



Medical Advisory Board (MAB)

Presented to
The Tenth Ordinary Conference
Dubai, 15-17 September 2006



THE
WORLD
FEDERATION

OF KHOJA SHIA ITHNA-ASHERI MUSLIM COMMUNITIES

Registered charity in the UK No. 282303



1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report will focus on the work undertaken by MAB during the term 2003-2006; and will make recommendations for the next term.

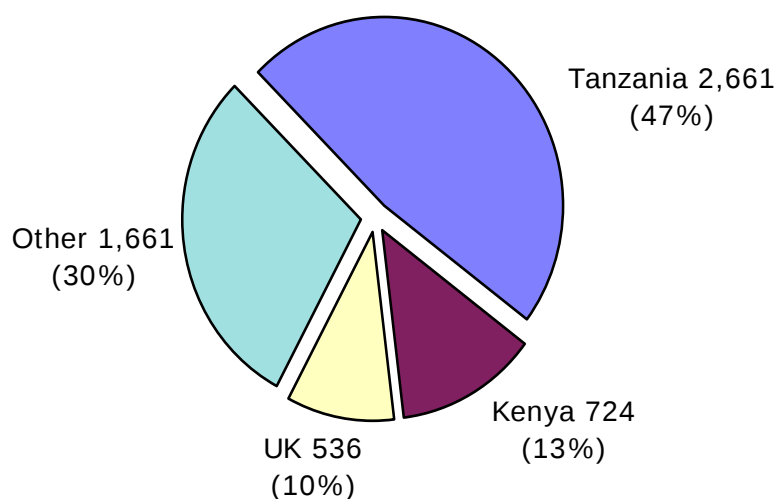
2 DISCUSSION

2.1 Patient Care

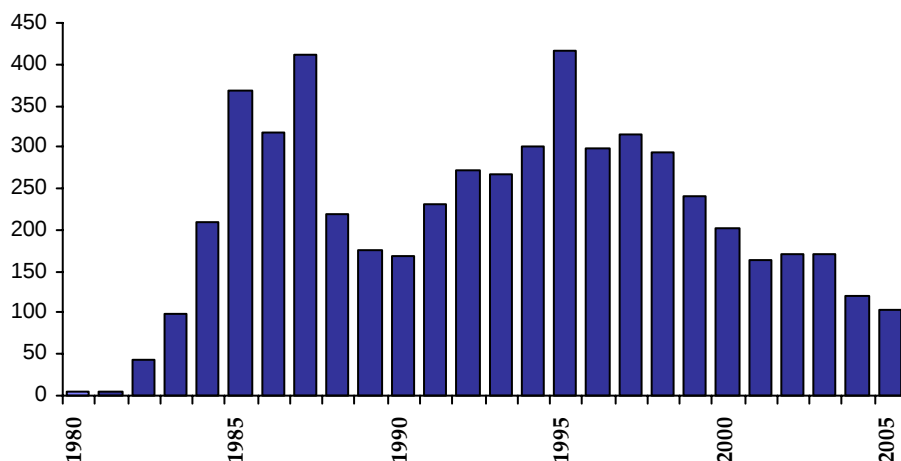
The Board continues to serve patients from across the world. The majority of patients are self funded, but the World Federation continues to finance many patients. We also give advice and arrange prompt appointments.

Number of Patients Treated

[From 1980 to 2005; Total 5,582]

