



President's Message

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Greetings to everyone. First, I must thank all our members for giving me the opportunity to serve as the President of our Malaysian Medical Association. Thank you.

I also congratulate the organising chairman and his committee for the wonderful AGM conducted in Marriot Putrajaya. I must also record my thanks to our staff that were on their toes for weeks before and during the AGM.

I mentioned in my inaugural speech that I am confident as a President because I have a great exco and council. We have started working and I know one year will pass very fast, I assure you that I and my team will be on our toes.

I want to think out of the box a little, to avoid our youngsters choosing the wrong career, we must start to expose them to various career pathways when they are in Forms 4 and 5 itself. These seminars should be attended by at least one parent.

Many students are forced by parents to take up medicine and then realise that they are not cut out to be a doctor. This is the same for all other courses as well. If we want to help them, we must meet them early.

We are also organising a career pathway in medicine for those who have chosen this field, as this will further expose them to the life of a doctor.

We are mapping out the 'Train the Trainers Programme' in which we will hold road shows in all major hospitals hopefully with Ministry of Health (MOH) to speak to our medical officers, specialist, nurses etc., to address bullying in hospitals. We have received complaints about bullying not only from housemen but also from junior specialists. Our work place should be a happy one, thus we must try to change the way we address issues with young doctors.

I am personally also doing a study of intern doctors in Ireland, UK, Malta and Malaysia. Once done, I will publish it and also put up a proposal to the Ministry of Health to see if they can make changes to the Internship programme. From the initial study I find interns in Ireland are very relaxed and happy. They enjoy going to work.

I am looking at ways that we can give back our members something to show them that MMA recognises them as loyal members. This will also boost membership and also bring down our taxes. We are doing the mathematics now and I will update our members soon.

Like I said earlier, we need to address the issues early, I am also looking at meeting medical students through out the country. I want them and the junior doctors to see us as a Parent, standing with them all through their career as a doctor. I have spoken to the Dean of Manipal University and we will start our road show with them soon.

We all must play our role to make MMA a stronger voice. If you think you benefited from being a member, please share with your friends who are not members and bring them to our programmes for them to see what we do. No compulsion, but I am sure once they are exposed to the work we have done, then there is a high chance that they will join.

Our budget will be tabled soon, our wish list is that we want at least 5% of the GDP for us to improve on our ageing facilities, and repair our overstretched finance to run public healthcare centres. We need to start more specialised centres

like Respiratory Centres etc. We need the extra funding as we are having a severe manpower shortage and this is causing high levels of stress to those who are in the public healthcare system.

To keep up the slogan 'universal health coverage for all', we need funds for interior parts of the country especially in Sabah and Sarawak to do more screening programmes, mobile clinics and to improve the Flying Doctors programme, etc.

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The extra funding will also help in creating more specialist doctors. in order to deliver better healthcare and to keep up with world standards. MOH must pay attention to increase seats for master's specialisation

and also help with incentives for parallel pathway doctors.

In order to take in more permanent doctors from the pool of contract doctors, we need funds. The 5% that we wish for might not be enough but at least we have something to start off.

Before I put my pen down, I would appreciate and welcome ideas from all our members. Please write to us officially and give us your support in our social medias. If there is something that you feel is not right, as a member you have every right to write to us and we will get back to you as soon as possible.

Please give me and my strong Exco and Council members your blessings and be assured everyone of us in the team will do our best to keep MMA's flag flying high and we will not shy away from our responsibilities in representing our members and fraternity if it will benefit them. **BMMMA**