



Peek in Pakistan: Using data to optimise eye care services at scale

In Pakistan, Peek Vision is playing a key role in increasing access to eye care, powering programmes that are screening more than 200,000 people each month.

The challenge

Pakistan has a high burden of vision impairment and blindness. In 2020, an estimated 26 million people were living with vision loss, of whom 1.8 million were blind. Pakistan has been a world leader in delivering high quality eye care services, but its growing and ageing population means additional resources are required to effectively serve those in need.

Peek's role in improving eye health

Peek Vision is a not-for-profit organisation that develops software and data intelligence to strengthen eye health systems and service delivery. CBM Christian Blind Mission introduced Peek's

platform in Pakistan in 2018 with the support of Pakistan's National Committee for Eye Health. There are now successful Peek-powered CBM eye health programmes running in Punjab and Sindh Provinces, covering a population of more than 10 million people.

Punjab's College of Ophthalmology & Allied Vision Sciences (COAVS) and the Sindh Institute of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences (SIOVS) implement Peek-powered programmes in schools, communities and workplaces. This collaboration, which also includes district government authorities, is delivering cost-effective and accessible eye health services to a wide population.



As of June 2024

3.9m+	people screened using Peek in Pakistan
427k+	identified with an eye health need
71%	of these successfully connected to care ¹
82%	had their needs met at the primary level

Increasing access to eye care for millions of people

Since the first Peek-powered programme launched in Pakistan in 2018, the reach has scaled significantly with over 3.9 million people now screened using Peek. Peek's data intelligence platform is providing actionable insights to help optimise services so more people reach care.

Providing robust data for effective planning

Peek's new SEHRA (School Health Rapid Assessment) tool has been used to gather high-quality data on child eye health needs in a district in Punjab. Rapid Assessment of Avoidable Blindness surveys (in adults aged 50 years and over) have been conducted in both provinces using Peek's software for RAAB7, developed in partnership with the International Centre for Eye Health at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. The vital information gathered informs planning to make the most effective use of services.

¹ Connected to care = patients who have completed their treatment journeys within the Peek platform i.e. have attended all their appointments.

Bringing eye health services closer to the community

A network of more than 1800 Lady Health Workers are among 2250 users trained to use Peek's clinically validated smartphone app for screening and referrals in schools, community spaces and through door-to-door household visits. This raises awareness of eye health among those who may not know they have a problem, and reaches groups who find it difficult to travel to services.

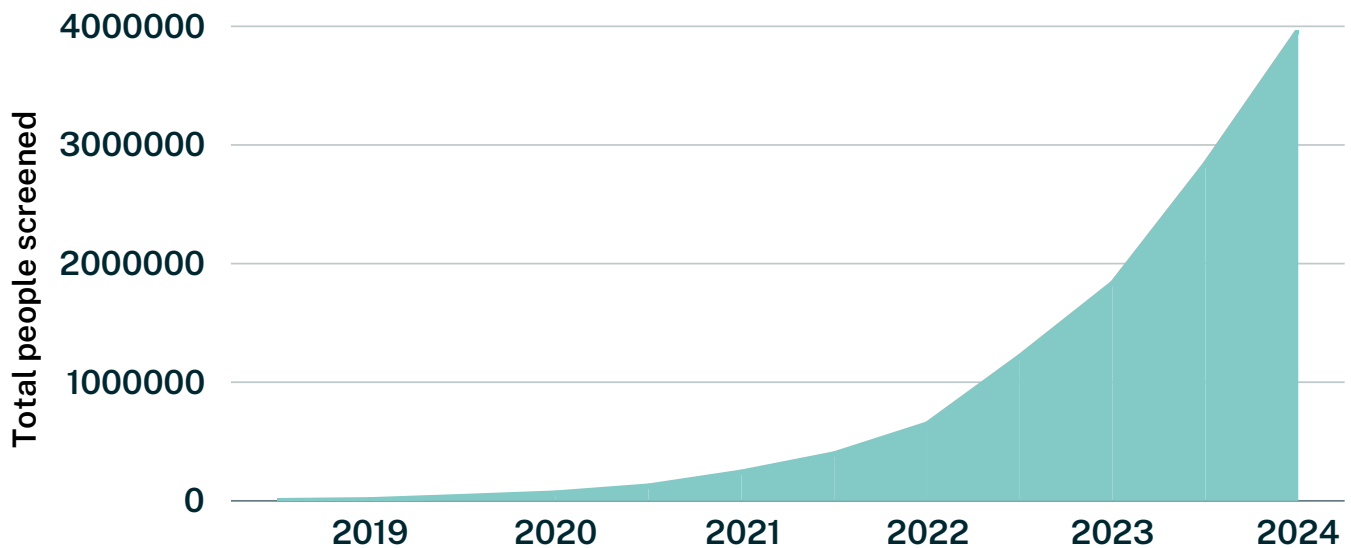


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“ Peek has been a game-changer in my work. I can perform eye screenings more efficiently and in significantly less time... The mobile application automatically records and saves patient data, eliminating the need for manual record-keeping. This feature has streamlined the whole process and reduces the burden at tertiary level.”

Beggi, Lady Health Worker

Number of people screened in Peek-powered programmes in Pakistan (up to June 2024)



Integrating services and strengthening health systems

Peek's software supports stronger referral pathways in each location to make more effective use of resources. The programmes have successfully strengthened the network and capacity of primary level basic health units and rural health centres, freeing up specialist capacity at hospitals. More than 80% of people identified with an eye health problem have their needs managed at these local health facilities without needing to travel further.

Across the two provinces, more than 7400 schools are connected to a network of local health facilities and hospitals.

Improving eye health at work

Good vision is especially critical for people working on the roads. In the district of Matiari in Sindh province, a Peek-powered programme is screening long distance truck drivers, ensuring that those identified with problems receive treatment to help keep roads safe for everyone.



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“ Peek has helped us to transform how we manage eye health caseloads, greatly increasing access to eye care at local health centres and allowing hospital staff to focus on more complex cases.”

Dr Zahid Awan, Inclusive Eye Health Project Manager, CBM Pakistan

Greater impact – powered by Peek

An analysis in Pakistan found that compared to standard programmes, Peek-powered programmes:



Screened **2.5x** more people



Connected **16x** more people to treatment



Cost at least **6x** less per completed referral

Pakistan success stories



Referrals to a district hospital for people who needed glasses **decreased from 41% to just 1%** after Peek was

introduced. Patients were instead treated at the primary level, freeing up specialist hospital resources to treat more complex conditions such as cataract.



A Peek-powered programme identified a significant gender disparity which they quickly improved using better targeted interventions. **The gender ratio shifted**

from 18:82 to 45:55 in just two months.



Attendance at follow-up appointments **improved from 56% to 82% in just six months** through targeted

programme improvements based on data revealed by Peek.

Government support

The progress being made in Pakistan led to the Sindh provincial government providing funding to scale up Peek-powered programmes in the province.

At a national level, data from the programmes has been used in Pakistan's National Eye Health Strategy to inform a recommendation to train and integrate optometrists into the primary health care system. The national government has also signalled its support for CBM and Peek technology, paving the way for the expansion of Peek-powered CBM programmes in the country.

Through existing and new collaborations, Peek and its partners aim to further scale up activities in Pakistan over the coming years. Launching Peek-powered programmes in new provinces will provide integrated eye care on a larger scale, ensuring more people can access life changing treatment.

To find out more visit peekvision.org

Or contact enquiries@peekvision.org