

REPORT OF THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

2020/2021

**PERSATUAN PERUBATAN MALAYSIA
MALAYSIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

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ANNUAL REPORT 2020 – 2021

COMPOSITION OF THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

At the first meeting of the 61st Council held on 26th September 2020, Dato' Dr Vijaya Singham Petharunam Pillai was reappointed as the Chairman of the Ethics Committee. The members of the Committee are as follows:

Members of the Ethics Committee (2020/2021)

Chairman	: Dato' Dr Vijaya Singham Petharunam Pillai
Secretary	: Dr Thirunavukarasu Rajoo
Committee Members	: Dr Krishnamurthy Thuraiappah
	: Brig Gen (Rtd) Datuk Dr N Rajagopal
	: Dr Gunasekaran a/l Balasundaram
	: Prof Dato' Dr NKS Tharmaseelan
	: Prof Dr Azhar Bin Md Zain
	: Dr Nesamani KS Vengadasalam
	: Dato' Dr Abdul Hamid bin Abdul Kadir
Secretariat	: Ms Natasha



Standing Left to Right: Dr Nesamani KS Vengadasalam, Dato' Dr Abdul Hamid Bin Abdul Kadir, Prof Dato' Dr NKS Tharmaseelan, Dato' Dr Vijaya Singham Petharunam Pillai, Dr Krishnamurthy Thuraiappah, Dr Thirunavukarasu Rajoo, Brig Gen (Rtd) Datuk Dr N Rajagopal

INTRODUCTION

Doctors have a respected position in Society and the public has high expectations of the medical profession and those expectations are rising as people become better informed about the medical care. Patients want to be sure that their doctors are professionally competent and considerate and respect their views and wishes when treating them. Doctors are responsible for maintaining their professional competence and standard of performance. The basis of professional practice is as follows:

- Be professionally competent.
- Perform consistently well.
- Practice ethically and professionally.
- Demonstrate common decency.
- Do patients no harm.
- Offer compassionate and empathic care.
- Be an effective team player.
- Take action if poor practice places patients at unnecessary risk.
- Have good interpersonal and communication skills.

The MMA “Code of Ethics” and “Code of Professional Conduct” of MMC provide a set of fundamental principles which should guide doctors in their professional conduct. Doctors should strive to build a professional reputation based on integrity and ability and be aware that your personal conduct may affect your reputation and that of your profession.

The medical profession’s moral authority is conferred by Society through the process of licensing or registration. This is the social contract through which doctors are accorded special status in return for a particularly stringent set of behavioural expectations. Doctors will use the best of their ability, knowledge, skills and judgment in the service of the patient. Any breach of this responsibility will diminish the moral authority of the individual doctor and of the profession as a whole.

The code binds the profession together regardless of the anatomical zones of our interest or the instruments that are held in our hands.

MEETINGS

Up to the date of writing this report, one meeting was held. The attendance of the members is as follows:

NAMES	1 ST ETHICS COMMITTEE MEETING 24/04/2021
Dato’ Dr Vijaya Singham Petharunam Pillai	√
Dr Thirunavukarasu Rajoo	√
Dr Gunasekaran a/l Balasundaram	√
Prof Dato’ Dr NKS Tharmaseelan	√
Dato Dr Abdul Hamid bin Abdul Kadir	√
Dr Krishnamurthy Thuraiappah	√
Prof Dr Azhar bin Md Zain	x
Brig Gen (Rtd) Datuk Dr N Rajagopal	√
Dr Nesamani K S Vengadasalam	√

COMPLAINTS

Until the preparation of this report, Ethics Committee have received 15 complaints during this term. There were many complaints and queries received by email which we have not included in this report.

NATURE OF COMPLAINTS

COMPLAINTS ON	NO. OF CASES
Professional Fees	1
Medical Report	1
Unprofessional Conduct	1
Hospital Charges	0
Advertisement	1

For comparison, the total number of cases received in the last five years is shown below:

PERIOD	NO. OF CASES
2012 - 2013	44
2013 - 2014	30
2014 - 2015	21
2015 - 2016	14
2016 - 2017	15
2017 - 2018	19
2018-2019	7
2019-2020	8
2020-2021	4

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chairman of the Ethics Committee thanks all members of the Committee for their attendance and contribution at all the meetings.

Our appreciation also goes to the Secretariat Staff for the day-to-day administrative work.

