

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH)

...the HUB for
Health
Research
locally &
globally



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From the Chief Editor ...

Dear friends,

The end of the year is always filled with festivities and celebrations, and to add to this, NIH Secretariat, together with our group of editors, are giving you a special issue of NIH bulletin.

This special edition highlights the happenings in NIH during the last two years.

On behalf of the Editorial Board, allow me to wish you all the best for the coming year... make 2010 a year full of happy memories!!!

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6. En Wan Saifuddin bin Wan Mohamad (IHM)
7. En Ahmad Razaidi bin Mohd Othman (IHSR)



"On Being Positive"

Once there was a man who was always positive. Whatever happened to him, he would say, "that is good". When the king heard about him, the king wanted this man to be part of his entourage. So the man travelled everywhere with the king. One day, while out hunting, the king handed his gun to this man to be loaded. The man had not done this before but decided to do it. He filled the gun with gun powder, compressed it with the iron rod, assembled the gun, then handed it back to the king. The king took aim and fired.

The gun exploded and blew off one of the king's fingers. The king, amidst his pain yelled, "now what have you got to say for yourself?" and the man answered, "it is good that only a finger got blown off..." The king was furious. He called his guards to throw the man into the dungeons, and called him a traitor.

One year passed, and the king went hunting again. This time he and his men decided to go further into the jungle. There they met a group of cannibals who ate them up. But when it came to the king's turn, they noticed his missing finger, and being superstitious, decided to let him go.

The king ran back to the castle and immediately ask the guards to release the man from the dungeon. The king apologized for locking him up because he had just saved the King's life. But the man just smiled and said that it was good that he was in the dungeon. The king was puzzled. "How can it be good when I had deprived you of your freedom for 1 year?" asked the king. The man replied, "if I had not been imprisoned, I would have been out hunting with you today...and I would not be here now, so it is good".

NIH Welcomes their leader... DATO' DR MAIMUNAH A. HAMID, THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR GENERAL OF HEALTH, (RESEARCH AND TECHNICAL SUPPORT) MALAYSIA.

Dato' Dr Maimunah A. Hamid who became the Deputy Director General of Health, (Research and Technical Support) Malaysia, in September 2008, also took over the leadership of NIH. A well-known personality within the research arena, both locally and abroad, Dato' Mai (as she is affectionately referred to), was conferred the title Dato' on 18 June 2009.

Her success today is the result of her total commitment towards having quality in her work and putting that extra mile to achieve the outcome that she envisages. Her tireless effort, tremendous drive and passion to always do her best, coupled with her positive outlook on life, has brought her the acclaim and award that she so deserves.



Chairing a plenary session

Her role as the first Director of the Institute for Health Systems Research (IHSR) is now legendary, her contribution towards making it the success it is today is widely acclaimed by all within and outside of NIH. While she was at the helm in 1988, HSR Division was made the WHO collaborating Centre for Health Systems Research. In 2001, her leadership and contribution in Quality Assurance was also recognized by WHO, and HSR was accorded the status of WHO collaborating Centre for Health Systems Research and Quality Improvement.

In realizing NIH into a centre of excellence in research, Dato' Dr Maimunah advocates strong collaboration and linkages with other researchers. Also a strong believer in the role of research to assist in informed decision making, Dato' Dr Maimunah passionately pursue the need for NIH and researchers to conduct top notch, state of the art research, especially research that can provide evidence-based information for policy makers to use when making decisions and changes in policies and practices.



Making time for staff & friends



Dato' Dr Maimunah uses her leadership qualities to inspire everyone who work with her to produce their best. Her support and concern for her staff often goes beyond the call of duty. As a caring leader, she not only focuses on helping her staff in their career development, but also provide continuous concern and encouragement to propel them towards achieving greater success. She believes that to maintain growth within NIH, the endeavor and commitment must come from everyone.



...Datuk Ir Dr M.S.Pillay, who became the Deputy Director General of Health, Malaysia (R&TS) from 2005 to July 2008.

Datuk Dr Pillay has always believed that research is about acquiring and developing new knowledge to fill the gaps in our health care delivery system, and that NIH has the potential to be the centre of excellence in research for the Asian region. It was through his effort and guidance that the NIH Secretariat was approved and set up in 2006, to facilitate and coordinate the research management of the NIH Institutes. He was also instrumental in finalizing the setting up of IHBR, and initiating the rebranding of the library at IHM into a knowledge management Centre (KMC).



Saying farewell to Datuk Dr Pillay

Datuk Dr Pillay is known for his trust, kind support and empowerment of all his Directors and staff. He saw the need for them to be better qualified, and encouraged their continuing education for self development and improvement. NIH takes this opportunity to wish Datuk Dr Pillay all the best for his future.

...Mr Thavaraj Subramaniam, who became the Director of IHBR from 2006 to 2008. Since his appointment, Mr Thavaraj had worked towards putting IHBR to be at par with other Health Promotion Institutes around the world.



...Dr Yahya Baba,

who helmed IPH from December 2007 till 31 July 2009, before his transfer to the Health Promotion Board as Chief Executive Officer. Dr Yahya is always full of zest and spirit, and is a leader well liked and respected by all the IPH staff. He is always approachable to everyone regardless of category, color or creed. He is still remembered for instilling his motto of "being color blind" to everyone. During his tenure, he brought many changes to IPH. Under his leadership, the IPH also achieved more than 95% rating for the S3PK (Finance Management Performance Evaluation System). The IPH's Quality Management System also maintained its ISO 9001:2000 certification status with zero non-conformity report (NCR) for three consecutive years. Dr Yahya was active in promoting religious activities and a healthy lifestyle. The sports and welfare club of IPH was actively revived to fulfil its purpose. We at IPH, wish him all the best in his future endeavours!

Mr Thavaraj was one of the pioneers in the Healthy Lifestyle Campaign, in the MOH in 1985. He was known for his role in getting the accreditation process for the post graduate course in Health Education in 1996, and also the development of the training modules for Risk Communication training in 1998.

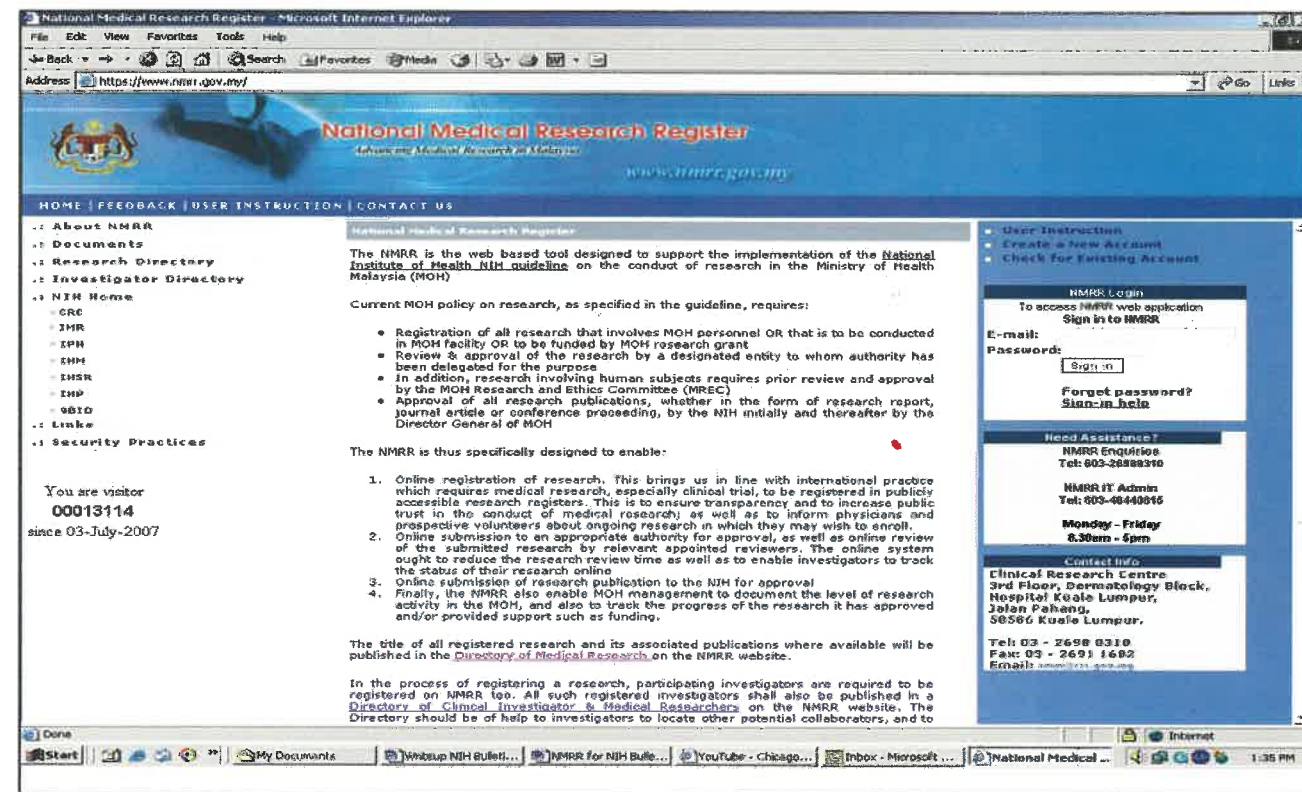
Having used his vast experiences to contribute to the Government for 30 years, Mr Thavaraj retired at age 56, still considered in the prime of his life. We hope he will continue to contribute towards humanity and wish him all the best in his future undertakings.



