakistan's national cancer control capacities and needs and identified recommendations to effectively respond to its cancer burden.

Conducted upon the request of the Member States' national health authority, the imPACT review mission evaluated services in Islamabad, Lahore and Karachi, with site visits to major public and private cancer hospitals, cancer registries, a primary health care clinic outside of Islamabad, a hospice, and education and training facilities.

These sites provided a cross-section of the national cancer control capacity and needs in Pakistan.

The mission team noted Pakistan's capacity in cancer surgery, paediatric oncology, radiation oncology, nuclear medicine and palliative care, while also taking note of a shortage of human resources for treatment.

The mission to Pakistan was implemented through the IAEA Technical Cooperation Project RAS6069, Supporting Comprehensive Cancer Control in the Asia and the Pacific Region. The report will be delivered to respective national health authorities in early 2014 and will contain findings and technical recommendations to advance cancer control in the country.

PACT conducted twelve imPACT Review missions to IAEA Member States in 2013, including missions to Bangladesh, Benin, Botswana, Cambodia, Cameroon, Haiti, Jamaica, Lebanon, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea and Tunisia.



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## Background

imPACT Reviews provide an evaluation of a country's readiness to implement cancer control programmes, conducting an assessment of the national cancer burden and offering recommendations on developing the cancer control capacity. The recommendations can then be used to produce or augment a National Cancer Control Programme, which may support national and international stakeholders in the development and implementation of effective measures that respond to the cancer control needs of the country.

### Link to related resources:



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