

PATH TALK



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

December 2020 Issue



Dear members,
Virtual International Congress of Pathology & Laboratory Medicine ICPaLM 2021, 3rd – 5th March 2021 and Annual Scientific Meeting 2021, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Owing to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Organising Committee for ICPaLM2020, now renamed as Organising Committee for ICPaLM2021, had decided to postpone again the Congress to 3rd – 5th March, 2021. This international congress will be held in conjunction with the Annual Scientific Meeting of CPathAMM 2021. It will be an entirely virtual meeting.

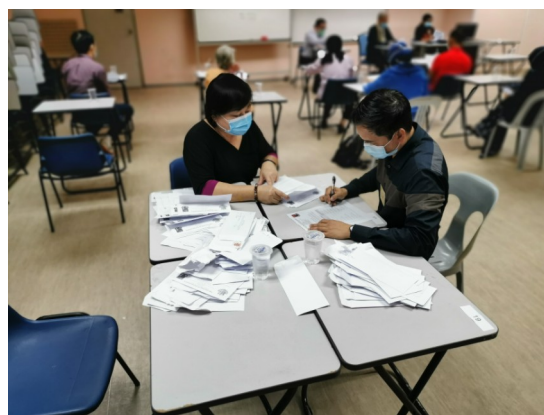
We hope registered participants would stay registered for the Congress. The Organising Committee led by Dr Eusni and Dr Leong Chooi Fun is now busy planning and consolidating the virtual programmes which will not only retain the original scientific content, but also include relevant aspects of Covid-19 infection. The exhibition will also be virtual and many more companies are now participating in this event. Registered participants will be able to tour the virtual exhibition sites to learn about new ideas and products with the click of the mouse.

We do hope members who have not registered would consider registering for this international event as well as our annual scientific meeting, to meet old friends and colleagues and make new ones, over the virtual platform.

For further information, please visit the website: www.cpathamm.org.my for the detailed programmes.

21st Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the College of Pathologists, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia was finally held on 3rd August 2020.

Earlier on, owing to the directive from the Registrar of Societies not allowing AGM to be carried out until 30th June 2020, we had postponed our AGM date to 3rd July 2020. Unfortunately, the Movement Control Order (MCO) was not lifted on 9th June 2020 and instead replaced by the Recovery Movement Control Order (RMCO), where mass gathering is being disallowed. Fortunately, progressive relaxation in restriction of mass gathering allowed the CPath Council to organise the AGM on 3rd August 2020 physically and successfully at the Sungai Long Campus of the Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR). New office-bearers for the next term (through a postal ballot) were duly elected during the AGM.





CPATHAMM NEWSLETTER

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Medical Academies Building - Past, Present, and Future

The past and present of the Medical Academies Building can be summarised as follows:

- The Government in 1976 granted the Colleges of Physicians, Surgeons and Family Medicine a plot of land measuring 13297 square meters on Jalan Tun Razak.
- In 2003, plans were made for a building to be put up on this piece of land.
- With the Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons becoming part of the Academy of Medicine of Malaysia (AMM), the Academy and the Colleges had a two-third share while the Academy of Family Physicians of Malaysia (AFPM) retained its one-third share.
- Construction of the building started in 2006 and the building was completed in 2008. The Medical Academies of Malaysia 5- storey white building was fully occupied and functional by 2010.
- Twelve medical societies and organisations had their secretariats at the building and owned their respective premises. It also had a multipurpose hall and function rooms and these were used for continuing professional development activities and seminars. Although CPathAMM at that time could not afford to own a premise, we were allowed to use the Academy Secretariat for meetings and rent the hall and function rooms for activities, as a component institution within the Academy of Medicine.
- Through the unfortunate compulsory land acquisition by the Government for the construction of MRT line 2, the building was vacated by 15th July 2017 and the AMM relocated temporarily to the 2nd and 3rd floor of Enterprise 3, Technology Park (TPM) in Bukit Jalil, Kuala Lumpur.
- This premise was able to provide adequate floor space to house the secretariats of the Academies, the colleges and societies. Rental rate is reasonable with adequate parking facilities, minimal renovation was required, security onsite, cafe, etc. There are also additional facilities such as auditoriums and meeting rooms within the vicinity to rent, if required.