58..59..60.. time to punch out!

Dr Yahya...surely this cannot be the reason you are leaving!!

Making Health Research Easily Accessible... through - National Medical Research Register (NMRR)



GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH IN MOH

In line with international best practices, the National Medical Research Register (NMRR) was initiated as an online registration process requiring clinical trials to be registered in publicly accessible research registers.

A web-based tool, the NMRR supports the NIH guidelines on research involving personnel or facilities in MOH or funds from MOH research grants.

Registration on the NMRR ensures transparency and increases public trust in medical research. It also informs all Health Investigators and prospective volunteers about ongoing research they may wish to enroll in, helps reduce processing time, enable easy access, captures data on research undertaken in the MOH, and allows management to track research progress.

In addition, passive information is compiled in a database as a Research and Investigator Directory. Pilot tested since early 2007, the NMRR in being rolled-out now to most of the 17 public hospitals nationwide under the Network of Clinical Research Centers as well as all six institutes under the NIH.

Using the accessibility provided by the worldwide web, users are able to login anywhere and at anytime for online submission and have their study reviewed and approved by the appropriate authority. As the NMRR is now linked to the Medical Research Ethics committee (MREC), the system further reduces paperwork, enables greater efficiency and speed up the process of review and approval.

Officially endorsed by the Director General of Health on 5 Sept 2007, an invitation has been extended to researchers from universities and private hospitals to register their studies online via the NMRR. With clearer procedures and shorter timelines for both institutional and ethical committees to review and approve research proposals, NMRR, should encourage more medical research in Malaysia.

In line with national aspiration to reach developed nation status by 2020, the NMRR will propel the MOH to be at the forefront of all R&D efforts that will contribute towards advancing the health care sector.

IMR-Institute For Medical Research

Vision : IMR is to be recognized internationally by the scientific community as the leading centre for biomedical research

Mission : IMR's mission is to promote and conduct quality research directed at solving the health problems of the country, and to provide consultative services to health providers, managers and planners in improving the health of the Malaysian population.

DR SHAHNAZ MURAD
DIRECTOR IMR



Dr Shahnaz Murad was appointed Director of the Institute for Medical Research (IMR) and Director of SEAMEO TROPMED Malaysia in January 2007. Dr Shahnaz is a Clinical Immunologist. She was trained in medicine at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland in 1985 and obtained her postgraduate, MSc in Medical Microbiology from London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, London in 1991.

Since taking on her new post, Dr Shahnaz has taken on the challenge of taking IMR to greater heights. There are plans to upgrade the facilities as well as major changes in due course.

Dr Shahnaz has published many papers in the field of allergy, transplantation immunology as well as on autoimmune disease. She supervises PhD and MSc students registered to international and local universities. Her current research interest is in the field of immunogenetics and allergy. She has contributed immensely in the development of allergy testing and research in the country. She was responsible for setting up the country's first Allergy Clinic within MOH, Malaysia, by establishing an allergy diagnostic laboratory, and conducting numerous workshops and seminars to train medical officers in this field of research.

She has also helped to establish a large number of specialized diagnostic tests for immunology, and also the Malaysian Marrow Donor Registry.



HLA-A, -B and -DR Allele and Haplo-type Frequencies in Malays

(J.S Dhaliwal, M. Shahnaz, C.L. Too, A. Azrena, L. Maiselamah, Y.Y. Lee, Y.A Irda and M.Salawati (2007).

(Asian Pacific Journal of Allergy and Immunology (25: 47-51)

Institute of Medical Research

Abstract

One thousand four hundred and forty five (1445) Malays registered with the Malaysian Marrow Donor Registry were typed for HLA-A, HLA-DR. Fifteen HLA-A, twenty nine HLA-B and fourteen HLA-DR allele were detected.

The most common HLA-A allele and their frequencies were HLA-A24 (0.35), HLA-A11 (0.21) and HLA-A2 (0.15). The most common HLA-B alleles were HLA-B15 (0.26), HLA-B35 (0.11) and HLA-B18 (0.10) while the most common HLA-DR alleles were HLA-DR15 (0.28), HLA-DR12 (0.27) and HLA-DR7 (0.10). A24-B15-DR12 (0.047). A24-B15-DR15 (0.03) and the A24-B35-DR12 (0.03) were the most frequent haplotypes.

This data may be useful in determining the probability of finding a matched donor and for estimating the incidence of HLA associated disease.

The Third National Health and Morbidity Survey Scientific Conference 2007.



The National Health & Morbidity Survey Scientific Conference 2007, was held on 8 -10 August 2007 at the JW.Marriot Hotel, Putrajaya. The opening ceremony was officiated by Y. Bhg Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Hj Mohd Ismail Merican, the Director General of Health, Malaysia.

The conference was attended by more than 400 participants comprising of Policy-makers, Program Managers, State Directors, NHMS III Committee members, research group members, Clinical Specialists from various disciplines, Public Health Physicians and Epidemiologists from government hospitals and private and public universities. The objective of this

conference was to disseminate the preliminary findings from the NHMS III. A total of 32 oral papers and 20 posters were presented at this conference.

The session started with the Principal Investigator sharing the overall general findings from the survey. The other research topics presented include: 'Load of Illness', 'Dengue Prevention Practice', 'Health Expenditure', 'Health Information', 'Health Utilization', Oral Health Practice, Utilization and Cost Consumption', 'Asthma', 'Psychiatric Morbidity', 'Injury & Safety', 'Physical Disability', 'women's Health,' 'Nutritional Status', 'Infant Feeding', 'Smoking', 'Alcohol', 'Physical Activity',

'Sexual Behavior', 'Diabetes Mellitus', 'Hypertension', 'Hypercholesterolemia'.

Comments and suggestions from the conference participants were discussed and noted down, to be used for further analysis into the topics concerned. The conference was an essential step in facilitating preparations for the publication of the survey findings report. It was officially closed by the Deputy Director General of Health (Research and Technical Support) Malaysia, Datuk Ir. Dr M.S.Pillay.

PTEN Mutation Studies in Malaysian Colorectal Cancer Patients

(Babraj P., and Ruhana S (2007)

Asian Pacific Journal of Molecular Biology and Biotechnology 15: 23-25)

Institute of Medical Research

Abstract

Tumour suppressor gene, PTEN has been found to be altered in various type of tumours such as breast, glioblastoma, prostate, endometrial cancers and colorectal carcinoma (CRC). Alteration have been found to be common in sporadic colorectal tumours. Our objective was to identify PTEN mutations in colorectal tumours and blood samples from Malaysian patients. Genomic DNA from 27 paired normal and tumour tissue samples and 10 blood samples were analysed.

Nineteen of this samples were from the previous study that had failed to identify APC and β -catenin gene mutations. Both

these genes are involved in early events related to colorectal carcinoma tumorigenesis. The entire coding region and the flanking sites of the 9 exons of PTEN gene was amplified and conformation sensitive gel electrophoresis (CGSE) and sequencing was done to identify alterations.

The findings showed that there were no PTEN alterations among the colorectal cancer samples examined and thereby the study concluded that there is a lack of PTEN involvement in the carcinogenesis of colorectal cancer in these patients.

IPH-Institute For Public Health



Vision : To be the centre of excellence in public health research so as to enhance health and quality of life for the nation.

Mission : To promote health, well being and quality of life for the community through public health research, training and consultancy services. This will be achieved by:

- (i) Conducting, coordinating and assisting in research
- (ii) Offering focused training and learning programmes
- (iii) Providing consultancy services in Public Health
- (iv) Fostering strategic partnerships with relevant organizations both nationally and internationally



Dr Jasvinder Kaur—holding the fort at IPH (since Dr Yahya's transfer)

Dr. Jasvinder Kaur has been holding the fort at IPH since August 2009, after Dr Yahya's transfer. Dr Jasvinder, who is also the Head of the Community Health Development Division, hails from Bangsar and has served at the IPH since 1999. Prior to that, she has served in various places and in different capacities throughout East and West Malaysia. Dr Jasvinder received the KMN award in 2006 and was awarded the excellent service award twice. She is an experienced researcher and an authority in the area of Gender Rights. Over the years, she has conducted numerous training programs, presented and published many papers. Recently, she was instrumental

in developing training aids for the elderly. Besides chairing a number of committees in the IPH, Dr Jasvinder is also actively involved in many technical committees. Dr Jasvinder is a caring person who has the welfare of her staff at heart. She is someone whom everyone could turn to for advice at any time. She strongly believes that each one of us has unique strength and skills that should be tapped upon, nurtured and developed. She is and will always be the 'motherly' figure of IPH, accepting no 'non-sense', but having only the interest of IPH at heart.

Predictors of Malaria among Malaysian Aborigines

Gurpreet K.

Asia-Pacific Journal of Public Health. 2009; 21 (2): 205-215

1. Institute for Public Health

Abstract

The Asia-Pacific region has at least 50% of its population at risk for malaria. In Malaysia, indigenous malaria is largely concentrated among the Orang Asli in Peninsular Malaysia. A cross-sectional study was conducted in an Orang Asli community in the district of Raub, Pahang to determine the predictors of malaria.

