

Malaysian Medical Association calls for transparency over Rakan KKM

By [Ameen Hazizi](#) - July 15, 2025 @ 7:51pm



Malaysian Medical Association president Datuk Dr Kalwinder Singh Khaira says the Health Ministry must be transparent over the Rakan KKM initiative. Pic courtesy of MMA

KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysian Medical Association wants the Health Ministry to clarify the structure and operations of the newly-announced Rakan KKM initiative.

While welcoming the public-private partnership aimed at easing pressure on the public healthcare system, MMA president Datuk Dr Kalwinder Singh Khaira said key questions remain over its governance, scope, financing model and staffing.

"In light of recent reports suggesting that vacancies may already have been advertised and recruitment is underway, we urge the ministry to disclose details of the manpower structure under the Rakan KKM initiative, which falls under the Minister of Finance Incorporated (MoF Inc)," he said in a statement.

Dr Kalwinder said the initiative could inadvertently create a two-tier system favouring wealthier patients at public facilities.

"Such an outcome would undermine the principles of Universal Health Coverage, which are built on fairness and equal access to care for all, regardless of socioeconomic status," he said.

He added that there were also concerns over regulatory oversight, as Rakan KKM has reportedly applied for licensing under the Private Healthcare Facilities and Services Act 1998 via the Private Medical Practice Control Section (CKAPS).

"As this is a government initiative to be regulated by another arm of the government, public confidence in its transparency and compliance with standards must be guaranteed," he said.

Dr Kalwinder also said there could be an impact on public healthcare staffing, given ongoing shortages of doctors, nurses and allied health professionals.

"It is crucial that the ministry clarify whether Rakan KKM will involve secondment of government staff, external hiring, or transition of existing personnel out of the system," he said, adding that the use of public infrastructure and resources under the initiative must also be addressed.

MMA urged the ministry to provide prompt and transparent communication to avoid confusion among healthcare professionals and the public.

"Any new initiative must be people-centric, not profit-driven, and must prioritise the interest of the public," said Dr Kalwinder.

He added that all healthcare reforms or partnerships must be guided by equity, quality, transparency and long-term sustainability.

Yesterday, Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said Rakan KKM is a [government-led programme](#) under MoF Inc, designed to improve access to care without compromising equity in the public health system.