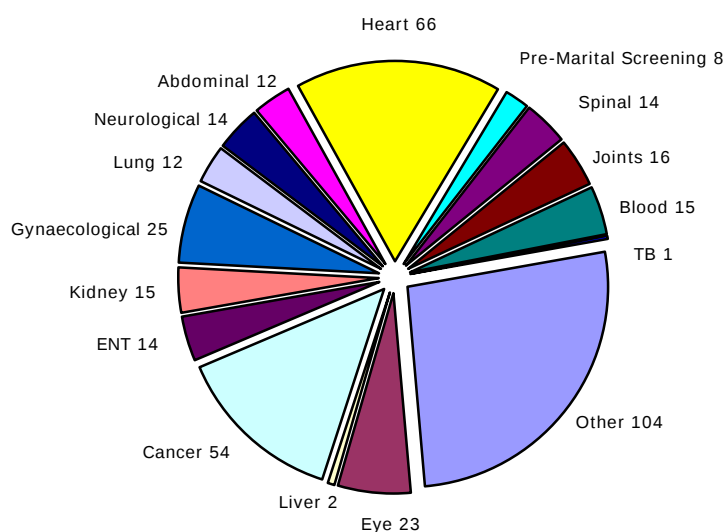


Annual Number of Patients Treated





Types of Cases Treated
[Total No. of Patients treated 2003 - 2005 = 395]



2.2 Serving the Hujjaj

Indian & Pakistani Hujjaj have been served by the Haj Medical Mission since 1999, and are encouraged to bring their own doctors.

2.3 Medical Screening Programmes

The Board recommends medical screening programmes in all Jamaats. The aim is to encourage a thorough assessment, 19 checks in all; including a blood pressure check, thalassaemia test and dental examination.

- 2.3.1 The medical screening programmes strongly suggest that our community has undeniable medical issues: high levels of obesity, smoking, stress, undetected psychological problems, as well as increasing incidences of HIV and Hepatitis. In addition, community members tend to take part minimal exercise, and a poor uptake of smear and breast examinations with few eye and dental check ups.

2.4 Primary Care Facilities

The Board has established primary care facilities throughout the developing world, where our community members reside. In particular, the Board has aimed to open Eye Clinics.

2.4.1 Aeinullah Eye Clinic – Bangalore, India (Set up in 2001)

Our first clinic was located outside Bangalore and has expanded rapidly. Besides providing diagnostic facilities, operating facilities opened in January 2002 and it transformed into an Eye Hospital in January 2003.



Year	Patients Screened	Patients Operated
2003	866	76
2004	801	88
2005	707	78

2.4.2 *Aeinullah Eye Clinic – Patna, India (Set up in 1993)*

The aim of this project was to provide treatment for eye conditions and provide a location where cataract operations could be carried out. The Aeinullah Eye clinic started working in the local Zainabiya Health Centre from 1999. Currently, an eye specialist visits once a week; with the cost met by the Zainabiya Health Centre.

Year	No. of Patients Treated / Operated
2003	87
2004	80

2.4.3 *Aeinullah Eye Clinic – Lucknow (Set up in 2004)*

Eye camps have begun here, but operations are still carried out in hospitals.

Year	Patients Treated	Patients Operated
2004	1711	0
2005	3701	20

2.4.4 *Aeinullah Eye Clinic – Mianwali, Pakistan (Set up in 2006)*

This eye clinic was set up recently, and aims to provide services for the residents of Mianwali.

Dr Mohamed Asif Saheb will treat patients and all facilities will be provided free of charge. Progress has been made in the last sixth months and there are plans to introduce eye surgery and eye camp facilities.

Disease	No. of Patients
Cataract	55
Glaucoma	24
Refractive errors	65
Allergic Conjunctivitis	70
Trachoma	13
Corneal Ulcer	15
Foreign Body	11
Miscellaneous	8
Total	261



2.4.5 *Aeinullah Eye Clinic - Sadr City, Baghdad*

This eye clinic will be set up soon, with the funding for this raised in partnership with the Youth Network Desk.