Age, seldom/never wearing protective clothing while in the jungle, going out at night, ever staying in another village, and living in bamboo-walled homes were found to be associated with malaria (crude OR 1.8-4.5; 95% CI 1.1-9.1). After adjusting for confounding, major predictors of malaria were age \geq 12 years (adjusted OR 4.3; 95% CI 2.2-8.4), never/seldom wearing protective clothing while in the jungle (aOR 3.8; 95% CI 1.8-8.0), and going out at night (aOR 2.5; 95% CI 1.4-4.8). The findings show support for intensifying behaviour modification in this population.

Epidemiological Intelligence and Management Programme (EIMP)



This was the first of a series of planned courses organized by the Disease Control Division, IPH, in collaboration with the Institute for Health Management under the auspices of the Malaysian Technical Co-operative Programme. The Disease Control Division, Ministry of Health, has been recognized by ASEAN + 3 to be the reference centre for laboratory surveillance in infectious diseases, and Ministry of Health is to be responsible for vaccine development for OIC countries.

This course was a result of the government's response to the needs of an international health community, especially among the developing

nations. The aim of the EIMP course was to strengthen the practices of applied epidemiology together with management skills and competency, to enhance public health surveillance and disease outbreak investigations. Aside from that, it aspired to develop broader perspective among participants, to appreciate social connectedness, economic inequality, social norms and public policies on health related behaviours and health status.

This EIMP course has been modeled on the highly successful Epidemic Intelligent Service (EIS) introduced through the Centre for Disease Control (CDC) Atlanta, USA in 1951. This EIMP

has now been adapted to meet the training needs in surveillance and rapid response in many developed and developing countries around the world.

This course incorporated the health management concept into the field epidemiological training model. It included the components of strategic management, health economics and financing, leadership and smart partnership in managing disease prevention and control.



Participants listening to a talk at the EIMP course

Status of Iodine Deficiency Disorders and Mental Performance of School Children: A Comparison Between GAZETTED and NON-GAZETTED Areas

Zaleha Md. Isa 1, OsmanALI 2, Rusidah Selamat 3

(Abstract from National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Survey Conference 2008)

- 1 Department of Community Health, Faculty of Medicine, University Kebangsaan Malaysia
- 2 Dean's Office, School of Medicine, University Malaysia Sabah, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah.
- 3 Nutrition Research Division, Institute for Public Health, Ministry of Health, Kuala Lumpur

Abstract

Iodine deficiency disorders (IDD) is a health problem that can and should be avoided in Malaysia. Sabah has been gazetted for universal salt iodization to overcome the endemic IDD problem since the year 1999, whereas some districts in Sarawak have been gazetted much earlier. However, IDD is still reported in gazetted and non-gazetted areas. The objective of this sub-sample study was to identify the status of IDD among the school children in Sabah, which represent the gazetted area, and compare it with Negeri Sembilan, which represent the non-gazetted areas.

This cross-sectional comparative study was conducted on school children aged 8 to 10 years old, in Sabah and Negeri Sembilan, from schools selected to be sub-sample population of the National IDD Survey 2008. Data on socio-demography, anthropometric measurement, urinary iodine, urinary thiocyanate, thyroid stimulating hormone (TSH) and mental performance (IQ) were obtained.

The study involved a total of 751 respondents in which 370

respondents were from Negeri Sembilan. The findings showed that the mental performance of the school children in Negeri Sembilan was significantly higher than Sabah in terms of who scored average and above average and also in terms of mean score Full Scale IQ (FSIQ) ($p < 0.05$). Among the non-goitrous subjects, mean FSIQ was significantly higher in Sabah as compared to Negeri Sembilan ($p = 0.007$). The Non Bumiputra school children in Sabah showed comparable mean FSIQ with their counterpart in Negeri Sembilan; however the Bumiputra in Negeri Sembilan showed significantly higher level of mean FSIQ as compared to their counterpart in Sabah. Negeri Sembilan subjects showed a reduction in mean FSIQ as their age increases; however, the mean FSIQ were comparable in all age groups in Sabah. No significant correlation was noted with urinary thiocyanate levels. FSIQ showed moderate to strong positive with academic performance of the school in both states.

This sub-sample study indicated that mental performance is affected by multiple factors and not just by iodine level alone. However, iodine supplementation is strongly beneficial in improving the mental performance of the severe iodine deficient subjects.

CRC- Clinical Research Centre



DR LIM TECK ONN
Director CRC

Dr Lim Teck Onn, a graduate of MBCHB University of Glasgow, MRCP (UK), FRCP (Edinburgh) holds a Master of Medical Statistics from the University of Newcastle, Australia. As Director of the CRC Network, a position he has held since 2007, one of Dr Lim's primary task is to develop the clinical research capacity in Malaysia, especially the professional human resources, and the infrastructure for clinical research. To date there are 17 CRC in the MOH.

In line with CRC's mission, Dr Lim reformed the research units in CRC to promote and support investigators to initiate clinical research, epidemiological and healthcare research, as well as contract clinical research on behalf of pharma & biotech industry clients. In CRC's strive to ensure the availability of quality data resources to support research and other applications, he has initiated the development of patient registries and healthcare statistics in Malaysia.

Dr Lim is in the National Committee for Clinical Research as well as the Ministry of Health Research and Ethics Committee. Dr Lim is a principal speaker and facilitator for the immensely popular GCP workshops conducted by CRC. His experience is sought overseas as he has been invited as GCP consultant for universities and research organisations in China, Vietnam, Brunei, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan.

In addition to his research duties, Dr Lim is an active clinical investigator with well over 50 publications to his name, many of which are in high impact international journals. His research work has earned him two prominent awards i.e. the Honorable Mention for the Peter Reizenstein Prize from the International Journal for Quality in Healthcare in 2002 and the Second Prize for Best Research Paper Award from the Singapore Medical Journal in 2004.

Dr Lim's busy research schedule has not deterred him from his clinical duties and academic pursuits. He is the Consultant Nephrologist at the Department of Nephrology, Hospital Kuala Lumpur, an Adjunct Associate Professor at International Medical University, President of the Malaysian Society of Clinical Economics, Vice-President of the Association of Clinical Registries Malaysia, and Subject Editor for the Nephrology journal. He is also a Member of Association of Clinical Research Professionals (ACRP) US's Editorial Advisory Board (EAB) and Member of the Drug Information Association.

Vision : To be the leading clinical research organisation in Asia

Mission : (i) To improve patients' health outcomes through ethical and quality clinical research
(ii) To contribute to the development of Malaysia as a clinical hub for the contract research outsourcing industry.



DR LIM TECK ONN
Director CRC



CRC: Promoting Malaysia as Asia's uniquely resourceful clinical research location



Y.Bhg Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Hj Mohd Ismail Merican officiating NCCR

* Expanding the range of clinical research in Malaysia was the theme in the recently concluded National Conference for Clinical Research 09 (NCCR 09) in Penang. Director-General of Health, Y.Bhg. Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Hj Mohd Ismail Merican, in his keynote address, identified several exciting initiatives by the Ministry of Health to boost the clinical research industry. It was a gathering of various clinical research professionals (255 participants). NCCR 2010 (29-30 June) will focus on the next stage of clinical research in Malaysia.

* One of the most important events of the year was the establishment of Hospital Ampang for clinical development facilities in the country. CRC will partner Veeda Clinical Research, an international clinical research organisation. This significant move will generate job opportunities for science graduates and further enhance Malaysia's competitiveness for clinical research activities in Asia.



Promoting CRC through marketing



Selling CRC through exhibition



NCCR participants having lunch with Y.Bhg Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Hj Mohd Ismail Merican and Dato' Dr Maimunah A Hamid

* Clinicians, researchers, pharmacists, regulatory personnel and other clinical research professionals gathered in an informal meeting to discuss the formation of a society to promote pharmaceutical medicine as a discipline in Malaysia. The idea was to establish the Association of Pharmaceutical Medicine Malaysia (APMM) and membership would include various clinical research professionals.

* CRC conducts annual dialogues with industry sponsors. The Industry Dialogue in 2008 discussed feasibility, submissions to Medical Research Ethics Committee (MREC) and changes in the clinical trial agreement (CTA). Similar issues were covered this year. This open forum is indeed a good platform for the pharmaceutical industry personnel and investigators to get regular updates from CRC and Regulatory bodies.

* CRC has been part of many local and international exhibitions. One significant exhibition was at the 45th Drug Information Association (DIA) Annual Meeting (21-25 June 2009). It was CRC's first time participation in this global gathering of international regulators, industry professionals, academics, patients groups and exhibitors.



Judges viewing poster presentation



Visitors signing attendance at CRC Booth



Participants at the dialog session

The 12th NIH Scientific Meeting was incorporated into the 8th Ministry of Health Malaysia, Academy of Medicine's Scientific Meeting held on 17 & 18 August 2009, with the theme...

of Health Malaysia, Academy of Medicine's Scientific Meeting held on "Building A Safety Culture Through Accountability".



Registration



Panel members for Symposium session on: Patient Safety in a Primary Care Setting



Panel Discussion Following Seminar on National Ethics.



Collecting Presentation papers



10th Tunku Abdul Rahman Putra Lecturer-Professor Dato' Khalid Abdul Kader



Director General of Health Malaysia, Y. Bhg Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Hj. Mohd Ismail Merican, launching the Guidelines on Medication Error Reporting.



