



1st WFNS GLOBAL NEUROSURGERY CONFERENCE 2024, PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN

(February 24, 25)

The Peshawar Statement – Future of Global Neurosurgery

With the shared commitment to advance global neurosurgery in the spirit of collaboration, we declare The Peshawar Statement. The statement comes from the insights of the conference participants, collective wisdom, and actionable items from engaging discussions to focus on shaping the future of global neurosurgery.

The Key Takeaways:

Recognizing the constantly evolving landscape of global neurosurgery, we have transitioned from multiple definitions 3-5 years ago to an agreed-upon, **One Definition of Global Neurosurgery** during this conference: *Global Neurosurgery is the clinical and public health practice of neurosurgery with the primary purpose of ensuring timely, safe, and affordable neurosurgical care to all who need it.* This unified definition emphasizes not only on improving surgical techniques and practices, but also adds public health and social justice dimensions.

Acknowledging the challenges faced by underprivileged nations lacking neurosurgical infrastructure and capacity and the absence of neurotrauma programs, we endorse the need for promoting efforts with **Global Neurosurgery Champions**

and their Advocacy Goals in each country. Inspired by successful initiatives in Sierra Leone and Afghanistan, we encourage the identification and support of champions who can secure government support and foster sustainable progress without having to rely on traditional international aid. Highlighting the role of collective efforts in the progress of global neurosurgery, we suggest collaborations with other surgical societies as well as other stakeholders to develop **high-quality task-sharing and task-shifting systems** in countries currently lacking neurosurgeons. Champions could emerge from general surgeons performing neurosurgical tasks until the gap is bridged in establishing proper neurosurgery training programs.

Acknowledging the roles of nurses, students, and other allied health professionals, we aim to strengthen advocacy, grassroots efforts, and support for surgical system strengthening. A more **inclusive perspective and multidisciplinary collaboration** is important, including sociologists, anthropologists, historians, bureaucrats and politicians for advancing global neurosurgery. Recognizing the importance of **strategic partnerships**, we need to carefully select and engage partners, including nutritionists, lawyers, army personnel, and government officials. The involvement of decision-makers, authorities, and ministries of health in global meetings, conferences and discussions will enrich our endeavors, building and developing on their expertise will make our efforts more inclusive and impactful, especially in low and middle-income countries.

Building on the insights shared by various conference participants, we encourage the **young and diverse neurosurgical community engagement** into global neurosurgery. Acknowledging the successful initiatives in the US, we can explore similar models for other regions as well. The involvement of residents in research programs focusing on global health policies will provide a valuable plan to create a broader **research enterprise in global neurosurgery**. We emphasize the integration of young neurosurgeons and nurses at governance levels in our professional activities and encourage their participation in shaping the future of global neurosurgery.

Celebrating the **unity and diversity of global neurosurgery**, we call upon leaders in each country, irrespective of linguistic backgrounds, to collaborate and exhibit unity in our collective efforts. We call for **community involvement** and recognize

the need for an implementation science approach in growing neurosurgical services. We endorse the creation of an **advocacy toolkit** for global neurosurgery, facilitating the development of surgical plans and empowering professionals across linguistic and cultural diversities.

Concluding, we reiterate our commitment to inclusivity, excellent communication, regular meetings, and conferences, growing and guiding the young neurosurgeons and nurses, and the weaving of neurosurgical initiatives around existing agendas with the governments. Our approach is based on **solidarity through equitable partnerships**. We emphasize the GNC's nature as a **forum with inclusive space** for all, including neurosurgeons, non-neurosurgeons, nurses, young people, medical students, and advocates.

This Peshawar Statement represents our shared vision for an inclusive, impactful, and collaborative future in global neurosurgery.



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