2.5 **Zainabiya Health Centres**

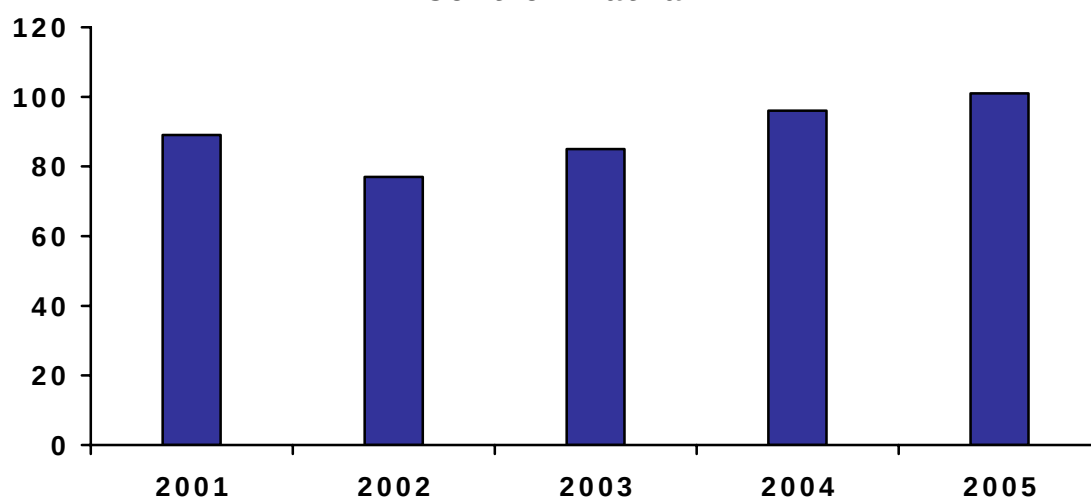
2.5.1 *Zainabiya Health Centre, Patna*

This Health Centre now has the capacity for any specialised treatment. Zainabiya Health Centre treats people irrespective of caste or religion. In the last 3 years, there has been a rise in the number of patients treated.

Year	No. of Patients
2003	1980
2004	2044
2005	2722

The gynaecology section was started in 2001. There is female doctor who attends the Health Centre weekly.

Female Patients Treated at Zainabiya Health Centre - Patna



2.5.2 *Zainabiya Health Centre – Lucknow.*

The marginalised Shias of Lucknow now have access to medical care in life threatening cases such as brain tumours, strokes and cancer.

Year	No. of Patients
2004	19
2005	135

2.5.3 The Health Centre has acquired an ambulance which serves the sick during processions. The board aims to convert it into a mobile clinic.



- 2.5.4 The clinic in Govandi has become self sufficient, and has handed over to the local community.

2.6 As-Safena Nursery Centre

This nursery has over 500 children in 6 classes, giving children a foundation to develop their education. The Board also uses the centre to locate children who have not yet undergone immunisation nor medical check-ups.

- 2.6.1 In April 2004, the Board introduced minor changes, so as to:
- To improve attendance
 - To assess students and teachers, with progress cards for each student
 - The parents were invited to attend an open day
 - Refurbishment of premises.

2.7 Help to the Needy

During the last three years, the following aid was sent:

2003

Country	Dispensaries / Hospitals Helped	Medical Literature Supplied	Medication		Total Value (£)
			& Equipment Supplied	& Treatment Supplied	
India				●	22,954.00
Iran		●	●		2,948.00
Iraq		●	●	●	190,747.00
Kenya		●		●	30,029.00
UK				●	4,134.00
Pakistan				●	516.00
Saudi Arabia				●	15,950.00
Tanzania	●	●	●	●	20,743.00
TOTAL VALUE					£288,021.00



2004

Country	Dispensaries / Hospitals Helped	Medical Literature Supplied	Medication		Total Value (£)
			& Equipment Supplied	& Treatment Supplied	
India				●	38,085.00
Iran		●	●		88.00
Iraq	●	●	●	●	281,251.00
Kenya		●		●	11,357.00
South Africa		●		●	72.00
Pakistan				●	10,667.00
Saudi Arabia				●	19,767.00
Tanzania	●	●	●	●	8,529.00
TOTAL VALUE					£369,728.00