Y. Bhg Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Hj. Mohd Ismail Merican signing the Guidelines, witnessed by Dr Hj Azman Abu Bakar



Dato Dr Maimunah DDG (R&TS) rewarding a winner of the poster competition

This meeting was hosted by IHSR in collaboration with the Academy of Medicine, Malaysia.

It was attended by more than five hundred participants, with a hundred and fifteen of them participating in the Induction and Fellowship graduation ceremony.

It encompasses 5 plenary sessions, 5 symposia, 2 lunch satellite talks and a competition on poster presentation. It ended with a seminar on National Ethics.

8th MOHM-AMM &

12th NIH Scientific Meeting



VIPs, Guests and Graduans at the 8th MOHM-AMM and 12th Scientific Meeting



Participants at the meeting

IHSR-Institute for Health Systems Research



DR HJ AZMAN BIN ABU BAKAR DIRECTOR IHSR

DR Hj Azman bin Abu Bakar was appointed as the director of IHSR on 16 Oct 2008. Previously holding the position of a State and Hospital Director, he has been involved in the Health Systems Research Programme of Ministry of Health since 1993. He holds a PhD in Health Outcomes Research and Quality of Life from University of Nottingham, UK and Masters of Public Health from University Malaya.

He has served in short term consultancies in quality improvement for the WHO Western Pacific region. As Head of EVIPnet Malaysia, he has been instrumental in drafting the implementation plan for EVIPNet Malaysia. He continually promotes the importance of quality and ethical research that provides scientific evidence to policymakers and health managers at every level, for evidenced based decision-making.

He has, to date, numerous publications in local, regional and international peer-reviewed journals on various topics especially those pertaining to health outcomes, quality of life, health systems research and quality improvement/quality assurance.

He strives to have an excellent organization and holds to the principle that one should not only be knowledgeable but also be sensitive to the needs of the staff.

Vision : To be the regional centre for health policy and practice research.

- Mission :**
- (i) **Core Business**
Research and consultancy in Health Policy and practice.
 - (ii) **Image to portray**
Able to deliver beyond expectations
 - (iii) **Market/ Client**
Policy Makers, Managers and Funding Agencies
 - (iv) **Concern for employee**
To provide continuous professional development opportunities and to offer deserving rewards
 - (v) **Social Responsibility**
Towards the betterment of the nations' health and development.



Dr Hj Azman Abu Bakar showing IHSR to the Health Minister YB Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai.

A PATIENT SAFETY INITIATIVE: VACCINE STORAGE PRACTICES IN PRIVATE PRACTICE

AN IHSR collaborative project with Sheila GK, Amar-Singh HSS, Saraks S, Lidwina EA, Yusof MI, Ranjit KS, Azman AB, Faridah AB, Mary CB, Maimunah AH, Kok JL, Toh TJ, Noorizah M, Wong SL, Krishnan K

Vaccines are crucial in preventing deadly diseases especially in children. As vaccines are produced from biological material, their cold chain storage must be absolutely stringent to ensure the quality is maintained. Improper storage of vaccines is not only ineffective but also harmful. Considering that 6 to 44% of the Malaysian population seek vaccination in private health clinics, proper storage of vaccines must be upheld.



Principal investigators Dr. Sheila Gopal Krishnan and Dr. Amar-Singh HSS

The Institute for Health Systems Research (IHSR) in collaboration with the State Health Departments of Perak, Negeri Sembilan, Sabah and Sarawak, had undertaken a project to evaluate vaccine storage practices among private practitioners in four selected states. The research team, comprising mainly of Pediatricians, Health Directors and Medical Officers, was directly involved in facilitating the national project. Contacts with the private practitioners were made by the team to initiate active participation before auditing begins.

Did you Know?
Available data shows 6 to 44% of Malaysians seek vaccination in private health clinics

Additionally, the team had designed and developed an intervention package for vaccine storage to ensure improvement and efficiency in vaccine storage in private health clinics within Perak, Negeri Sembilan, Sabah and Sarawak. The project consisted of four audits carried out concurrently with the implementation



Planning logistics of implementation

of the intervention package. The baseline audit was done immediately following the staff training.

The second audit was executed after one month post intervention while the third audit took place after three months.

Four audits were carried out with concurrent intervention

The fourth audit was scheduled following a year from the period of the baseline audit.



Dr. Sheila Gopal Krishnan and her team at one of the private clinics

Evaluation of the vaccine storage practice at different clinics was conducted mainly by the research assistants whom are MOH registered nurses. Six essential criteria were assessed based on the recommendations made by WHO for excellent vaccine storage practice. These criteria include the appropriate type, location and use of a dedicated refrigerator temperature maintenance and monitoring as well as correct placement of vaccines.

Six Criteria For Assessing Vaccine Storage Practices:

1. Appropriate refrigerator type
2. Appropriate refrigerator location
3. Dedicated refrigerator for vaccines
4. Temperature maintenance (2-8°C)
5. Temperature monitoring
6. Correct placement of vaccine



Team-building session during the research nurses training in Sabah

In the development of the intervention package, the research team emphasized practicality, sustainability and the provision of incentives to achieve improvement. Adequate training and advice were given to the staff of private health clinics, emphasizing on the important aspects of vaccine storage such as the temperature charting of refrigerator and crucial actions to be taken during system breakdown. Reminder cards, WHO booklet, dial thermometer, chart sheets, CD-ROMs of PowerPoint presentations in English and Bahasa Malaysia, to-do lists and stickers with imperative messages were supplied to the staff once consent was obtained.



Research nurses doing quality checks at a private clinic

In addition to that, a certificate was awarded on relevant criteria after the third audit was completed. Overall, the survey's findings strongly indicate a need to improve the knowledge and quality of vaccine storage in private health clinics. Vaccine storage guidelines should be enforced strictly within all healthcare institutions to ensure the safe storage and use of vaccines.

The intervention package used and implemented during the survey is able to significantly improve vaccine storage practices. If this package is implemented in Malaysia, it would result in a tremendous improvement in the quality of vaccine storage to prevent adversities and enrich patient safety.



The team departing for the private health clinics scheduled for auditing

IHM-Institute For Health Management

Vision : To be the centre of excellence in health management.

- Mission :**
1. Boldly explore and inculcate through research and training, innovative ways of leading and managing the health care system.
 2. Be a source of internal management consultancy to the health care system.
 3. Be a learning organisation that actively encourages continuous learning and access to information.
 4. Adopt positive work value especially teamwork, professionalism and caring culture so that the health sector in the country can emerge as one that is led and managed effectively to benefit the health of all Malaysia.



DR. ROSLAN JOHARI
DIRECTOR IHM

when making their decisions. These options must be timely and in keeping with the current needs of MOH. IHM also propagates the use of Action Research Approach in solving the challenges faced by health workers at local level.

Dr Roslan regards his staff as the most valuable asset of IHM, and makes human resource development his priority. As a strategist, Dr Roslan is working towards building an excellent organization by creating a conducive working and learning environment. To propagate this objective, a Knowledge Management Centre has been created at IHM to enhance networking and knowledge sharing amongst the healthcare providers and researchers. This initiative was mooted by the Yg Bhg Datuk Ir Dr M.S. Pillay. Dr Roslan believes that the practice and inculcation of Corporate Culture values will be the basis for IHM achieving world class status, and he envisions that IHM will evolve from a simple training institute into a quality research and renowned consultative centre.



Dr Roslan Johari with Y Bhg Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Hj. Mohd Ismail Merican, and Y Bhg Datuk Ir Dr M.S. Pillay

Dr Roslan Johari bin Dato' Mohd Ghazali acquired his MBBS and MPH in Malaysia, and his MBA and Ph.D in Wales, England. He has been working in IHM since it was established in November 2000, and was appointed the Director of IHM in December 2006. Prior to this, he worked in the Kuala Kangsar Health District as a Medical Officer of Health and, in the Management Division at the Public Health Institute.

Dr Roslan envisioned IHM to be the centre of excellence in Health Management through 3 core activities namely: Training, Research and Consultancy. Dr Roslan believes that through research, IHM will be able to support evidenced-based options for policy makers to consider

...Effective Communication...

"I'll just give you a local anesthetic", said the doctor.

"Don't worry about it," the patient said, "get the best, use imported".

Gordon Sloan.

Mother to school teacher, "my son Harold, is a very sensitive child. If you need to punish him, just slap the boy in the next seat. That will frighten Harold".

James Mcminn

A young man realized that couples who have been together for a long time have their own way of communicating. He overheard this exchange between his uncle and aunt.

Aunt : what are you looking for down there?

Uncle : nothing.

Aunt : well, you won't find anything down there.

Look under your desk.

The Reader Digest



Knowledge Management Center (KMC) which is located at the Institute for Health Management, is an initiative of re-branding the existing library of IHM. This initiative was inspired by Y.Bhg. Datuk Dr M.S Pillay, the Deputy Director General of Health (Research & Technical Support) in 2005. Hence, in 2007 the development of knowledge management center was started. The center was established with the knowledge management (KM) philosophy embedded in its infrastructure and processes. In line with IHM's vision of becoming the center of excellence in health management, KMC's vision is to Galvanize MOH towards becoming a Learning Organization by becoming a Knowledge Management Hub that is at par excellence with all world class health management.

