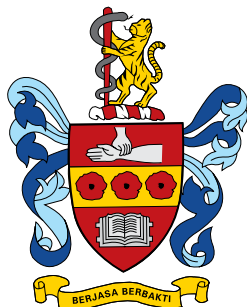


COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS



THE EARLY YEARS

A Pro-Tem Committee of the College of Physicians of Malaysia was formed in 1972 with Tan Sri Datuk Dr R P Pillay as the Pro-Tem President and Dato' Dr Amir Abbas, the Pro-Tem Secretary. The objectives of the College were stated as follows:

- a. *To promote the study of the science and the art of medicine; to encourage research in clinical science and the practice of medicine; to bring together physicians for their common benefit and for scientific discussions and clinical demonstrations; and to disseminate knowledge of the principles and practice of medicine by such means as be thought fit.*
- b. *To institute and provide lectures and demonstrations upon medical subjects for the benefit of members of the College and to admit to such lectures and demonstrations, persons who are not members of the College on such occasions as shall be deemed expedient by the College.*

In 1973, the Registrar of Societies (ROS) granted temporary registration to the College. Several meetings were held between the three Colleges; the College of Physicians, College of General Practitioners and the College of Surgeons on matters of mutual interests. These meetings led to the Colleges forming a united group to engage with the authorities.

In 1978, the three Colleges met with Minister of Health Malaysia. At the meeting the challenges faced by the country's medical specialties were highlighted. These included the high cost of overseas training and limitations of suitable placements for such training. The holding of the first part of membership examinations in Malaysia had also increased the capacity for doctors to be trained locally, in accordance with the high standards established by the Royal Colleges. The Joint Colleges proposed that Parliament enact legislation pertaining to post-graduate medical education and training with the participation of the Colleges. However, this proposal was not accepted and the universities were given the role of conducting post-graduate medical education and training in Malaysia.

Among the early activities of the College was the establishment of its constitution and by-laws. Little is known as to when they were written, but they were written in a manner that conformed to the Medical Act of 1971. The first Annual Scientific Meeting was held at the Holiday Inn, Kuala Lumpur, from 21st to 24th May 1993.

COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

AMALGAMATION WITH THE ACADEMY OF MEDICINE OF MALAYSIA

Tan Sri Dr Mohd Ismail Merican, writing in the January 2002 issue of The Internist (the first issue of the official College's newsletter), stated that the most significant development of the College was the unanimous decision to merge the College of Physicians with the Academy of Medicine of Malaysia in an effort towards greater integration, co-operation and co-ordination of specialist activities in the country. A circular by the then Honorary Secretary Dr Ridzwan Bakar dated 4th February 1993 to all members recorded that the College of Physicians became part of the Academy of Medicine of Malaysia on 23rd June 1992.

THE COLLEGE TODAY

Over the years, the College has grown from strength to strength. Some of the more significant developments include:

- The publication of the INTERNIST, the official College newsletter.
- Organising formal MRCP courses and mock examinations together with the Royal Colleges of Physicians.
- Organising numerous CPD activities and maintenance of the on-line CPD points system.
- Co-organising conferences with the Ministry of Health (MOH).
- Credentialing of physicians under the National Specialist Register (NSR).
- Engaging with various medical sub-specialty bodies to encourage integration, co-ordination and collaboration and forming sub-specialty chapters within the College.
- Web-streaming of the academic seminars conducted by the RCP Edinburgh. This was held at various times of the year and the lectures were transmitted live to the UiTM Selayang Campus. More recently, two more sites have been added – Kuala Trengganu and Johore Bahru.
- Saturday teach-ins at the Medical Academies Building. These teach-ins are targeted at senior medical students and junior medical doctors especially those in the Masters or MRCP programmes. These are held regularly, thus, establishing the College as a major provider of quality medical education. Furthermore, they serve to reach out to up and coming physicians, thus, ensuring the sustainability of our College and to place our profession on a strong footing.
- Establishment of the Fellowship of College of Physicians, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia, in Clinical Haematology (FCPAMM [Clinical Haematology]) in 2015.
- Establishment of the College of Physicians Lifetime Achievement Award and Innovation Award in 2016. The first recipients of the Lifetime Achievement Award were Dato' Dr Amir Abbas and Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Haji Mohd Ismail Merican respectively.

COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

**First Pro-Tem President**

*The late
Tan Sri Dr R P Pillay*

**First Pro-Tem Secretary**

Dato' Dr Amir Abbas

PAST PRESIDENTS

1.	Datuk Dr Lim Kee Jin	1980-1986
2.	Dato' Dr Amir Abbas	1986-1988
3.	Datuk Seri Dr T P Devaraj	1988-1992
4.	Professor Dato' Dr Mrs S T Kew	1992-2000
5.	Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Mohd Ismail Merican	2000-2004
6.	Dato' Dr Zainudin Md Zin	2004-2007
7.	Dr Steven Chow	2007-2010
8.	Professor Dato' Paduka Dr Khalid Yusoff	2010-2012
9.	Professor Dato' Dr Aminuddin Ahmad	2012-2014
10.	Dr G R Letchuman Ramanathan	2014-

(as to current record keeping and subjected to change)

Compiled by

DR BAHARIAH KHALID