

PPSMMA EXCO members with some of the PPSMMA NWC Members.

## Updates



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A total of 189 doctors from the private sector registered for the just concluded 35th PPSMMA AGM in Miri, Sarawak. It is just approximately 3% from the PPSMMA members. Let's work together in getting more of our members to attend the next AGM at the Pearl of Orient. To get 5% to attend is a realistic goal I believe we can achieve. It was nice to meet all the senior comrades and also many new members who attended the AGM for the first time.

We would like to thank all our past leaders who had worked tirelessly during their time to address various issues. It gave our team an opportunity to build networks with our counterparts from the public sector and also to listen to the grouses from our members from the grassroots. It is very important to be always connected to the grassroots, as they will be able to share the real sentiment and issues at the ground level. This information is very crucial for us to understand and it helps us in our various negotiations be it the government or the private sector.

They are also happy that MMA is getting connected to the ground and are able to disseminate information at real time at times. The grassroots members commended the quick dissemination of information and answering members by the previous PPSMMA and MMA Exco and insisted this should be continued to make MMA relevant to the members. Attending to grouses soonest possible is something we should always do in the global era of internet and social media. Various administrative bureaucracies should be cut down to make our decision making and dissemination of information faster.

Various issues will keep cropping up be it policy matters, trade or the practice of medicine. So we need to make sure our team is well represented be it the General Practitioners and Specialist from Private Sector, be it hospital setting or academia. This year we have covered all these areas.

We have a vibrant team in PPSMMA. We have two specialists in our team that is Dr Mohamed Namazie Ibrahim as our Vice Chairman and Datuk Dr Rajagopal our Treasurer. Dr Namazie being the Fee Schedule Committee Chairman and his vast experience in handling various issues will definitely give a boost to our team when negotiating especially with the TPAs. Datuk Dr Rajagopal has been a very prudent "chetti" making sure everything is done accordingly and his experience in academia is also an advantage for the team. We have two new deputy secretaries in our team to help out the Honorary Secretary Dr Arasu. Dr Sivanesan was a past chairman of Selangor, a quiet person but delivers task given to him and of course our firebrand GP Dr Mohamad Hanafiah Hamidon. With the addition of them in PPSMMA exco we believe we will be able to resolve some of the outstanding issues this year. Our immediate task is to address Pharmacy Bill, FOMEMA, TPAs and LHDN.

Thank you again to all of you for having the confident and trust in us. Let's work together in resolving various issues and also giving valuable input to the ministries on healthcare related issues.