To achieve the above, KMC's missions are:

- evolve into a Knowledge Management "Think Tank" to provide MOH with a wide Knowledge Management capability in the context of the 6 KM deliverables - capture, acquire, utilize, share, retrieving and create knowledge.
- become MOH knowledge pipeline to deliver the right knowledge to the right person at the right time for effective decision making;
- inculcate a culture of continuous learning, unlearning and relearning, in tandem with becoming a "Knowledge Based Organization".

The following are objectives of KMC to enhance MOH Learning Organization capabilities:

- To provide options for effective decision making
- To acquire and disseminate relevant knowledge to MOH employees
- To increase utilization of knowledge in improving work quality
- To enhance creation and sharing of new knowledge to increase employee capabilities and decrease redundancy.

Knowledge differs from organization to organization. In recognition of this fact, the following KMC's strategies will focus on:

- Inculcating the Learning Organisation-Knowledge Management (LO-KM) culture at all levels of MOH by adopting both top-down and bottom-up approach.
- Conducting KM analysis on the 6 NIH institutes to unlock and empower their KM capabilities.
- Re-identify KMC clients and their expectations periodically.
- Be able to interpret the value of knowledge for continuous work and service delivery improvement.
- Be able to continuously update, upgrade and re-scope KMC capabilities & responsibilities
- Adopting the 5 KM pillars to provide user-friendly and people centric KM mechanism and environments.
- A Knowledge Management System (KMS) is currently being developed and implemented which will act as the enabler to measure the progress of the 6 KM deliverables. This platform allows sharing of knowledge among health care providers and researchers. Currently, this system can be accessed at the following URL address: www.ihm.gov.my/kmc.
- Registration is free and all MOH Staff is welcome to join as 'staff'. Once registered, all are welcome to share their knowledge. Should there be any inquiry, please do not hesitate to write to: kmcihmo7@gmail.com.

IHBR-Institute for Health Behavioural Research



Vision : To be a centre for health behavioural research.

Mission : To set best practice standards that will improve Malaysians' health through applied multidisciplinary health behavioural research

Pn Siti Sa'adiah Hassan Nudin Director IHBR

Pn Siti Sa'adiah Hassan Nudin was appointed Director of the Institute for Health Behavioural Research (IHBR) in 2008. She is a Health Education Officer. She was trained in Biology at the Illinois University in USA in 1977 and obtained her postgraduate, Master of Science in Biology (Education) and Master of Health Personnel Education in 1979 and 1988 respectively.

She joined the Ministry of Health in 1982. During her early years in Ministry of Health Malaysia, she serves in the Institute for Public Health for 22 years, and devoted her commitment into training Health Education Officers and Assistant Health Environmental Officers.

She joined the Institute for Health Promotion in 2006 before being appointed as the Director of the Institute for Health Behavioural of Research. She continues as a trainer and supervisor to the Masters of Health Sciences (MHSc) students for postgraduate course in health education. She is responsible for continuing the collaboration of research between University of Ottawa, Canada and Foreign Domestic Workers in Malaysia.

She has taken on the challenge of taking IHBR to greater heights. Her vision for IHBR is to see it as an international and WHO collaboration centre for training and research in post graduate training and risk communication, and also as a national data bank for health behaviour.

She believes that IHBR should have networking with health promotion institutes around the world. The institute should be the authority and spokesperson on issues relating to health behavior and also the centre for releasing findings on studies on health behaviour. Intersectoral collaboration should be stepped up with the local universities and institutions.

She uses the annual and biennial conferences as a forum to discuss behavioural issues in health, and to deliberate on the application of research findings on health behaviour and behavioural intervention. As a humanistic and caring leader, she encourages all her staff at the institute to upgrade themselves with post graduate degrees at the PhD level.



Pn Siti meeting up with friends



Pn Siti giving a lecture

COMMUNITY PERCEPTIONS ON INFLUENZA A (H1N1), KUALA LUMPUR & KLANG VALLEY 2009

Project leader: Hjh Zawaha Hj. Idris

Project team: Siti Sa'adiah Hassan Nudin, Sulaiman Che Rus, Norrafizah Jaafar, Kamarul Zaman Salleh, Abu Bakar Rahman, Edawaty Ujang, Mohammad Zabri Johari, Mohammad Irwan Sa'adin, Maziaty Mukhtar, Fazilawati Othman

1. Institute for Health Behavioural Research

Introduction

A study on community perception regarding influenza A (H1N1) was implemented in several localities around KL and the Klang Valley, covering the National Service Training Center (PLKN) camp, International Airport (KLIA), Low Cost Carrier (LCCT), KL Sentral, shopping malls, hospitals and other popular public places from June 27 to July 10 2009.

Objective

To assess the level of public knowledge regarding the disease and control of influenza A (H1N1) and their perception on the control measures taken by the Ministry of Health.

Methodology

A structured questionnaire was used to gather information through interviews or by self-administered questionnaire. The interviews were carried out on 753 respondents, while 1549 respondents used the self-administered questionnaire.

Study results

Most of the respondents (61%) who completed the self-administered questionnaire were from the trainees of three PLKN's camps in Selangor. Most of the respondents were Malays (50-70%). Those below 20 years old use self-administered questionnaires while the adults were interviewed. The level of concern regarding influenza A (H1N1) was wide spread, covering 92% of the society. The

main reason for this was (i) it was spreading (36-47%), (ii) causing death (29-39%), and (iii) it was harmful to those who suffer from the disease (17%).

The level of knowledge on influenza A (H1N1) was high, as 68-90% of respondents were able to identify fever and cough as the main symptoms. However, many of the people thought the main method of transmission was by air (36-66%), therefore, more people prefer using masks to protect their nose and mouth (77-85%) as a way of preventing a major outbreak rather than the washing of their hands (75-77%), avoidance of traveling overseas (68 - 70%) or closing the mouth when sneezing (58-65 %). Most of the respondents (90-96%) understood the information that had been distributed by the Ministry of Health, via television (90-92%) and newspapers (80-88%). Overall, only 47-65% of the community considered the actions taken by the MOH as sufficient.

Conclusion

This study showed that most of the local communities are alert to the risk of influenza A (H1N1). However, accurate knowledge about the disease, especially the mode of transmission needs to be disseminated, and more effective preventive actions need to be taken by the public as it is still not satisfactory. Therefore, health teaching applying to risk communication approach should be intensified to further prevent the spread of influenza A (H1N1).

Cleanliness status among school canteens of the Ministry of Education in Kelantan

*'Zawaha HI, 1Siti Saadiah HN, 'Sulaiman CH, *Hani Mat Hussin, *Che Mohd Khalib Omar.*

1. Institute for Health Behavioural Research, 2State Health Department Kelantan.

Objective

To assess the cleanliness among school canteens of the Ministry of Education in Kelantan.

Methodology

This is a comparative cross-sectional study which was adapted from the Food Premise Inspection check-list form (KMM3P2) of the Ministry of Health (MOH). Assessment was also made through direct observation by the Environmental Health Officer Assistant, involving 29 schools with past food poisoning cases (schools with cases) and 29 schools which had no past cases of food poisoning (schools without cases). Marks were given according to the standard set by the MOH.

Study Results

Overall, the cleanliness status among schools with cases and schools without cases was very low. The overall cleanliness

for both group of schools were 6(10.3%) for food samples, 13(22.4%) among food handlers, 13(22.4%) for utensils, 25(43.1%) for drainage, 12(20.7%) for hand washing facilities, 22(37.9%) for refuse disposal and food waste, 21(36.2%) for floorings and interiors and 1(1.7%) for overall premise. However, the cleanliness for water supply was better than other studied components with 26(89.7%) schools with cases and 19(65.5%) schools without cases having clean water supply. A total of 18(62.1%) schools with cases and 17(58.6%) schools without cases obtained grades below the standard set by the MOH (less than 70%). Among those that scored below standard, 6(20.7%) schools with cases and 5(17.2%) schools without cases had very poor cleanliness status (Grade C).

Conclusion

Overall, only 11(37.9%) schools with cases and 12 (41.4%) schools without cases obtained A grade (71-100 marks).