CASE 1: PROFESSIONAL FEES

Complaint received on 04th April 2021.

Subject: Unethical Practices by Klinik xxx

Good day.

I would like to lodge an official complaint to MMA regarding Klinik xxx unethical behaviours.

This clinic abused my patient confidential information and provided information which were false and unrelated to medical purposes to mislead my employer in xxx and head office in xxx with a malicious intent for personal revenge. His unethical actions in breaching my confidentiality have seriously impacted my personal and social life, damaging my reputation, jeopardising my employment and remuneration and threatening me and my family's safety.

As their regular patient for the past few years, I found that their charges for medicines were inconsistent and sometime bills were not itemised. As a careful and prudent patient, when I enquired further, they were annoyed. On 30th January 2021 at 7.55 p.m., Klinik xxx cheated my insurance company for consultation fee without providing any consultation to me (the part time medical officer is leaving the clinic after his shift). The CCTV footage in Klinik xxx on that day will prove that the part time medical officer did not physically examine me yet they charged consultation fee and prescribed medication to me.

Your attention on this matter is greatly appreciated.

- (a) MMA wrote a letter to Klinik xxx on 4th May 2021 to seek explanation with regard to the said incident.

Comment: No reply and the matter will be discussed in the next Ethics meeting(s) on further course of action to be taken.

CASE 2: UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

Complaint received on 21st May 2021.

Subject: Doctor not wearing the mask

Dear MMA,

I would like to report a doctor at Klinik xxx, xxx who putting all her patients on risk of getting the Covid-19 where the on-duty doctor is not wearing the mask during the patients seek medical advice.

This incident happened on 21 May 2021, 6.50am when my wife visited the clinic for medical advice and she noticed that the doctor was not wearing a mask during her duty. I'm just wondering how can a frontliner is not following the SOP and putting the patients on risk of getting Covid-19 during this

pandemic where the daily case keep climbing (is that because the frontliner has been vaccinated? Or not afraid of dying?). I believe her conduct is serious violation of professional code.

I think wearing a mask is a common practice or a new norm, as a normal citizen in Malaysia we are together fighting with Covid-19. Should the doctor demo a good example to public by just wearing a mask where they are the most knowledgeable and understand the impact of the virus.

Please launch an investigation on this.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

- (a) MMA has sent a letter requesting for feedback and explanation from Klinik xxx with regard to the said incident.

Comment: No reply and the matter will be discussed in the next ethics meeting(s) on further course of action to be taken.



CASE 3: MEDICAL REPORT

Complaint received on 24th May 2021.

Sub: Of Public Interest

Prof, I wish to draw your kind attention on a case that I am facing and feel that it is of public interest also.

I am a heart patient of 12 years having undergone six stenting ,one in J [REDACTED] JB in 2008 and 5 stenting in Apollo hospital Chennai in 2017.

I had complains of chest pain in 2019 and upon visit to Chennai Cardiologist [REDACTED] was diagnosed with yet another block of 90% to 95%.

I requested [REDACTED] for medication as I was not prepared at that point of time to undergo another stenting.

Unfortunately the pandemic set in in early 2020 and borders have been shut esp in Malaysia.

I needed the medication as a life saving measure and made orders via courier on a monthly basis.

I did try to get the medicine locally but I got into trouble and was treated [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

My body is condition to the Indian medicines as when I started to resume them I became well again.

My concern is that the Health Ministry though its Pharmaceutical Wing has started to give me problems with a warning letter that I should stop importing my medicines from India.

I am shocked to learn that I have NO RIGHT to buy medicines to save my life.

I view this as great public interest as the Pandemic is preventing me from going over to India to get myself treated again.(Quarantine etc)

I now appeal to Prof on public interest to take up this matter which I am sure is faced by several other patients who were treated overseas, unable to go for follow ups and perhaps facing the same threat from the Health Ministry.

There need to be changes to the current laws to permit critical ill patients to import small amounts of medicines as a right to save their lives especially so during the Pandemic.

I have enclosed relevant documents (Photostat) for your kind attention and further action.

I sincerely hope Prof would take up the matter with the Health Ministry for fair and just to prevail.

I await a favourable reply from your end Prof

- (a) MMA sent a letter to the Ministry of Health to seek for advice and a professional reply to the said matter.

Comment: No reply and the matter will be discussed in the next ethics meeting(s) on further course of action to be taken.



