



Message From

**THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF HEALTH, MALAYSIA  
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**6th NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR CLINICAL  
RESEARCH 2012**

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Scientific discoveries have given the world insulin, statins as well as techniques, technologies and treatments for non-communicable diseases (NCD) such as diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, and cancer. Research has also given us vaccines, antibiotics and drugs that have cured, immunised and curbed the spread of deadly communicable diseases in a highly mobile society. Advancements in medicine have been possible with novel discoveries in basic science research at the start of the drug development pipeline that ends with rigorous clinical trials. The outcome of this collaborative research process has shaped healthcare services, resulting in prolonged lifespan and a higher quality of life for millions of people. Indeed, the benefits of research are undisputed.

Thus, it is relevant for the 6th National Conference for Clinical Research (NCCR 2012) to focus on the values that link research and healthcare in the theme "Novel to Nobel: Better Research, Better Doctors, Better Health". The interlinking nature of research in helping to improve the service doctors provide to patients underlines the ultimate aim - good health and well-being. To this end, Malaysia takes a firm stand on strict compliance to Good Clinical Practice (GCP) guidelines for clinical research and the enforcement of ethical standards code. Well trained clinicians and other support staff are crucial for clinical research-friendly health service and the building of human capital is of the utmost priority. In addition, the pool of key opinion leaders (KOLs) who are specialists in their respective therapeutic areas will boost the attractiveness of Malaysia as a preferred site for global clinical trials.

As Malaysia transforms healthcare into a dynamic economic sector, efforts should be stepped up to train talents eager for innovation and bold enough to break new ground in health services and clinical research. The well-rounded clinician/ investigator will bring Malaysia to the forefront of medical science and augurs well for the future of research, both pre-clinical and clinical. An exemplary role model of a researcher who has advanced both the fields of science and medicine is 1996 Nobel Prize co-winner in Physiology or Medicine, Peter C. Doherty. He and co-winner Rolf Zinkernagel's groundbreaking work should inspire and provoke thought for researchers looking towards the future.

Have an inspiring conference!

DATO' SRI DR HASAN ABDUL RAHMAN