Research Team from IHBR

RESEARCH PROJECTS CONDUCTED BY NIH IN 2009

Abdul Rani Bahaman Prof	IMR	Leptospirosis in animal hosts and its relationship to leptospirosis in human
Abqariyah Yahya	IMR	Statistical Modelling for Rheumatoid Arthritis Independent Risk factors
Abqariyah Yahya	IMR	Environmental risk factors of Rheumatoid Arthritis in Malaysia: A case-control study
Affandi Omar	IMR	Biochemical studies on classical galactosemia in Malaysia
Alan Khoo Dr	IMR	Molecular Pathogenetic mechanism and Studies on Selected Biomarkers of Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma (NPC) (including the establishment of the Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma Coordinator Research Center
Alan Khoo Siew Beng Dr	IMR	Kisspeptins and GnRH as potential therapy for cancer
Aziz Ibrahim	IMR	Development and evaluation a reliable Biotechnological technique for detection and monitoring of insecticides
Azura Mohd Noor	IMR	Molecular epidemiology on Burkholderia pseudomallei using random amplication of poly morphic DNA analysis and pulsed filed gel electrophoresis method
Carif	IMR	A multi institutional study on Clinical Outcome of patients with Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma and the establishment of a Malaysian NPC tissue bank
Choong Yew Keong Dr	IMR	Analysis of polysaccharide component and in vitro studies of Lignosus (polyporaceae)
Edmund Sim Ui Hang Dr	IMR	Nucleotide variation and gene expression studies of ribosomal protein genes in cases of nasopharyngeal carcinoma
Fairuz Amran Dr	IMR	Development of DNA chip for detection and identification of Candida species in clinical samples
Fairuz bt Amran Dr	IMR	Clinical criteria, markers and prognostic factors of severe leptospirosis
Gan Seng Chew Dr	IMR	The effect of Ostrich Oil on Arthritis in Animal Model
Husniza Hussain	IMR	Determination of biogenic amines levels in local fish-based food and identifying best manufacturing practices to reduce biogenic amines levels
Hussin Mohammad	IMR	Male reproductive toxicity & teratogenicity study of standardized Orthosiphon stamineus extract in rats
Indra Vythilingam Dr	IMR	Epidemiological and molecular studies on simian malaria and its vectors in Peninsular Malaysia
Jamaayah Mohamad Zahidi	IMR	Development of Diagnostic methods for the detection of Brucellosis in Human
Jasbir Singh Dhaliwal Dr	IMR	Identification of Genetics of neutrophil functional disorders in Malaysian patients with Primary Immunodeficiency
Lee Han Lim Dr	IMR	Development of transgenic Aedes mosquitoes
Leela Anthony Dr	IMR	Congenital Anomalies and its Linkage to Environment
Lim Kuang Hock	IMR	Psychosocial factors, stages of smoking acquisition and susceptibility to smoking initiation and their relationship to adolescent smoking - longitudinal study in Kota Tinggi
Lim Moon Nian	IMR	Cultivation of limbal stem cells for clinical application in severe ocular surface disorder
Lokman Hakim Sulaiman Dr	IMR	Clonal Relatedness of Vibrio Cholerae isolated from clinical cases and environmental specimens in an endemic area in Tawau, Sabah
Lokman Hakim Sulaiman Dr	IMR	Development and assessment of proposed Environmental Health Indicator
Lokman Hakim Sulaiman Dr	IMR	Pathogens, allergens, chemical and psychosocial factors associated with building related illness in Klang Valley
Lokman Hakim Sulaiman Dr	IMR	Microbial risk assessment of drinking water distributed from Sg. Semenyih water treatment plant
Maizatul Hasyima Omar	IMR	Flavonoids and invitro antioxidant activities of Ficus deltoidea
Mariana Hj Ahmad Dr	IMR	Detection of rickettsioses of public health importance in acarine ectoparasites (ticks and mites) using Polymerase Chain Reactions (PCR)
Mohammed Faizal Bakhtiar Dr	IMR	The prevalence of allergy to 5 species of commonly available edible mushrooms in atopic individuals
Mohd Amir Kamaludin Dr	IMR	Human risk exposure to leptospirosis in selected rural, urban and recreational eco-system
Mohd Amir Kamaludin Dr	IMR	Environmental Risks Factors of Aplastic Anemia in Sabah
Mohd Apandi Yusof	IMR	Genetic analysis and antiviral resistance study of influenza virus circulating in Malaysia
Mohd Fairulnizal Mohd Nor	IMR	Electrochemical sensors development of toxic heavy metals in water samples, biological fluids and herbal products
Mohd Isa Wasiman	IMR	Mitagyna speciosa (Ketum): Screening for Biological properties as anti narcotic and analgesic
Mohd Khadri Sahar Dr	IMR	Isolation and characterization of pheromones from Aedes mosquitoes
Mohd Ridzuan Mohd Abd Razak	IMR	Study of malaria parasites metabolism (Phosphatidylcholine) and its possible use as drug target
Nazni Wasi Ahmad Dr	IMR	Determination of Zoonotic viral infection in non human primates with special references to arboviruses
Ng Ching Ching Dr(UM)	IMR	Association study of selected candidate genes and Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma susceptibility
Nik Muhammad Nizam Nik Hassan	IMR	Environmental survey and dose quantification of environmental carcinogens
Noor Rain Abdullah Dr	IMR	Xanthorizol: Biological and safety study as potential anti-proliferative agent for breast carcinoma
Noor Rain Abdullah Dr	IMR	To study in vitro sensitivity patterns of P. falciparum isolates to antimalaria infection in Sabah
Noor Rain Abdullah Dr	IMR	Goniothalamine: Elucidation of mechanism of action and safety evaluation as potential anti malaria
Noormalin Abdullah Dr	IMR	Frequency and nature of the variant syndromes of autoimmune hepatitis
Nor Azimah Abdul Azize	IMR	Mutational analysis of gene encoding P protein, T protein and H protein in suspected non ketotic hyperglycinemia (NKH) patients in Malaysia
Noral Ashikin Yahya Dr	IMR	Toxicology evaluation of standardised Ketom extract and mitragynine
Norazah Ahmad Dr	IMR	Molecular epidemiology of community-acquired Methicillin Resistance Staphylococcus aureus MRSA in Malaysia
Norazah Ahmad Dr	IMR	A study on the antibiotic resistance mechanisms in non-typhoidal salmonellae isolated from clinical cases in Malaysia
Normaznah Yahya Dr	IMR	Development of Immunodiagnostic techniques for leptospirosis
Norsiah Md Desa	IMR	Characterisation of Fragile X syndrome by genomic and proteomic approach
Nurul Izzah Ahmad Dr	IMR	Exposure assessment for selected contaminants from consumption of seafood in Peninsular Malaysia

RESEARCH PROJECTS CONDUCTED BY NIH IN 2009

Onn Haji Hashim Dr(UM)	IMR	Serum expression proteomics of patients with nasopharyngeal carcinoma
Puteri Jamilatul Noor Megat Baharuddin Dr	IMR	Propagation and expansion of human embryonic stem cell lines
Rafiza Shaharudin Dr	IMR	Lifestyle, dietary and occupational risk factors for breast and cervical cancers
Rafiza Shaharudin Dr	IMR	Risk of tuberculosis infection among government hospital workers in the Klang Valley
Rahizan Issa Dr	IMR	Prototype Development of Diagnosis Chip for Tuberculosis infection
Rahizan Issa Dr	IMR	Development of DNA Biosensor for the Detection of Tuberculosis
Rahman A Jamal Dr	IMR	Molecular risk profiling for breast and cervical cancer (HUKM)
Ratna Mat Tap	IMR	In Vitro susceptibility testing of medically important filamentous Fungi from Malaysian Clinical Specimen Using E-test method
Revathy A/P Arushothy	IMR	Molecular characterization of macrolide resistant Streptococcus Pneumoniae isolates
Rohani Ahmad Dr	IMR	A study to develop a predictive model for dengue outbreak
Rohani Ahmad Dr	IMR	Mapping of Malaria vectors in Peninsular Malaysia
Rohani Ahmad Dr	IMR	New control strategies for Malaria vectors
Rohani Md Yasin	IMR	A prospective multinational surveillance of hospital-acquired pneumonia (HAP) in Malaysian hospital: etiology, clinical outcome, and impact of antimicrobial resistance
Rosmilah Misnan Dr	IMR	Production, characterization and cross reactivity of local prawn allergens
Rosmilah Misnan Dr	IMR	Identification of major allergens of Charybdis japonica (red crab) and Portunus pelagicus (swimming/blue crab) by a proteomics approach
Rozilawati Harun	IMR	Studies on chikungunya virus in mosquito
Sharifah Noor Akmal Syed Husain Dr	IMR	Determination of HPV Genotypes in Cervical Samples of Malaysian Women (UKM)
Sim Sai Peng Dr(UNIMAS)	IMR	The Involvement of Apoptosis in Chromosomal Rearrangement in Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma (NPC)
Sophia Karen Bakon	IMR	Prevalence of silicosis among quarry workers in Peninsula Malaysia
Sumitra Sithamparan Dr	IMR	Coastal recreational waters: Quality and impact on health
Tan Eng Lai Dr(IMU)	IMR	Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma: Roles of Epstein-Barr virus Latent Proteins in Invasion and Metastasis
Teo Soo Hwang Dr	IMR	Development of a NPC specific peptide vaccine therapy for nasopharyngeal cancer
Thana Sengaran Dr	IMR	Impact of air pollution on mortality using remote sensing in Klang Valley
Too Chun Lai	IMR	Tumour necrosis factor (TNF) microsatellite polymorphisms association with rheumatoid arthritis in Malays
Too Chun Lai	IMR	Non-Major histocompatibility Complex (MHC) candidate genes associations with rheumatoid arthritis in Malaysian population
Wan Nazaimoon WM Dr	IMR	Discovery of specific biomarkers for diabetic nephropathy in Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus
Wan Nazaimoon WM Dr	IMR	Metabolic syndrome in Malaysia: Its prevalence, risk factors and its clinical application
Wan Noafikah Othman	IMR	Detection of permethrin resistance in Aedes albopictus in Malaysia
Wan Rozita Wan Mahiyuddin	IMR	5 year survival rate and mortality differentials for breast and cervical cancers
Yusnita Jakob	IMR	MicroRNAs (miRNA) expression study in multiple myeloma
Zailatul Hani Mohamad Yadzir	IMR	Characterization of IgE-binding proteins of white squid (Loligo edulis)
Zainah Sa'at Dr	IMR	Determination of Biomarkers and Development of Test Kit for Laboratory Diagnosis of Japanese Encephalitis and Other Arboviruses
Zakiah Ismail Dr	IMR	Carica Papaya Juice Extract for Anti-Dengue Studies
Zubaidah Zakaria Dr	IMR	Isolation, expansion and characterization of mesenchymal stem cell from various tissues for therapeutic application
Mohd Isa Wasiman	IMR	Mitagyna speciosa (Ketum): Screening for Biological properties as anti narcotic and analgesic
Zubaidah Zakaria Dr	IMR	High resolution genome-wide array analysis in unexplained syndromic patient with normal karyotype
Zubaidah Zakaria Dr	IMR	Molecular classification, relapse prediction and causes of drug resistance in childhood acute lymphoblastic leukaemia
Zubaidah Zakaria Dr	IMR	Derivation of Human Embryonic Stem cell Lines
Zurahaman Fasha Anaua	IMR	Private water supply in palm oil estates: Its Quality and Health Impact
Soobitha Suberathiran, Dr	IMR	Pharmacogenomics study of Carbamazepine in Epilepsy in Hospital Kuala Lumpur
Mohd Fairulnizal Md Noh	IMR	Development of a simple and cheap method based on hanging mercury drop electrode for detection of heavy metal contamination in vegetables and fruits
Aswir Abd Rashid	IMR	Mechanisms of sialic acid (N-acetylneuraminic acid) transport across the gastrointestinal tract system
Lim Moon Nian	IMR	Study of the multipotency and global gene expression profile of limbal stromal cells
Suraiami Mustar	IMR	The efficacy of commercial sanitizers against native micro flora and inoculated Escherichia coli O157:H7 and Salmonella typhimurium on mung bean (vigna radiata) seeds and sprouts
Ahmad Faudzi Yusoff	IMR	Investigation of Chikungunya infection in the state of Kelantan, Malaysia, 2009
Zakiah Ismail Dr	IMR	General toxicity study of 5 gamat products: In vivo as in vitro toxicology studies
Too Chun Lai	IMR	Tumour necrosis factor (TNF) microsatellite polymorphisms association with rheumatoid arthritis in Malaysia
Too Chun Lai	IMR	Non-major Histocompatibility Complex (MHC) candidate genes associations with rheumatoid arthritis in Malaysian population
Abqariyah Yahya	IMR	Statistical Modelling for Rheumatoid Arthritis Independent Risk Factors
Abqariyah Yahya	IMR	Environmental Risk Factors of Rheumatoid Arthritis in Malaysia: A case-control study
Haniza Mohd Anuar	IHSR	Project Ono Competency Matrix for Health Researchers
Nordin Salleh Dr	IHSR	Evaluation of private sector involvement in delivery of primary care services
Rozita Halina Hussein Dr	IMR	Costing of MOH Primary Putrajaya Health Clinic (COMPHEC) (Title lama: Costing in Health of Primary Care & Inpatient and Outpatient care at KKM Hospital)

