

Dr. Ishaq N. Khan

Assistant Professor, Molecular Biology & Genetics

M.S. Drug Discovery & Development (Skin Cancer)

Ph.D. Cancer Biology (Brain Cancer)

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Dr. Ishaq has joined department of Pharmacology, Institute of Basic Medical Sciences Khyber Medical University in January 2017 and currently working as Assistant Professor in department of Molecular Biology & Genetics. In year 2017, he has established a “cancer tissue culture facility” and developed a research group (Pakistan NeuroOncology Research Group – PK-NORG) in collaboration with renowned neurosurgeons from different hospitals including Northwest General Hospital, Hayatabad Medical Complex and Lady Reading Hospital. Previously he has worked in international “Transitional NeuroOncology Group” where he has generated primary brain cancer cells from Arabian patients.

Dr. Ishaq’s primary area of doctorate research was focused on the characterization of drug resistant cells in primary brain tumors, where he has studied the molecular analysis of pathogenesis, pleomorphism, apoptosis, cancer stem cells presence and unique genetic signatures of meningiomas, that resulted in discovery of AGR2 as a novel marker for aggressive meningiomas. The work has been presented at different platforms including at “Neurooncology 20th scientific meeting” in San Antonio, TX, USA and at DKFZ (German cancer research center) in Hiedelberg, Germany. Currently at IBMS, KMU he has generated primary cells from wide range of adult and paediatric brain tumors’ patients including meningiomas, medulloblastomas, pituitary tumors, schwannomas, glioblastomas and other astrocytic tumors. His main focus is to investigate different biological and molecular aspects of CNS tumors that will majorly cover the genomic, proteomic and metabolomic instabilities in Pakistani population, with ultimate aim of novel drug discovery and improved therapeutic outcome.

Dr. Ishaq has 16 research publications to his credit in impact journals. He is currently supervising/co-supervising 12 M.Phil. and 3 Ph.D. Students. He has recently completed a project on brain tumors under a start-up research grant that was awarded by Higher Education Commission of Pakistan.