



President's Message

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Both October and November were busy months for all of us at MMA. We had lots of fun and lots of work. We attended the MMA Melaka Installation dinner, indeed a masquerade night with good food, good performance, and good company. MMA Melaka has always set its standards high when organising events, and that night was no different. Congratulations to the Chairman Dr Siva and his team. He has a good mix of young

and old in his state committee, with energy and experience together.

The photos below will tell you how much fun we had in Melaka that night, and we look forward to other states' Installation nights. Kedah would have had theirs on 25 November, which would surely be an event packed with fun and laughter as well.



With Dr Sivananthan and Datuk Dr Rusdi Bin Abd Rahman



Group photo with MMA Melaka Committee Members and guests of honour

MMA won the bid to host the 26th Commonwealth Medical Association (CMA) triennial meeting in Malaysia after 21 years, the last being in 2001 when Dr P. Krishnan was the first Malaysian to hold the President's post.



Dr Muruga's inaugural speech as the President of the CMA



The current CMA and WMA President, Dr Osahon Enabulele installing Dr Muruga as the new CMA President

This year, I am the second Malaysian to be installed as President of the CMA.

Along with me, MMA's Hon. General Secretary Dr Thirunavukarasu Rajoo was elected as the CMA Regional Vice President for Southeast Asia, while MMA's immediate past president Dr Koh Kar Chai was elected as the CMA Treasurer. The CMA was established in 1962 to strengthen and enhance the National Medical Associations of all 54 Commonwealth countries. MMA and I will keep up the good work in enhancing the bond further.

Organising the CMA meeting together with the first MMA Junior Doctors Network (JDN) International

conference was tough but fun as well. We had a lot of good feedback from our international friends. We had delegates from Nigeria, Kenya, Malta, United Kingdom, India, Sri Lanka, Ghana, South Africa, and Jamaica. We also had delegates from Korea for the JDN conference and many other international delegates who joined us virtually.

On 9 November, my roadshow to meet medical students started in USM, Kelantan. It was a pleasure to meet more than 150 final-year students that evening. Representing SMMAMS, Dr Felice gave an excellent presentation on why medical students must join the student membership of MMA.



Group photo with WMA President Dr Osahon Enabulele, and JDN and CMA delegates at the 1st Junior Doctors Network Malaysia Conference



USM Kelantan students and staff at the event

“I was impressed by the winners of the MTSF award.”

Dr Filza and his team also addressed the students. I gave them the picture that MMA will be with them in the entire journey of their career, with MMA as the parent that guides them.

On 22 November, I had the pleasure of attending the Malaysian Toray Science Foundation (MTSF) prize presentation ceremony. This is something that I need to inform our young and old doctors about. I was impressed by the winners of the MTSF awards, ranging from young students to senior individuals. Some have won grants for research more than once. They have grants for research and for innovation or invention for educators. I encourage everyone to look up their website for more information. I had the pleasure of meeting Ms Keisheni Ganeson from Universiti Malaysia Terengganu. She secured funding worth RM20,000 from the Toray Science Foundation, Japan for her research on smart microneedle patches combined with biosensors and feedback-induced mechanisms as a transdermal delivery system for breast cancer therapy. Aside from that, there was also another individual who did a study on gut bacteria and its association with schizophrenia.

I would like to encourage all doctors who are interested in doing research and innovation regardless of age, to read further about MTSF. You may find further

information below on the schedule of MTSF Annual Activities:

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| January | – Open for Online Submission of Applications via MTSF website: www.mtsf.org |
| May 31 | – Deadline for Online Submission |
| July | – Review of Applications and Short-listing of candidates |
| September | – Interview and final selection of winners |
| November/ | – Prize Presentation Ceremony |
| December | Grant Research Symposium |

I am sure our members have been reading about the press releases that we gave regarding the 15th General Election. Please be assured that we have always been apolitical. The press releases are always for the betterment of the public. We had asked the then government not to hold the elections due to the rainy season as we were worried about the floods. We then advised the public on how to be careful when going out. Not only that, but we also wrote a wish list for healthcare reforms to all PM candidates. We can see that most of what we wrote to them was adopted in some of the party manifestos. One of the aims and objectives of MMA is to look after the healthcare needs of the public. **BMMMA**