CASE 4: ADVERTISEMENT

Complaint received on 27th March 2021.

Subject: Unethical behaviour re: Dr. xxxxx - Official Complaint

Hope you are well. I am an Orthopaedic Surgeon currently working with KKM. I was a Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon in the UK and I have just returned to Malaysia via xxxxx after 18 years in the UK. I am an MMA life member.

I returned to Malaysia in December 2020 as my dad, xxx who was a very respected senior general practitioner was admitted to IJN. Unfortunately, he passed away on 8/1/2021.

His obituary was posted on the Malaysian Medical Association webpage.

I received a very disturbing message from a close friend of my mother who said that an Indian qualified doctor by the name of xxxxx who is currently practicing at Klinik xxx, had posted slanderous lies about my late father on a Whatsapp group (Malaysian xxxxx). He took a screenshot of my dad's obituary which was posted on the MMA webpage and he had accused my dad of molest and accused my dad of taking his partner to court (both of which did not occur).

I am ashamed that Malaysia has doctors with such behaviour. This should not be tolerated in any civilised countries and it should not be tolerated in Malaysia.

What xxx has done is something beyond disciplinary. He has posted false slander about another respected MMA member, the late xxxxx who was a very caring and respected general practitioner in xxx. This undisciplined doctor, xxx has also lied about my father to people in that particular group.

I thus urge MMA to investigate him urgently. Doctors have a responsibility to maintain a high degree of decorum and have to be responsible for their behavior as it would reflect badly upon other members of this highly respected profession. I would be surprised if this, xxxxx is not suspended from MMA for his unethical behaviour.

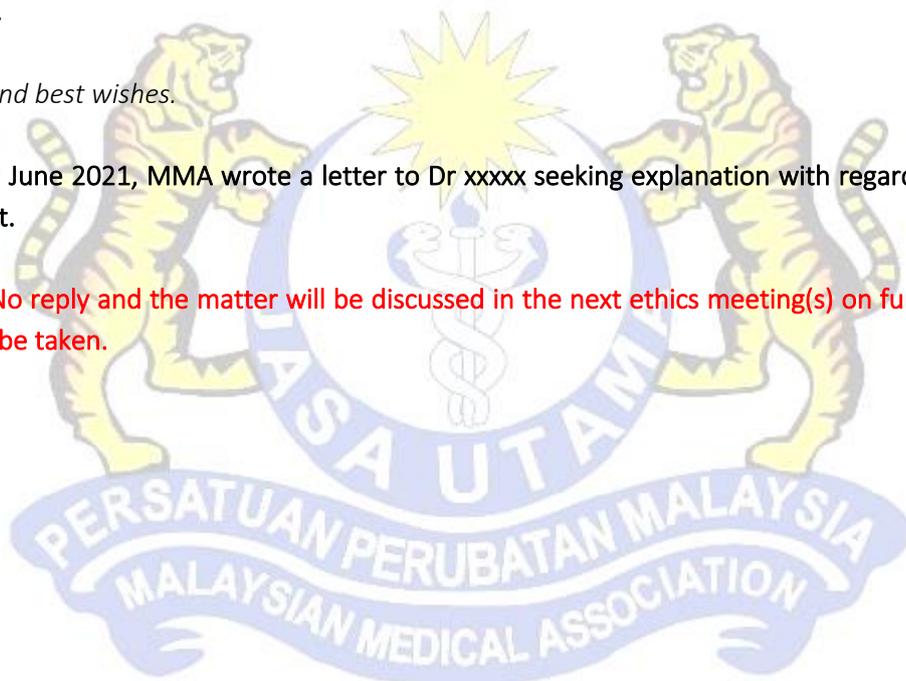
I have attached the whatsapp post he has posted in regards to my late father. I have included my mother (Dr xxxx), my sister (Dr xxxx) and my brother (Dr xxxxx) in this email. Please include them in all correspondence regarding this matter.

I hope you please investigate this case urgently and professionally. This is a serious matter. Please keep me updated.

Thank you and best wishes.

(a) On 14th June 2021, MMA wrote a letter to Dr xxxxx seeking explanation with regard to the said incident.

Comment: No reply and the matter will be discussed in the next ethics meeting(s) on further course of action to be taken.