New Medical Academies Building in Putrajaya:

- The AMM and the AFPM have forged ahead for a new home. After considering several alternatives and finally decided to acquire Plot 8C8 Precinct 8, Putrajaya.
- The sales and purchase agreement signing ceremony for buying the land was held on 20th July 2020 between both the Academies and the Putrajaya Holdings Sdn. Bhd.

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•Other relevant information include:

Tenure of land: Freehold

Location of the Academies Building in Putrajaya: Plot 8C8, Precinct 8, Putrajaya near to the National Cancer Institute & Hospital Putrajaya

Expected date of completion of premises: Target completion 2022/early 2023

Availability of parking space: 189 car parks – 17 on surface & 172 in basement

Availability of public transport services to the premises: It is 1km from Putrajaya Sentral where KLIA express, MRT2, proposed ERL stop. From Putrajaya Sentral there is a bus shuttle as well as monorail service which stops at the road in front of the Academies building.

The building has five levels with a basement. AMM Secretariat is located at level 2.

Common facilities like Meeting rooms, Multi-function halls, Auditoriums at Ground Floor & Level 1. These are the common shared facilities (with video conference facilities) and can be rented for multi-purpose usage. Rental rates are not known at this moment.

Office spaces are available for sale to sister professional bodies in this new building.

THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING (EGM) OF THE CPATHAMM

On 10th October 2020, at the General Meeting Room, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia, Level 2, Enterprise 3B, Technology Park Malaysia, Kuala Lumpur, CPathAMM held an EGM to consider owning an office plot within the new Medical Academies Building in Putrajaya. After due consideration of the financial situation, prospects and risks, the EGM voted in favour of the purchase of the office plot (500 sq. ft). The plot is located at level 2, between the office plot for the College of Paediatrics and the AMM Secretariat. See Figure A for the layout.

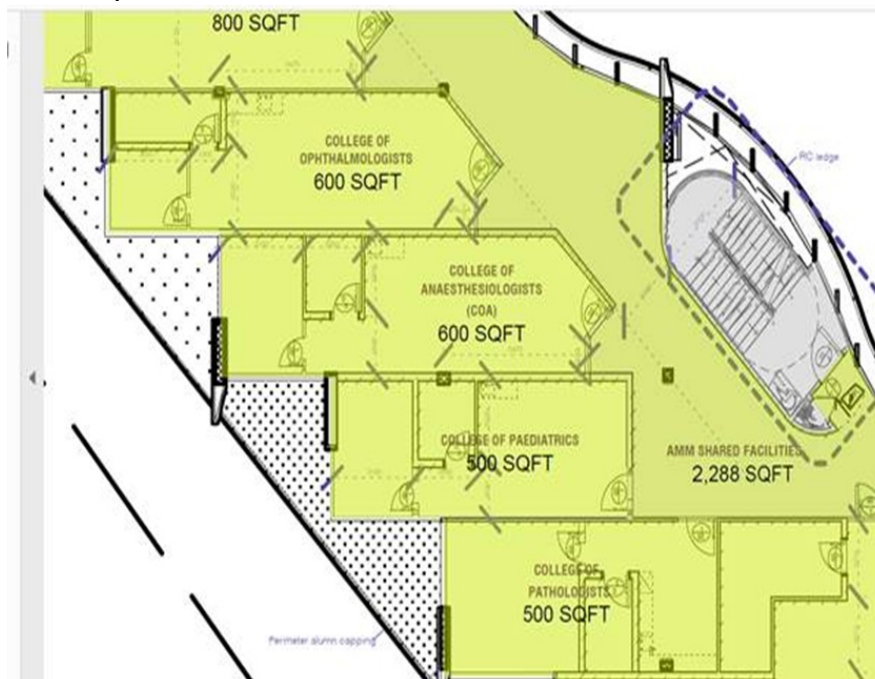


Figure A: CPathAMM Office at the new Medical Academies Building, Putrajaya.
[Source regarding Medical Academies Building: AMM Secretariat.]

