

**From the Desk of Editor in Chief
Professor Dr. Aizaz Mand Ahmad**



This issue of PJKD has an important article about management of HCV in maintenance dialysis population.

The availability of directly acting antivirals (DAA) is probably one of the remarkable achievements in the history of medicine and therapeutics since the discovery of penicillin. Practicing in Pakistan since as a house officer or internee thirty years ago till as a consultant HCV dilemma had not changed much. Now with DAA the chances are that HCV eradication is possible by 2030. It's not a difficult task to achieve 9years down the road. The article by Dr Fawad Khalid is obviously a ray of hope for the destitute patients who can't afford to buy medicines. It is encouraging that health insurance scheme has started covering the cost of treatment of HCV at least in some part of the country. This case can be extended to the other parts of the country by the same health insurance scheme. Still there is data that not all patients are being treated with DAA and many misconceptions do exist among the hepatologists about the HCV management in the hemodialysis patients. I think the nephrologists can take over the management of HCV for these patients where hepatologists may not be available easily.

It is the health education of our patients and repeated enquiry during the management of HCV about missed doses, dropout and refusal cases to be dealt with repeated counselling. The cost of treatment has decreased tremendously, thanks to the pharmaceutical companies bringing in the generics very early and the support of the international pharmaceutical companies to help in eradication of HCV.

I am quite hopeful that eradication of HCV goal 2030 is achievable and just 9 years away. We need to put our house together and lot of collaborative work to do.