APPENDIX I

RULES OF THE ETHICS COMMITTEE

Rule 1

Where a complaint is brought to the notice of the Honorary General Secretary of the Association regarding the professional conduct of a member of the profession, a direction shall be obtained from the Chairman of the Ethics Committee as to whether in his opinion there is prima facie for investigation by the Association. If the complaint is unsigned or does not contain the original newspaper cutting (in the case of a complaint relating to alleged advertising), the Secretary will write to the complainant to rectify such defects before proceeding further on any complaint. All anonymous complaints i.e. without a name or contact address will not be further acted upon, save at the discretion of the Ethics Committee in matters of serious concern to the Association. The Secretary shall keep the Chairman of the Ethics Committee informed of all correspondence on matters related to the Ethics Committee.

Rule 2

Complaints regarding the professional conduct of individual members of the profession shall be considered by the Ethics Committee in the following circumstances:

- i. Upon reference from a Branch Committee.
- ii. Upon a report being made to the Council of the Association by a Branch Committee that the propriety of a member of the Association remaining a member may be called into question.
- iii. Upon a report from a member or non-member of the Malaysian Medical Association or a member of the public, whether the complainant is personally affected or not.

Rule 3

An investigation regarding the professional conduct of a member of the profession may be held either at an ordinary meeting of the Ethics Committee or at a special meeting, at the discretion of the Chairman of the Committee. Not less than twenty-one days' notice of the meeting shall be given to every member of the Committee and to all parties concerned.

Rule 4

I. IN CASES OTHER THAN APPEAL TO THE COUNCIL OF THE ASSOCIATION:

- i. The Honorary General Secretary of the Association shall inform the respondent that a complaint regarding his conduct is to be brought to the notice of the Ethics Committee and shall invite him to submit his written observation on the matter or to supplement any explanation he has given on a previous occasion. If a reply is not received within 14 days a further two reminders will be sent by AR Registered post.
- ii. Each party shall send to the Honorary General Secretary not less than 14 days prior to the date of the meeting of the Committee at which the complaint is to be investigated copies of all documents on which he intends to rely. Except with the consent of the Chairman and

of the other party, no other party, no other documents shall be considered but it may be considered or heard at an adjourned meeting.

- iii. If there is no response after fourteen days, further two reminders will be sent by AR Registered post. If there is still no response, the Ethics Committee shall deliberate on the case and may forward the complaint to the regulatory authorities, if appropriate.
- iv. The Committee shall investigate the facts of the case and shall take such evidence as shall be deemed by the Committee necessary for the purpose.

II. IN CASES OF APPEAL

- i. The Honorary General Secretary of the Association shall inform both the complainant and the respondent that the appeal is to be considered by the Council of the Malaysian Medical Association and shall invite them to supplement any observation or explanations given on any previous occasion in writing.
- ii. Paragraphs (i) (b) shall apply to the Council of the Association when hearing an appeal.
- iii. Paragraphs (i) (c) shall apply only as regards documents not relied on before the Ethics Committee.
- iv. No party shall be entitled to adduce evidence additional to that called before the Ethics Committee by whom the case has previously been investigated without the permission of the President of the Council. Any application for permission to adduce additional evidence shall be made to the Hon. Gen. Secretary not less than 14 days before the date fixed for the hearing of the appeal.
- v. Legal assistance either paid or unpaid is not permitted on either side at the hearing, but the President may allow any person concerned in the investigation to be assisted in presenting his case by a colleague who, except by permission of the Council, shall not be permitted to address the Council.

Rule 5

Where the case is one affecting only the parties concerned it shall be competent for the Committee after due inquiry and investigation of the case under these Rules to approach both the complainant and the respondent with suggestions or advice regarding an amicable resolution of the dispute for their acceptance. This may include referral for arbitration or mediation with the consent of both parties. If all parties adopt and subsequently put into effect such suggestions or advice the Committee may at its discretion, declare the case to be finally resolved. On receipt of information that such suggestions or advice have not been put into effect, the Committee shall with the permission of the Chairman, further consider the case at a further meeting of which notice shall be given under Rule 4 and for which the procedure shall be as laid down in Rule 4.

