

# 5 Things You Did Not Know About Doctors' Day

by Federation of Private Medical Practitioners Associations, Malaysia

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On Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup> 2015 Malaysia will celebrate its second ever Doctors' Day. On October's tenth day, we encourage you to touch base with your doctor who has so painstakingly looked after your health. A simple thank you and a chat to update him or her about your health status would be in order.

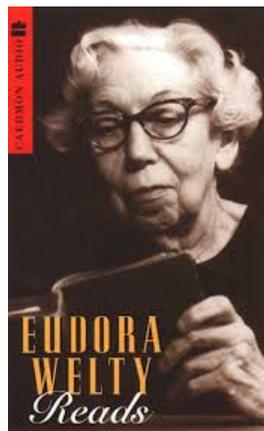
In celebration of this, here are 5 facts about Doctors' Day that you might not have known.

**1. The first Doctors' Day was celebrated 82 years ago in the United States.**

According to the Wood Library Museum, the first Doctors' Day was introduced in the United States of America and first observed on March 30, 1933, in Winder, Georgia.

**2. The Idea of Doctors' Day came from a Doctors' wife.**

Doctors' Day was thought of by Eudora Brown Almond, wife of Dr. Charles B. Almond, and the date chosen was the anniversary of the first use of general anesthesia in surgery.



pic credit: lhric

**3. Red Carnations are gifted to Doctors on Doctors' Day.**

Historically, a card or red carnation may be sent to physicians and their spouses, along with a flower being placed on the graves of deceased physicians.



pic credit: pennstatehersheydiversity

**4. Doctors' Day is celebrated around the world on different dates, annually.**

In Cuba, Doctors' Day (December 3) commemorates the Birthday of Carlos Juan Finlay, a Cuban physician and scientist recognized as a pioneer in yellow fever research. In Iran, Avicenna's birthday (August 23) is commemorated as the national day for physicians. Doctors' Day is also celebrated on July 1 across India to honour the legendary physician and the second Chief Minister of West Bengal, Dr Bidhan Chandra Roy. Lastly, Vietnam founded Doctors' Day on February 27, 1955 and celebrates it annually ever since.



pic credit: talkvietnam

**5. Doctors' Day was only introduced in Malaysia last year (2014)**

Doctors' Day, held on 10 October annually in Malaysia, was launched by FPMPAM in 2014, as a way to build closer ties between patients and their doctors in Malaysia. The launch was held in Ipoh for a weekend getaway for doctors and their families along with ample CSR programs.

Check out this year's celebrations in Penang, and find out how you can participate to recognize your doctor.

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