RESEARCH PROJECTS CONDUCTED BY NIH IN 2009

Rozita Halina Hussein Dr	IHSR	Costing of MOH Primary Care Services (COMPRICASE) (Title lama: Microcosting Perkhidmatan Pesakit Luar TPC)
Siti Haniza Mahmud Dr	IHSR	Quality Improvement Project for NIA Indicators
Sondi Sararaks Dr	IHSR	Improving patient safety: Health systems reporting, analysis and safety improvement
Sondi Sararaks Dr	IHSR	Health Outcomes Research Projects
Sondi Sararaks Dr	IHSR	EVIPNET
Tahir Aris Dr Hj	IHSR	A study on the effectiveness of Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) in managing certain chronic diseases and dental problems
Alan Fong Dr	CRC	Biomarker patterns of young ACS
Christina Ng (UMMC) Dr	CRC	An open labeled, multicentre, randomized phase II trial of combination Gemcitabine and Carboplatin chemotherapy in patients with metastatic or recurrent Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma
Mohammad Anwar Hau Dr	CRC	A Randomized Multi-Arm (Usual Care, HBOT, Stem Cell and Maggot), Multi centre trial for diabetic wound/ulcer
Ngau Yen Yew Dr	CRC	Comparative Efficacy And User Acceptance of Various Disinfectants commonly in Use by Medical Personnel for hand washing in MOH Hospital Setting
Rozina Mohamed Ghazalli Dato Dr	CRC	Economic Evaluation of HD and CAPD Treatment Services in MOH Hospitals
Shanthi Varatharajan Dr	CRC	Validation of EQ-5D among the Malaysian population
Shanthi Varatharajan Dr	CRC	Validation of PedsQL among the Malaysian paediatric population
Sunita Bavanandan Dr	CRC	Economic Evaluation: Cost of effectiveness of living related and Cadaver Transplantation in Ministry of Health Hospitals
Teo Soo Hwang Dr	CRC	Treatment of Nasopharyngeal cancer with phototherapy and photosensitiser Foscan
Vasu Pillai a/l Letchumanan Dr	CRC	Randomised Prospective Clinical Study of the Effectiveness of Antibiotic Prophylaxis in Prevention of wound Infection after Mesh Repair on Inguinal Hernia- A multicentre Double Blinded Randomized Controlled Trial
Wan Shaariah Dato Dr	CRC	Study of hospitalisation rate and cause of mortality among Dialysis patients in Malaysia (HDP)
Zaki Morad Dato IMU	CRC	Community based multiple risk factors intervention strategy to prevent Cardiovascular and Chronic Kidney diseases (CORFIS)
Gerard Lim Chin Chye, Dr	CRC	Cancer Survival in malaysia
Punithavathi Narayanan	MOH	Prevalence of Metabolic syndrome in obese adolescents (Secondary school children) in Penang State
Fizlatun bt Borhan Dr	IHM	Human Resources: Meeting Service Needs and Demands
Noriah Bidin Dr	IHM	The effectiveness of Intervention of Outpatient Management of Hypertension in Management of Hypertension in MOH Hospitals and Health Clinics
Noriah Bidin Dr	IHM	Kajian amalan Nilai-nilai Murni di Kalangan Anggota Klinik Pergigian Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia
Pn Wee Lei Hum	IHM	Planning in smoking cessation attempts: a prospective and retrospective cohort study in Malaysia
Ramziah bt Ahmad Matron	IHM	To assess the Supervisory Skills among Ward Sisters in Public Hospitals in Malaysia
Roslan Johari b Dato' Mohd Ghazali Dr	IHM	Study on effectiveness of knowledge sharing
Rugayah Bakri Datin Dr	IHM	Health Technology Assessment Impact in Ministry of Health
Azahadi Dr	IHM	Kajian Kepuasan Pelanggan Menggunakan Kaedah Servqual di Hospital Swasta
Jasvinder Kaur Dr	IPH	Tinjauan Kebangsaan Masalah Telinga dan Pendengaran 2003-2007
Nalachakravarthy Odhayakumar Dr	IPH	To develop and evaluate a Pilot National Surveillance System for Injury
Noor Ani Ahmad Dr	IPH	Validity Study of Adolescence Health Screening tools
Nor Safiza Mohamad	IPH	Nutritional status and food practices of breast cancer patient before and after chemotherapy treatment in selected government hospitals - Phase 1
Prathapa Senan Dato	IPH	Evaluation of the effectiveness of HIV Hepatitis Prevention Programme in the Prisons and Drug Rehabilitation Centres
Rusidah bt Selamat	IPH	National Iodine Deficiency Disorder (IDD) Survey 2008
Samsinah bt Haji Hussain Prof Dr, UM	IPH	Prevalence and risk factors of Obstructive Sleep Apnea Syndrome (OSAS) in Adult Malaysian Men and Women
Samsinah bt Haji Hussain Prof Dr, UM	IPH	Prevalence and risk factors of Obstructive Sleep Apnea Syndrome (OSAS) in Malaysia: Sleep-Disordered Breathing (SDB) in Malaysia Children
Yahya Baba Dr	IPH	Study on the prevalence of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) in Malaysia: Burden of disease study
Fadzilah Kamaludin, Dr	IPH	To determine the Proficiency of PL Microscopists Detecting Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Selected Primary Health Care Centres
Tee Guat Hiong, Helen	IPH	Smoking behaviour among assistant environmental Health Officer trainees
Gurpreet Kaur, Dr	IPH	Prevalence and risk factors of depression and anxiety among type II diabetics in primary health care settings in Selangor and Kuala Lumpur and the development of an integrated intervention strategy in primary health settings
Prathapa Senan, Dato', Dr	IPH	Evaluation of the partner notification, contact tracing and case holding of HIV positive patients
Mohd Ismail Lasa, Dr	IPH	Employee job satisfaction survey in the Institute for Public Health, Ministry of Health malaysia
Juliana Sharmini, Dr	IPH	An Exploratory study to assess the implementation of the safety and health committee (SHC) and the perception of the SHC members in the health care Facilities within Ministry of health
Ridhuan Mohd Dan	IPH	Status of Neurobehavioural effects among Ministry of health staff exposed to Neurotoxic chemicals in Vector Control Unit and Pathology laboratory in the state of Perak, Aug 2008- Dec 2009
Mohammad Arif Abu Bakar	IPH	Status kualiti air kolam rekreasi dan kolam renang di Lembah Klang, Jan 2009 - Sep 2009
Zawaha Hj Idris Hj	IHBR	Kajian pengetahuan, sikap dan amalan dalam kalangan pelatih program khidmat negara (PLKN) terhadap risiko tingkahlaku kesihatan
(Master Programme Candidates)	IHBR	19 Health Education Projects
Abdul Rashid bin Abd Rahman Prof Dr	IHBR	The role of Palm Based Vitamin E in Established Diabetic Vasculopathy
Abdul Rashid bin Abdul Rahman Dr	IHBR	Identification of non-compliance in patients with Ischaemic Heart Disease
Hasimah Ismail	IHBR	Evaluating Effectiveness of Educational Materials Among Diabetes Patient in Diabetes Clinic
Norhayati Ali Dr	IHBR	Epidemiology of Suicide in Malaysia: Pilot Project in Three States (Study on the Protective and risk factors in self inflicted injuries SII)
Siti Sa'adiah Hassan Nudin	IHBR	Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance System