Rule 6

The Committee or Council shall, subject in Rule 6 after due investigation adopt a resolution in one of the following forms or in such other form as it may consider appropriate:

I. IN ALL CASES OTHER THAN CASES OF APPEAL

- i. That in the opinion of the Committee the complaint has not been established, and that the case be dismissed.
- ii. That in the opinion of the Committee there has been no violation of the Articles, Rules (or Resolutions) of the Association or Branch, or of the generally accepted principles of professional conduct, and that no action be taken.
- iii. That in the opinion of the Committee the complaint is frivolous, and that the case be dismissed.
- iv. That in the opinion of the Committee.....has committed an indiscretion and error of judgement in that he has..... but that his conduct does not call for censure.
- v. That in the opinion of the Committee..... has violated:
 - (a) the Articles, Rules (or Resolutions) of the Association;
 - (b) the generally accepted principles of professional conduct in that he hasbut that, in consideration of faults on the part of others concerned, the case be dismissed.
- vi. That in the opinion of the Committee has violated.
 - (a) The Articles, Rules (or Resolutions) of the Association;
 - (b) The generally accepted principles of professional conduct, in that he has and that he be and hereby be referred to the Malaysian Medical Council.
- vii. That in the opinion of the Committee the conduct of has been (or is)
 - (a) in violation of the Articles, Rules (or Resolutions) of the Association;
 - (b) detrimental to the honour or interests of the Association (and);
 - (c) detrimental to the honour or interest of the medical profession in that he has and (if a member) resolve that he be informed of this finding of the Committee and allowed until to consider his position; that the Honorary General Secretary of the Association be instructed to report in due course to the Committee upon his reply if any, and that, if upon, such further report the Committee shall consider his reply unsatisfactory, or if no reply be received within the time specified, it be recommended to the Council of the Association

that the Council in the exercise of its power under the Articles of the Association do expel from membership of the Malaysian Medical Association.

viii. That it is recommended to the Council of the Association that the Council in the exercise of its powers under the Articles of Association do expel from membership of the Malaysian Medical Association.....of.....a member of the.....Branch, on the ground that his conduct is deemed by the Council to have been (or to be):

- (a) detrimental to the honour and interests of the Association (and);
- (b) detrimental to the honour and interest of the medical profession (and);
- (c) calculated to bring the profession into disrepute;
- (d) such that he has wilfully and persistently refused to comply with the Regulations of the Association.

In all cases in which a resolution is adopted by the Committee in terms of one of the alternatives contained in sub-paragraph (vi) to (viii) hereof the Committee shall prepare a statement for the information of Council and such statement shall consist of the following:

- (a) all necessary concerning the parties and date and place of investigation, the nature of the evidence adduced before the Committee and such other matters of a like nature as the Committee shall think proper.
- (b) a summary of the facts of the matter in dispute as found by the committees to have been proved and;
- (c) a statement of the inferences (if any) material to the issues in dispute drawn by the Committee from such facts.

II. IN ALL CASES OF APPEAL EITHER

- i. a resolution that the Council of the Association uphold the decision of the Committee and dismiss the appeal, or
- ii. a resolution, in one of the forms set out above sub-paragraph (i) to (viii) and in addition to one of the following resolutions:
 - (a) that the appeal be allowed;
 - (b) that the appeal be dismissed;
 - (c) that the decision of the Committee be modified accordingly.

Rule 7

A copy of any resolution of the Committee adopted under Rule 7 shall be sent by the Honorary General Secretary of the Association to the complainant and the respondent and to the Honorary General

Secretary of such branch (if any) as the Committee shall resolve to be directly concerned for the confidential information of the members of the Executive Committee of such branch as the Committee shall.

