



Message From

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH, MALAYSIA

DATO' SRI LIOW TIONG LAI

**6th NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR CLINICAL
RESEARCH 2012**

26—28 September 2012

PWTC Kuala Lumpur

Clinical research is a national key economic area that has grown in importance with the concerted efforts made to promote Malaysia as a choice destination for clinical trial outsourcing in Asia. The clinical research industry has benefited Malaysia by bringing world class medical treatment to our patients as well as providing job opportunities for high-calibre research professionals. To boost competitiveness, Malaysia is striving to meet industry requirements for timeliness, recruitment, ethical compliance, data quality and transparency. The Ministry of Health and other relevant Government departments and agencies are working with the newly corporatised Clinical Research Malaysia (CRM) to strengthen national strategies in clinical research. The Ministry is fully committed towards policies that ensure clinical research is carried out in a regulated environment in full compliance with the highest ethical standards.

The 6th National Conference for Clinical Research (NCCR 2012) is an opportunity to keep abreast of developments and to benchmark national achievements against international standards. As CRM begins to operate as a corporate entity, we anticipate that the number of clinical trials conducted will exceed the targets set for this year. In addition, steps are being taken to increase the number of specialist doctors, pharmacists, nurses and other support staff that are needed in a clinical research team. The theme of NCCR 2012, "Novel to Nobel: Better Research, Better Doctors, Better Health" is a reminder on the need to integrate research and healthcare in the effort to improve the health of our patients as well as to save lives.

The synergy between scientific research and clinical service is best exemplified by 1996 Nobel Prize co-winner in Physiology or Medicine, Peter C. Doherty, whose entire career illustrates this inter-dependent process. In sharing his insights on the challenges that had to be overcome and the barriers that had to be broken throughout his career, future researchers may be inspired to do the same. The process of translating research findings into clinical practice is often termed from "bench to bedside", the ultimate goal being to find and implement better treatment for patients.

It is hoped that the outcome of this conference and other events planned with Professor Doherty will enrich and advance the clinical and scientific research scenario in Malaysia and beyond. With that, it is my earnest hope that you will all have a fruitful and memorable conference.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DATO' SRI LIOW TIONG LAI'. The signature is stylized and fluid.

DATO'SRI LIOWTIONG LAI