



PERSEKUTUAN PERSATUAN DOKTOR PERUBATAN SWASTA MALAYSIA FEDERATION OF PRIVATE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS' ASSOCIATIONS, MALAYSIA

Unit 1.6, Level 1, Enterprise 3B, Technology Park Malaysia (TPM), Jalan Inovasi 1
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SPEECH FROM THE PRESIDENT OF FPMPAM

It is my pleasant duty to speak to you all at this very special event, the 2nd FPMPAM/IPH Annual Scientific Convention incorporating the 1st FPMPAM Malaysian Healthcare Conference.

Incorporating the 1st FPMPAM MHC was a great innovation by Dr Milton Lum as to enhance the depth of discourse and deliberation of the theme of this meeting, "Current issues in medical practices and healthcare in Malaysia".

Many issues, big and small, in healthcare in Malaysia remain unsolved and it is important that all parties, private and public examine these in a manner of inclusiveness.

Firstly, the Government should recognise the important role played by the private GPs in providing affordable quality patient-centred care for our *rakyat*. We are glad to read the reassuring words of the PM in his message to the doctors at this meeting and we look forward to a formalised structure whereby the GPs will be officially part and parcel of the national primary care system. The business model of the solo practitioner has been proven to be the most cost efficient and patient-centric system of primary care. One GP with his couple of self-trained clinic support staff are able to cater for the healthcare needs of thousands of patients, everything done for in a one-stop patient friendly setup. Even in the UK and USA, such a system is only available to the top 10 percent of patients.

Choice, accessibility and affordability was never a problem for our GP service and will not be even with the proposed harmonisation of GP consultation fees in keeping with the increased cost of clinic operations since 2006. The private GP system will continue to complement the government's effort of improving the accessibility and quality of medical care for its *rakyat*.

It is important that we also look at medical needs of under-served communities both in the urban and rural setting. When we go to the ground we indeed find that the public services have been unable to reach many of such communities. The Federation and its outreach programme pledge that we will continue our efforts to do what we can. We fully support the Government's call not to leave anyone behind as the nation commits itself to the vision of developed nation by the year 2025.



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We would like to thank our previous partner, Impian Malaysia and acknowledge our new partners, the Malaysian Relief Agency, Bulan Sabit Merah Kedah, UKM Medical Alumni 85/86 and the Harapan Medical Team. In keeping with our feedback from our work over the past five years, the Federation will now be focusing on providing outreach care to the Oral Asli community in Peninsular Malaysia.

The Federation will continue to intensify CME/CPD programmes for our members. We call on the MMC Incorporated to be more responsive to the feedback with regards improving services to be provided in line with the amended Medical Act and Regulations.

The Federation is concerned that there is just too many laws and regulations regulating the practice of medicine. On the other hand, the business of medicine left to market forces and the mushrooming of middle men in medical care has led to escalating cost. The Federation repeats its call to cut out the middle men in medical care delivery and to bring back the human touch in the patient-doctor relationship.

The contribution of all professions to our nation building deserves to be acknowledged. Since 2014, the Federation has chosen 10th October each year to celebrate its Doctor's day. 10:10 signifies our objective to achieve perfection in our medical care service. We call upon the Government to recognise 10th October as Doctors' Day where our colleagues in both the private and the public sector can come together with a common aim for the betterment of our patients and the *rakyat*.

Dr Steven Chow
President, FPMPAM &
Organising Chair
FPMPAM Annual Scientific Convention