

MMA wants action against unethical doctors, review of healthcare middlemen

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PETALING JAYA: Appropriate action must be taken against doctors committing fraud in the Madani Medical Scheme, says the Malaysian Medical Association (MMA).

"The MMA takes a serious view of these upsetting revelations by the Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad in his reply in Dewan Negara and supports action being taken against any doctors to be found to be involved in unethical practices," said MMA president Dr Azizan Abdul Aziz in a statement on Aug 3.

She said the vast majority of general practitioners (GPs) in Malaysia are committed to providing high-quality care and upholding the highest ethical standards who form the backbone of the primary healthcare system.

"However, MMA firmly believes that the action of a few should not tarnish the reputation of the majority of the dedicated GPs) who serve their communities with integrity.

"While we do not condone any form of misconduct, it is crucial to recognise that these instances are isolated and are not representative of the broader medical community," she added.

The group also called for the review of the role of third party administrators (TPAs) "who often act as middlemen, contributing to the escalating healthcare costs."

"A thorough review of TPAs in the healthcare ecosystem and its impact on the cost and efficiency of healthcare delivery, which is necessary to ensure that resources are used effectively and that patients receive the best possible care.

"Transparency and accountability in all aspects of healthcare administration are crucial for maintaining public trust and ensuring optimal use of resources," added Dr Azizan.