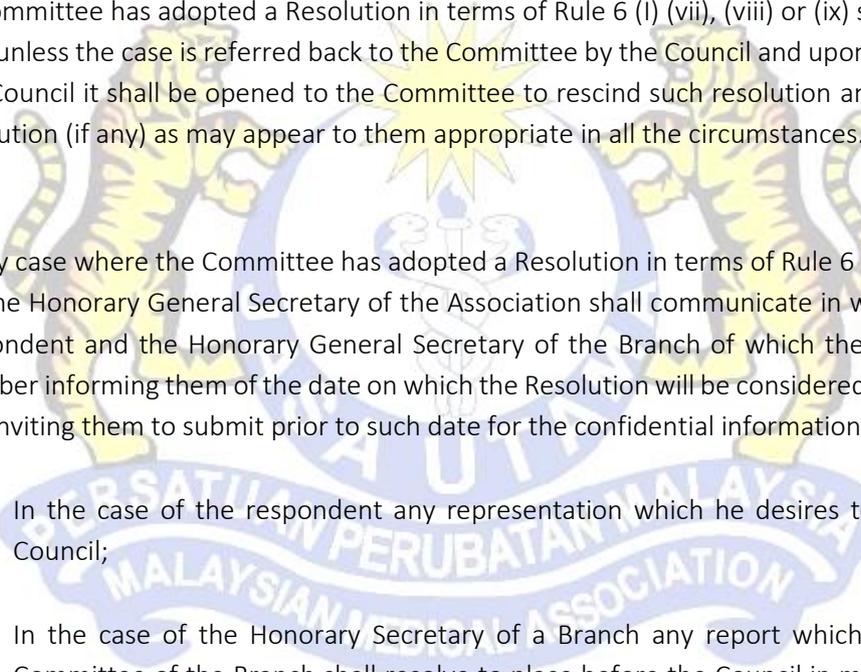
Rule 8

Save where the Committee has adopted a Resolution in terms of Rule 6 (I) (viii) if a medical practitioner shall make amends or express regret in writing to the satisfaction of the Ethics Committee it shall be competent for the Committee subsequently by resolution to rescind any Resolution passed under Rule 6 and to pass such further Resolution (if any) as may appear to them appropriate in all the circumstances.

Rule 9

The Resolution of the Committee upon a case, other than a case where the Committee has adopted a Resolution in terms of Rule 6 (I) (vii), (viii) or (ix) shall be final unless new facts shall subsequently be brought forward which, in the opinion of the Committee, justify the case being reopened. In a case where the Committee has adopted a Resolution in terms of Rule 6 (I) (vii), (viii) or (ix) such resolution shall be final unless the case is referred back to the Committee by the Council and upon any reference back by the Council it shall be opened to the Committee to rescind such resolution and to pass such further Resolution (if any) as may appear to them appropriate in all the circumstances.

Rule 10

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- (i) In any case where the Committee has adopted a Resolution in terms of Rule 6 (I) (vii), (viii), or (ix) the Honorary General Secretary of the Association shall communicate in writing with the respondent and the Honorary General Secretary of the Branch of which the respondent is member informing them of the date on which the Resolution will be considered by the Council and inviting them to submit prior to such date for the confidential information of the Council.
 - (a) In the case of the respondent any representation which he desires to place before Council;
 - (b) In the case of the Honorary Secretary of a Branch any report which the Executive Committee of the Branch shall resolve to place before the Council in mitigation of the conduct of the respondent which report may refer to the character and status of the respondent and any matter which such Branch Committee consider would further its purpose.
 - (ii) Such communication from the Honorary General Secretary of the Association shall wherever reasonably practicable be sent so as to give both to the respondent and to the Honorary Secretary of the Branch not less than 21 days' notice and where an unreasonable delay would be caused by delaying the consideration of the matter until a later meeting of the Council.
 - (iii) Any representation sent by the respondent and any report adopted by the Executive Committee of a Branch and submitted by the Honorary General Secretary of such Branch under this rule shall be communicated to the members of the Council and of the Ethics Committee only.

Rule 11

After a case has been referred to the Ethics Committee for investigation, if either party shall make any report or complaint or institute any proceedings based on the matter in dispute or anything in any way connected therewith, whether to any criminal or civil court or to anybody having statutory or other powers of discipline over either party while the matter is under consideration by the Ethics Committee or the Council, the Committee or the Council, as the case may be, may at its discretion, adjourn or refuse to proceed with the investigation of the case.

Rule 12

- (i) If any member of the Ethics Committee shall have taken part in the previous investigation into any case he shall be debarred from taking part in the consideration of such case as a member of the Council of the Association, but he shall not be debarred from giving evidence as to the facts if called upon to do so.
- (ii) If any member of the Ethics Committee be personally concerned in a case or be principal or partner or assistant of any person so concerned, or have otherwise any personal interest in or special knowledge of the case, he shall, before the consideration by the Ethics Committee of any report or recommendation thereon, disclose such interest to the Committee and if so decided by the Committee, he shall retire from the meeting during such consideration, but he shall not be debarred from giving evidence as to facts if called upon to do so.
- (iii) Where the Chairman of the Ethics Committee is debarred from taking part in the consideration of a case under (i) or (ii) above the Committee shall appoint one of its members to act as Chairman for the purpose of the case.