2005

Country	Dispensaries / Hospitals Helped	Medical Literature Supplied	Medication		Total Value (£)
			& Equipment Supplied	& Treatment Supplied	
India	●		●	●	26,989.00
Iran	●	●		●	22,512.00
Iraq	●	●	●	●	30,360.00
Kenya		●	●	●	25,592.00
South Africa		●			72.00
Pakistan	●			●	7,284.00
Saudi Arabia				●	12,069.00
Tanzania	●	●	●	●	55,895.00
UK		●			15.00
TOTAL VALUE					£180,788.00

2.8 Help to Health Care Professionals

The Board has a supply of over 15 booklets including title such as 'Guide to Medical System in Britain,' 'Employment for Overseas Doctors and Dentists in the UK' and 'Training for General Practice'.

2.9 Help to Hospitals

- 2.9.1 *Arusha* - Various dental equipments, surgical instruments, journals and medical text books have been supplied.



- 2.9.2 *Moshi* – MAB supported Moshi Jamaat to restart its clinic. We raised funds and sent equipment worth over £20,000.

2.10 Improving Health through Education (Mombasa)

The monthly report submitted by Mombasa Prescription Subsidy Scheme details the name & age of the patients and provides details of the condition and the medication provided for treatment.

- 2.10.1 We conduct regular reviews of the data we collect. We can conclude:
- The most commonly prescribed drugs are anti-hypertensives. We therefore conclude that hypertension in our community is high.
 - Cough syrups, vitamins and minerals are over prescribed. Prescription is of little therapeutic value and the prescribing doctors are now aware of this.
 - There is excessive (and unnecessary) prescribing of antibiotics.
- 2.10.2 This report has been conveyed to Mombasa Jamaat who are taking steps to promote better health awareness by:
- Initiating health education
 - Education of doctors who over prescribe
 - Introducing 'black list' of unnecessary medicines

2.11 Jaffery Medical Clinic (Mombasa)

Mombasa Jamaat has created a clinic, with premises acquired with kind donation from the Hemani family of Dubai. The clinic will be fully equipped; benefiting from the service of doctors funded through subsidies. There will be an in-house pharmacy to dispense medicines and the Board has been able to send an ultrasound machine.

2.12 Iraq

In June 2004 the Board sent medicines & equipment to Al-Alwiya Maternity Teaching Hospital in Baghdad. The consignment included:-

- Two Infant Incubators
- Ultrasound Scanner Machine
- Transfusion sets
- Operating theatre equipment
- Essential life saving medicines.

- 2.12.1 Following an appeal by Ayatullah Seestani, the board sent medical supplies including an ultrasound machine, printer and an ECG machine.

2.13 Health Education

The following Health Education leaflets have been specially written for our community and are available online

- HIV and AIDS & Meningitis and Septicaemia



- Lupus (S.L.E.)
- Guidance For Participants In Ghusl And Kafan
- Protect Your Health During Haj & Ziarat
- Thalassaemia
- Cancer of Cervix & Smear Tests for Women
- Snoring & Sleep Apnoea
- Rubella
- Cousin Marriages
- Travellers' Deep Vein Thrombosis
- Breast Cancer

2.14 HIV & AIDS

As far back as the early 1990s, the Board had brought up the issue of HIV & AIDS in our community. MAB used an Executive Council meeting to draw attention to the idea that if no urgent action is taken, the infection will affect our whole community.

- 2.14.1 HIV & AIDS has indeed penetrated our community. So far we have received over 300 cases of HIV & AIDS. Most of these patients have died.

2.15 World Federation Autistic Centre, Dar-es-salaam

Opened in 2006, it will provide diagnoses, treatments and rehabilitation for children with autism and other disabling diseases.

