

**Response to Comments on Suhail Anwar (J Pak Med Assoc. 68: 692-693, 2018)****The role of a cancer registry in a health-care system**

Suhail Anwar

Many thanks for your interest in our editorial "The role of a cancer registry in a health care system" recently published in the JPMA. We appreciate your comments and thank you for the update.

Our editorial, as the title suggests, highlights the role and importance of a cancer registry in any health care system across the globe. It's not set out to address the status of cancer registries in Pakistan.

The paragraph where lack of cancer registry in Pakistan is mentioned, highlights the lack of a nationwide population based registry. The most apparent reasons for this are discussed in the rest of the paragraph.

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The Lahore based cancer registry is a commendable step and an excellent effort to kick start the process. However, data submission is not mandatory and population denominators are questionable. This makes the statistics far from a true representation of the actual cancer incidence.

We acknowledge the fact that a reference to the Lahore based registry could have been added to the editorial. However please compare this to the two references in the editorial which are much more befitting to the main theme of this editorial.

We suggest that an update of this registry should be considered for publication in JPMA as an article. This might encourage other centers to collaborate to this initiative.

Many thanks.