



5.3.2014

**PRESS STATEMENT FROM THE FPMPAM**

**Re: INCREASED DOCTORS' FEES INEVITABLE**

The increase in doctors' fees is inevitable. Doctors like all other professionals are affected by the increased cost of almost everything from basic items like electricity, water, labour, rental of premises to assessments, quit rents, transport, labour, medical indemnity insurance and clinical supplies.

The present doctors' professional fee schedule is based on rates existing since the year 2000.

In 2006, the Minister of Health had promised that this fee shall be revised within a year and then thereafter every three years in keeping with the increased cost of living and inflation.

An increase of 14.4% increase in the existing schedule amounts to less than 1% per year since the year 2000. It is not true that the doctor's professional fees have been increased to double the present rate. The upper range of GP professional fees have been increased to cater for GPs with specialization in family medicine.

The Federation is aware of the difficulties that the rakyat are facing with the increased cost of living today and have always urges our members to be mindful of this. In fact over the years, we find many of our doctors have been absorbing yearly increase in cost by charging way below what is allowed. We do urge all our members to continue providing quality and compassionate care to their patients at reasonable cost at all time.

**DR. STEVEN KW CHOW**

President  
FPMPAM