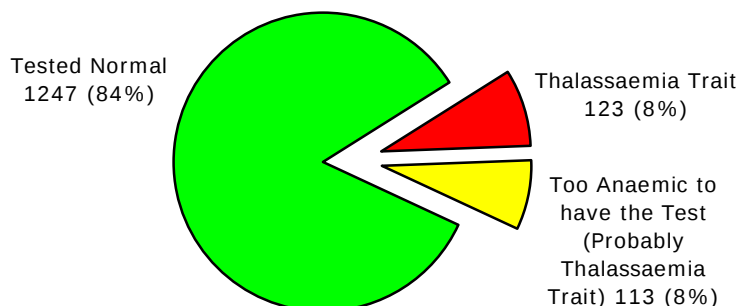
2.16 Thalassaemia

This is found in particularly in people of Mediterranean, middleast or Asian origin, which includes our community. Results of our screening program are shown below.

Thalassaemia Testing Results	
No of Jamaats Screened	9
No. of People Tested.	1501
Insufficient Sample (re-test req'd)	18
Too Anaemic for Test to be Tested	113
Successful Tests	1483
People not affected by Thalassaemia.	1247
People with Thalassaemia Trait	123

**THALASSAEMIA SCREENING**

[Total No. of People Screened 1501]



- 2.16.1 In 2006 the Metropolitan Police asked the Board to use its information on Meningitis and Septicaemia.

2.17 Screening Programme in Karachi & Hyderabad

Tests include Thalassaemia, Hepatitis A, B, & C, HIV, VDRL (Syphilis), and full physical examination. 2394 people have been screened so far.

	Number	Percentage
Beta Thalassaemia	160	6.68%
Hepatitis B Positive	15	0.60%
Hepatitis C Positive	37	1.54%
T.B. DOT Positive	10	0.42%
V.D.R.L – Syphilis Positive	2	0.09%

Those patients with positive results will be provided with further investigations, treatment and follow up. Participants with clear blood results are encouraged to donate blood.

3 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 All Jamaats are encouraged to organise an annual medical screening programme. The Regional Bodies are encouraged to bring this to the fore of their agenda, in order to persuade Jamaats of the importance of medical screening programmes.
- 3.2 All members should have a Thalassaemia test once in their lifetime. Again regional bodies and Jamaats are heavily encouraged to arrange the facilities in order for this to take place.
- 3.3 All prospective marital couples should have HIV, Hepatitis and Thalassaemia tests.



Summary of the Activities of the Medical Advisory Board; 2003-2006

Pakistan

- Subsidisation of Hujjaj groups to provide for their own doctors.
- Organisation of a screening program in Karachi.

United Kingdom

- Active promotion of medical screening programs in Jamaats
- Assistance to health-care professionals in UK and those who wish to migrate.
- Provision of information to the London Metropolitan Police about certain infectious diseases for use in training manual.
- Assistance to overseas patients for discounted medicines and hospital referrals.

Saudi Arabia

- Hajj Medical Mission – provision of Doctors to Hujjaj groups.

India

- Subsidisation of Hujjaj groups to provide for their own doctors.
- Growth in number of patients treated in Aeinullah Eye Clinics.
- Conversion of Bangalore eye clinic to full eye hospital with operating facilities.
- Opening of new eye clinics in Lucknow & Mianwali
- Clinic in Govandi is now self sufficient, handed over to local community.
- Screening program in Hyderabad.

Iraq

- Currently setting up an Aeinullah Eye Clinic in Sadr City, Baghdad.
- Medical supplies have been sent on two occasions, to the Maternity Teaching Hospital in Baghdad.

Kenya

- Commencement of Jaffery Medical Clinic, which will have a highly subsidised service, as well as an Ultrasound machine.
- Mombasa Jamaat pharmacy subsidy scheme.
- Assistance to patients seeking medical treatment abroad.

Tanzania

- An autistic centre is being opened in Dar-es-Salaam, which will be the first of this kind in East Africa.
- Assistance to medical patients seeking medical treatment abroad.

