Connecting doctors and patients virtually through the Elaj Asan mobile app

Islamabad, Pakistan, 22 September 2020 - The Elaj Asan mobile application, which facilitates doctor-patient interactions, was launched by the Aga Khan Health Service, Pakistan (AKHS,P), in collaboration with Aga Khan Development Network Digital Health Resource Centre (AKDN dHRC).

The Elaj Asan app allows patients to schedule appointments with doctors available at one of three AKHS,P facilities (Aga Khan Medical Centre in Gilgit; Aga Khan Family Health Centre in Karimabad; and the Aga Khan Family Health Centre in Garden in Karachi). It helps patients conduct real-time, online consultations digitally and share medical records with their physicians, privately and securely. Doctors can pre-screen patients, examine them through live, one-on-one video sessions, prescribe medicines and maintain patient records. Patients can utilise multiple payment options to digitally pay for the services and provide feedback on their experience instantly.

“While telemedicine applications offer a host of benefits in general,” said Nadeem Husain Abbas, Chief Executive Officer, AKHS,P, “in the current scenario where the entire world is coping with the COVID-19 pandemic, Elaj Asan is extremely relevant and offers a holistic solution to patient needs safely and securely.”

Saleem Sayani, Director, AKDN dHRC, added: “Elaj Asan leverages innovative mobile health technologies for patients and physicians, providing convenient and immediate access to quality health care services from a distance.”

The Elaj Asan app is available for download on the Google Play Store.

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Aga Khan Health Service, Pakistan (AKHS,P), an ISO 9001:2015 certified organisation, provides equitable, service oriented, innovative and community-based health services through four strategic objectives: supporting government health policies and plans; supporting health needs of catchment and target populations; increasing sustainability of operations; and contributing to global standards in health and health care. For more information visit https://www.akdn.org/our-agencies/aga-khan-health-services
The *Aga Khan Development Network Digital Health Resource Centre* (AKDN dHRC) was established in 2011 to provide strategic digital health support to the Aga Khan Development Network (AKDN) health agencies and their partner health institutions. It serves as a platform to synchronise the efforts of AKDN and non-AKDN institutions to improve health outcomes of remote, medically underserved communities. AKDN dHRC acts as a hub for all digital health activities and thus, supports the assessment, development and implementation of digital health initiatives in South-Central Asia (Afghanistan, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan and Tajikistan) and East Africa (Kenya and Tanzania). The Centre drives improvements in access, quality, cost, efficiency and safety of health care through Information and Communication Technologies (ICT). For more information, visit: [akdn.org/dhrc](http://akdn.org/dhrc).