Rule 13

- (i) In every case in which the Ethics Committee shall, after due investigation in accordance with these Rules, have passed a Resolution declaring that in the opinion of the Committee the conduct of any medical practitioner, whether by contravention of the Rules and Resolutions of a Branch or otherwise, has been (or is) detrimental to the honour and interests of the medical profession or of the Association, it shall be the duty of the Honorary General Secretary of the Association, if the Committee shall so resolve, to cause such Resolution to be brought directly to the knowledge of every member of the Branch in the area of which such practitioner resides, and every member of such other Branches as the Committee may specify, by means of a Notice in the form appended hereto which notice it shall be the duty of the Honorary General Secretary of the Association to authenticate by his signature. In the case of a Notice of which copies are made by a mechanical process it shall suffice the signature of the Secretary appears on the original Notice and is copied as part thereof.
- (ii) In any case in which the Ethics Committee shall, at the time of, or subsequently to, the adoption of a Resolution of the nature contemplated by paragraph (i) of this Rule, have also resolved that, in the opinion of the Committee, it is desirable that such Resolution shall be brought officially to the notice of any specified Branches of the Association, it shall be the duty of the Honorary General Secretary of the Association to transmit copies of the said Resolution to the Honorary General Secretaries of the Branches so specified, whose duty it shall be to bring such resolution in a proper manner to the notice of members of the Branch.

- (iii) In any case in which the Committee has adopted a Resolution in terms of Rule 6 (I) (vii) no Resolution of the nature contemplated by paragraphs (i) or (ii) of this Rule shall be adopted by the Committee until after the consideration by the Committee of the Report of the Honorary General Secretary under Rule 6 (I) (vii) and in any case in which notices have been sent by the Honorary General Secretary under paragraphs (i) or (ii) of this Rule and in which the Committee subsequently rescinds its Resolution under Rule 8 it shall be the duty of the Honorary General Secretary to send to the recipients of the Notice so sent a further notice of such rescission and to take all reasonable steps to ensure further notice is received by all recipients of such original notice.

FORM OF NOTICE REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH (i) MALAYSIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

(Private and Confidential)

NOTICE

In pursuance of Rule 12 of the Rules of the Ethics Committee of the Association relating to Complaints regarding Professional Conduct, Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Committee held at on the day of a Resolution in the following terms was duly passed:

“That, in the opinion of the Committee, the conduct of has been (or is) detrimental to the honour and interests of the medical profession and/or to the honour and interests of the Association in that he has

Signed in pursuance of the Rules of the Ethics Committee of the Malaysian Medical Association relating to the complaints regarding Professional Conduct.

Honorary General Secretary
Malaysian Medical Association

Rule 14

- (i) All notices or communication required by these Rules to be served on or sent to any person may in the case of a Member of the Association be served or sent either by personal delivery or by Registered Post in a prepaid letter addressed to such member at his address appearing in the Register of Members of the Association and in the case of a person who is not a member be served or sent either by personal delivery or by being sent through the post in a prepaid letter addressed to such person at his last known address. Any notice or communication if served by post shall be deemed to have been served on the day following that on which the letter is posted (unless such day following is a Sunday or other day on which no postal delivery is made, in which event the notice or communication shall be deemed to have been served on the day on which a postal delivery shall next be made) and in proving service it shall be sufficient to prove that the letter was properly addressed and put into the Post Office.
- (ii) The Ethics Committee may appoint Ethics Sub-Committees in each of the Branches and delegate all or some of its functions to these Sub-Committees, which shall deal with all ethical complaints

that arise within the Branch. Where an ethical complaint affects members in more than one Branch, it shall be referred to the Ethics Committee of the Association. In all ethical matters coming under the Ethics Committee, where the rules of the Ethics Committee or the Code of Ethics refer to the Ethics Committee, this shall be read as referring to the Ethics Sub-Committee.

Each Ethics Sub-Committee shall consist of the Branch Chairman who shall be Chairman of the Sub-Committee, the Branch Secretary, who shall be the Secretary of the Sub-Committee, and three other members who shall be appointed by the Ethics Committee.

The Rules of the Ethics Committee shall generally apply to the Ethics Sub-Committee.

DATO' DR VIJAYA SINGHAM PETHARUNAM PILLAI
CHAIRMAN
ETHICS COMMITTEE 2020/2021

