

“Forged in Togetherness”

When asked about their choice of Medicine, many practitioners offer a simple response: to help people. Yet, beneath the surface of this answer lies a subtle truth often overlooked. As providers, we stitch, soothe, and give a lending ear to our patients, but they, too, create space for us to be seen. As individual souls, we enter the exam room but often leave a piece of our essence behind with those we treat.

My work, titled "Forged in Togetherness," reflects how I perceive the realm of Medicine. The patient is symbolized by the central, vibrant heart. The intersecting lines pay homage to the idea that we share a part of our inner selves as integral members of our patient's support systems. True healing extends beyond prescriptions; it's a promise of partnership. The scattered blue hearts represent the various components of the patient's team, each contributing independently yet harmoniously. The different shades of blue signify this harmony amid diversity. The letters spelling "Stronger" within each heart underscore the might of interdisciplinary collaboration and the significance of inclusivity. The backdrop is adorned with the word "Together," repeated in diverse fonts, illustrating the manifold forms unity can assume. In the era of COVID-19, unity found expression through virtual connections, while within hospital walls, a simple smile at the reception could foster a sense of hope.

Topics like Addiction and Obesity defy simplistic viewpoints and blame games. The inner lives of our patients deserve understanding, aid, and restoration, as shared humanity exists between us. To be "Forged in Togetherness" means promising to transcend biases and work holistically, attuned to the aspirations of those we serve. I promise. Will you?

Noor Ali

