

MMA calls for review of MMC operations to prevent APC issuance delays

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Malaysian Medical Association president Datuk Dr Thirunavukarasu Rajoo. NSTP FILE PIC

KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) has called for a comprehensive review of administrative operations within the Malaysian Medical Council (MMC) secretariat.

MMA president Datuk Dr Thirunavukarasu Rajoo said this is to prevent a recurrence of delays in the issuance of Annual Practising Certificates (APCs) to doctors.

He said the review should include staffing adequacy, workload management and process efficiency.

He, nevertheless, welcomed the announcement by the MMC related to the issuance of the APCs for 2026.

"The clarification that doctors who have fulfilled the key requirements, including valid professional indemnity, completion of CPD points and submission of payment, may continue practising while awaiting the physical issuance of their APCs is timely and reassuring, especially for those in private practice.

"We also welcome MMC's firm commitment to resolve all pending APC issuances by Jan 31," he said in a statement today.

He said the assurance provides much-needed clarity to doctors who were left in uncertainty, as well as relieving the administrative and legal pressure placed on them by hospitals, pharmaceutical partners and insurance networks, particularly in relation to professional liability exposure.

Earlier today, MMC said doctors who have lawfully submitted their APC renewal applications may continue practising without repercussions until their APCs are issued, provided they are not subject to any legal restrictions.

It said that APCs for applications completed by Dec 31 in accordance with the relevant

procedures will take effect from Jan 1, even if the certificates are issued at a later date.

The MMC also apologised for the delay due to the sharp rise in applications received at the end of the year, particularly for applications submitted with supporting documents that were received late.

It was reported that thousands of doctors are currently practising medicine without valid APC as the MMC has yet to approve their renewal applications.

Without a valid APC, medical practitioners are not permitted to provide medical services.