RESEARCH PROJECTS CONDUCTED BY NIH IN 2009

Siti Sa'adiah Hassan Nudin	IHBR	Determinants of wellness among older Malaysian: a health promotion perspective
Sulaiman Che Rus Dr	IHBR	Experiences and Perceptions of Public Health Staff on Dengue Control
Siti Sa'adiah Hassan Nudin	IHBR	Mental health screening with the Brief Symptom Inventory (Malay Translation) among personnel in the Ministry of Health Malaysia and National University of Malaysia
Siti Sa'adiah Hassan Nudin	IHBR	Foreign Domestic Workers in Malaysia; Exploring the Intersection of Gender, Migration and Health
Thavaraj Subramaniam	IHBR	Development New Therapies and Innovative Strategies for Ischaemic Heart Disease (IHD)
Zakiah Mohd Zin	IHBR	Assessment on Acceptance on TCM Services Amongst Medical Doctors in Klang Valley Area & Putrajaya Hospitals
Roslan Johari b Dato' Mohd Ghazali, Dr	TCM	Evaluation of patients Satisfaction in the Provision of Care in the Traditional and Complementary Medicine Unit
Zakiah Ismail Dr	TCM	Health Related Quality of Life in Post Stroke Patients receiving Acupuncture or/and Traditional Malay Massage Treatment from the Traditional and Complementary Medicine
Haniza Mohd Anuar	TCM	Traditional malay Massage and Traditional Malay workout
CRC(Gerard Lim Chin Chye)	TCM	Health Related Quality of life in Cancer Patients receiving Herbal Treatments from the Traditional and Complementary Medicine Units
Haniza Mohd Anuar	TCM	Case Studies on Post Stroke patients receiving Traditional Malay Massage as Complementary Treatment to Rehabilitation
Mohd Azhar Musa	Engineering	Kajian dedahan dos radiasi di Malaysia
Engku Azman b. Tuan Mat	Engineering	Development of a Drinking Water Quality Index
Md Jala b. Bongkik Tn Hj	Engineering	Study on domestic drinking water filters in Malaysia
Md Jala b. Bongkik Tn Hj	Engineering	Identification of High Solid Contaminants on Consumer Filters
Devaraj a/l Supramaniam Dr	MOH	Assessment of Bacterial Contamination of the Anterior Chamber During Phacoemulsification Cataract Surgery
Khaw Chong Hui Dr	MOH	An open-labelled, prospective, randomized, cross-over trial to assess the impact of lower dose vs glucocorticoid replacement on bone turnover, glucose and cortisol metabolism and quality of life
Safurah bt Hj Jaafar Dr Hj	MOH	Ambutology casemix measurement using John Hopkins Adjusted Clinical Groups (ACG) in primary care in Malaysia
The Wai Siew	MOH	Kajian Pemakanan Kanak-kanak taska dari Lahir hingga Empat Tahun di Negeri Selangor
Zirwatul Adilah	MOH	Molecular characterization of Multi-drug resistant isolates of Mycobacterium tuberculosis in Malaysia
Sini Kui Hian Prof	MOH	A Health Related Quality of Life Study in Patients With Acute Coronary Syndromes: The clinical Pharmacy Service in the Phase II Cardiac Rehabilitation Program
Pua Kin Choo Dr	MOH	A multi institutional study on Clinical Outcome of patients with Nasopharyngeal Carcinoma and the establishment of a Malaysian NPC tissue bank
Norizah Ismail	MOH	Molecular characterization of Chikungunya virus (CHIKV) isolated in malaysia
Laila bt Abdul Jalil, Dr	MOH	A comparison of the effectiveness of sodium bicarbonate application and fluoride application as a treatment option for rampant caries
Erle Stanley Henry	MOH	A study of the Pre S/S gene Mutation of Hepatitis B Virus occurs among Sabah Population
Priya Gill, Dr	MOH	The efficacy and safety of Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) as an adjunctive treatment in the management of chronic venous and vasculitic ulcers in Dermatology
Safurah bt Hj Jaafar Dr Hj	MOH	Ambulatory casemix measurement using John Hopkins Adjusted Clinical Groups (ACG) in primary care in malaysia
Muhammad Farid Wong	MOH	National Medicines in Expenditure Survey
Aznilah Rosman, Dr	Registry	National Rheumatoid Arthritis Registry
Rozina Ghazalli, Dato'	Registry	National Renal Registry
Rozina Ghazalli, Dato'	Registry	National Transplant Registry
Mastura Ismail, Dr	Registry	National Diabetes Registry (formerly An Audit of Diabetes Control & Management ADCM)
Norhayati Ali, Dr	Registry	National Suicide Registry Malaysia (NSRM)
Abdul Aziz, Dato'	Registry	National Mental Health Registry (NMHR): Schizophrenia & Depressive Disorder
Sim Kui Hian Prof Dr	Registry	National cardiovascular Disease Database (NCVD): Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS)
Abdul Rahman Ismail Dr	Registry	Malaysian Cardiothoracic Registry (MyCARE)
Faridah Aryani Dr	Registry	National Medicine Use Survey (NMUS)
Goh Pik Pin Dr	Registry	National Eye Database
Irene Cheah Dr	Registry	National Neonatal Registry
Tan Soek Siam Dr	Registry	National Liver Registry
Sabariah Faizah Jamaluddin Dr	Registry	National Trauma database (NTRD)
Mohd Hanip Raffa Dato Dr	Registry	National Neurology Registry: Stroke Epilepsy
Aziah Ahmad Mahayiddin Datin Dr	Registry	National Chest Registry: Asthma, COPD
Abdul Majid Dr	Registry	National ENT Registry: Hearing Loss
Faraizah Abdul Karim Dr	Registry	National Hemophilia Registry
Ng Siew Hian Dr	Registry	National Adult ICU Audit
Ravichandran Jeganathan Dr	Registry	National Obstetric Database & Maternal Mortality Register
Zahara Musa Dr	Registry	National Radiology Registry: Interventional Radiology
Abdul Jamil Abdullah Dato'	Registry	Post-Operative Mortality Review (POMR) and Computerized OT Documentation System (COTDS)

VACANT POSTS IN NIH

POSTS	PAY SCHEME	VACANCIES IN NIH INSTITUTES			
		Secretariat	IPH	CRC	IHM
Research Specialist/Med. Officer	UD51/52			1	
Med. Officer/ Research		1	1	2	
Medical Officer				1	
Medical Officer	UD47/48			5	4
Medical Officer (Research)	UD 43/44			1	
Research Officer	Gred Q53/54-Q51-52-Q47/48-Q43/44-Q41	2	1	13	
Research officer (Biotechnologist)	Gred Q53/54-Q51-52-Q47/48-Q43/44-Q41		1	7	
Scientific Officer/Nutritionist/Chemist/Entomologist/Food Tech./Biochemist	C52/C48/C44/C44/C44/C41/C41		3/1/1/3/1/1		
Assist. Research officer	Q27/32)			1	
Information Tech. Officer	F41/44	1	1	2	
Social Welfare Officer	S41		1		
Assist. Info. Tech. Officer	F29			1	
Pharmacist	U48			1	
Graduate Nurse /Env.Officer	U41/42		2/1		
Nurse	U32/U29/U11		2/-/1	1/1/-	
Med. Lab Tech.	U29		2		
Public Health Assist./Malaria/Attendant	U17/U13/U3		1/1/3		
Statistician	E48/E41		1	-/1	
Adm. Assist.	N26/N22/N17/N11	1/1/1/-	-/-/2/9		
Admin. Assist.(Finance)	W22/W17		1/1		
Designer	B17	1	1		
Builder (Cement)	R9		1		
Driver	R3	1	1		
Office Assistant	N1	1	5	1	
Total		10	50	52	4

Contact Us:

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<p>Institute for Health Management (IHM) Jalan Rumah Sakit Bangsar 59000 Kuala Lumpur Phone : 603-22962800 Fax : 603-22962838 URL: www.moh.gov.my/ipk</p>	<p>Institut for Public Health (IPH) Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia Jalan Bangsar 50590 Kuala Lumpur Phone: 603 2297 9400 Fax: 603 2282 3114 URL: www.iku.gov.my</p>	<p>Institute for Health Behavioural Research (IHBR) Jalan Rumah Sakit Bangsar 50590 Kuala Lumpur Phone: 603-2284 9005 Fax: 603-2284-9080 URL:www.iptk.gov.my</p>	