

# PPS Updates



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It gives my team and I great pleasure to be given an opportunity to serve the fraternity for another year as the chairman of PPSMMA ExCo and with the NWC. Under the leadership of Past Chairman Dr Muruga Raj and Vice Chairman Dr M Namazie, PPSMMA has been very vocal and made numerous breakthroughs in many long standing issues like FOMEMA, TPAs and Fee Schedule for the General Practitioners. Not forgetting stalling the Pharmacy Bill that would have changed the entire landscape of GP practice in Malaysia abruptly. Our approach has moved a lot things and the current team under my leadership will continue with the same approach but a bit more aggressive.

## PPSMMA EXCO 2017/18

### Chairman

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PPSMMA will abide to the member charter of MMA and one of it is:

**To uphold the bona fide interests of all Members in all dealings with the government and its related agencies, other professional medical and non-medical and, non-governmental organisations.**

As the leading, oldest and largest medical association in the country, we are duty bound to respond and address various issues faced by the fraternity be it policy matters, regulatory and trade issues. We will continue to be vocal, affirmative and engage the members and non-members for better representation.

Our immediate task is to push aggressively for closure of some of the long standing issues:

## 1. Third Party Administrators – (Work In Progress)



- For MMC to issue a circular to Registered Medical Practitioners (RMP) on ethical issues that they are exposing themselves in some of the contracts with TPAs.
- Some of the ethical issues that MMA has highlighted to MMC and Amalan are:
  - a) **Fee splitting** – lopsided agreements that forces the RMPs to pay certain percentage and fixed amount from the invoices to the TPAs.
  - b) **Inducements/kickbacks** – some TPAs have started introducing subscription and annual fee. This can be construed as inducements/kickbacks by the RMPs who are paying to the TPAs to channel the patients to their clinics.
- Some hospitals have gone into agreement with MCOs and are “arm twisting” the private specialists to give discounts.

## 2. Revised 7<sup>th</sup> Fee Schedule (Work In Progress)



- MMA's Fee Schedule committee headed by Dr M Namazie presented to Datuk Dr Jeyainderan, Deputy Director General of Health, MOH in Feb 2017.
- MOH has agreed to the MMA's proposal which was also supported by the other medical associations.

- The finalised copy by MOH has been sent to Malaysian Productivity Corporation for the due process being signed by Datuk Seri S Subramaniam, Minister of Health and gazette.

### 3. FOMEMA (Work In Progress)



- MMA has written a letter to follow on the fee proposal that was collectively submitted by MMA, FPMPAM, MPCAM & PERDIM.
- MMA has also identified three vendors with good track record who can provide the transmission and storage of digital X-ray images with an affordable price and free software installation. Now awaiting a reply from FOMEMA.

### 4. Enhancing GP Practice

- PPSMMA has set up a special committee headed by Datin Dr Fadzilah Hassan to address this issue.
- The committee will look for parallel pathways for the GPs to enhance their knowledge and in line with the current guidelines and good medical practice.
- Focus will be given to Quality In Practice which constitute the accreditation of the facility, the outcome of the services provided and following all the available SOPs.

- It is also in communication with a leading institution to train GPs with special interests in Cardiology cases.
- Have identified two public and one private medical universities to conduct post graduate courses for GPs
- To come out with a blueprint to accredit the existing 7000 GPs based on seniority, qualification and also for the future GPs.
- Government to provide education loan and funds to improve the facilities in GP practice.

### 5. Private Hospitals

- Object to the private hospitals that are masquerading as GP clinics by opening in-house and outpatient clinics.
- Private Hospitals to concentrate only in secondary and tertiary care.
- Private hospitals should not be involved in primary health screening
- The need for referral from GPs for private patients to seek specialist treatment at private hospitals for outpatient cases.
- Will have a meeting APHM/AMALAN to address these issues.

### 6. Code of Practice for General Practitioner and Specialist Clinics under PDPA

- MMA has been appointed as the Data User Forum by PDPA. Past President Dr Ashok Philip will head the above committee to prepare the code of practice.
- It will be completed by March 2018

We sincerely hope with the support from the members, we will be able to come to a closure on some of the above issues. Please feel free to contact anyone of us if you have any problems or questions in regards to the healthcare issues in the country.



**Newcastle University**  
UK | Malaysia | Singapore

We are currently seeking for candidates to join us for the following specializations:

Newcastle University, UK has established an international branch campus in Iskandar Puteri, Johor, Malaysia for the provision of its undergraduate Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) degrees in Medicine and BSc degrees in the Biomedical Sciences.

**LECTURER / SENIOR LECTURER / ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (CLINICAL)**  
Paediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, General Practice, General Surgery

Anyone wishing to discuss these opportunities further can contact Prof. Rudy Bilous, Dean of Clinical Affairs. (rudy.bilous@newcastle.ac.uk)"

Interested candidate with the right experience and qualification should read the relevant job/role descriptions available at <http://www.newcastle.edu.my/vacancies>. Please forward your application letter outlining your suitability to the position, relevant experience & expected salary. This should be sent together with your up-to-date resume, certs and scanned passport sized photograph by email to: nirmala.arjunan@newcastle.edu.my.

Website: [www.newcastle.edu.my](http://www.newcastle.edu.my)