



Newsletter 20, dated 16th October 2025

District Haripur: Building capacity of primary care physicians I



As part of developing the MHPSS pilot services in KP, the second mhGAP training workshop was conducted in Haripur from 6th to 10th October, 2025. The workshop was attended by twenty-one primary care physicians and two clinical psychologists to strengthen their capacity in identifying and managing common mental health conditions.

The training of primary care physicians in target districts is supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through GIZ in Pakistan and its implementing partner International Medical Corps.



[Dr. Mohsin Raza Turrabi](#), District Health Officer Haripur, emphasized the importance of addressing stigma around mental illness and encouraged doctors to proactively contribute to the pilot project. During a detailed [discussion with the DHO](#), a severe dearth of specialist services and challenges with unregulated services in the district were also highlighted.



The written feedback from the participants was most encouraging for the facilitators. A couple of comments are shared below:

“Thank you for organizing such an excellent training. We feel fortunate to have had the opportunity to participate in this on-the-job learning experience. Previously, we had concerns and hesitation in managing patients with depression, psychosis, acute stress, PTSD, and other mental health issues. However, through the dedicated efforts and guidance of the facilitators, we now feel much more confident in addressing and managing mental health problems effectively at the primary care level.”

“We sincerely appreciate the dedication, expertise, and commitment demonstrated by our trainers throughout this training program. Your efforts not only imparted knowledge but also inspired confidence and skill among participants. The success of this training is a direct reflection of your professionalism, passion, and ability to guide others towards excellence. We look forward to your continued support in nurturing learning, growth, and innovation”.

Mental Health Strategic Planning & Coordination Unit