Emeritus Professor Dr. S.K. Cheong
President

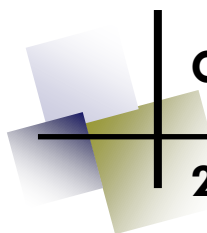
25th December, 2020



CPathAMM NEWSLETTER

THE EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING (EGM) OF THE COLLEGE OF PATHOLOGISTS, ACADEMY OF MEDICINE MALAYSIA





College of Pathologists, AMM Council

2020 - 2022



The 21st AGM of the College of Pathologists, Academy of Medicine Malaysia was held on 8th August 2020, at UTAR, Sg. Long Campus. Voting for the new council was done and the following are the council members for 2020-2022. Congratulations!

President: Emeritus Professor Dr Cheong Soon Keng

Vice-President: Professor Datuk Dr Ainoon Othman

Secretary: Associate Professor Dr Subashini C. Thambiah

Treasurer: Dr Siew Sheue Feng

Councillors: Associate Professor Datin Dr Noor Zetti Zainol Rashid

Dr Leong Chooi Fun

Dr Tengku Norita Tengku Yazid

Co-opted Council Members: Dr Tang Yee Loong

Dr Wong Yin Ping



MMC Specialty Education Committee

The Malaysian Medical Council (MMC) Specialty Education Committee is chaired by Dr. Letchuman Ramanathan and the College of Pathologists, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia (CPathAMM) has nominated our members to the Specialist SubCommittees on Education (SSC-Edu). The roles of the SSC-Edu are to establish standards specific to the specialty programme based on Malaysian Standards for Medical Specialist Training and develop quality standards for the implementation of the specialty programmes that include standards and criteria for selection of candidates, recognition of training facilities and trainers, monitoring and assessment of the programme, qualifications for entry into the National Specialist Register (NSR), competencies required for independent practice in the specialty, maintenance of competencies and recognition of the training programme. The Malaysian Standards for Medical Specialist Training as well as an excel sheet for the Requirements for Malaysian Standards for Medical Specialist Training were circulated to all subcommittees to fill in the requirements and submit to MMC by the 31st August 2020.

Hence, a meeting initiated and chaired by Prof. Datuk Dr. Ainoon Othman and organised by Dr. Siew Sheue Feng was held on the 22nd August 2020 at 10.00 am to agree on the minimum standards for Pathology programmes. Professor Emeritus Dr. Cheong Soon Keng, President of CPathAMM kindly arranged for the meeting to be held at UTAR, Sungai Long. There were a total of 19 participants, representing CPathAMM as well as each discipline of Pathology (Anatomic Pathology, Haematology, Chemical Pathology, Medical Microbiology, Forensic Pathology and Transfusion Medicine). Those present were:

CPathAMM Prof. Emeritus Cheong Soon Keng - <i>President</i>	Haematology Prof. Datuk Dr. Ainoon Othman - <i>Chairperson</i> Dr. Nik Rus Mazeni Nik Yusoff
Anatomical Pathology Prof. Ulung Datuk Dr. Looi Lai Meng - <i>Chairperson</i> (online) Dr. Arni Talib (online) Dr. Salmi Abdullah Dr. Fauzah Abd Gani (online)	Medical Microbiology Assoc. Prof. Datin Dr. Noor Zetti Zainol Rashid - <i>Chairperson</i> Prof. Dr. Yasmin Abdul Malik (online) Assoc. Prof. Dr. Azian Harun Assoc. Prof. Dr. Fadzilah Mohd Nor @ Ghazali
Chemical Pathology Dr. Leslie Charles Lai Chin Loy - <i>Chairperson</i> Assoc. Prof. Dr. Subashini C. Thambiah Dr. Siti Sharina Anas Transfusion Medicine Dato' Dr. Roshida Hassan - <i>Chairperson</i> Dato' Dr. Faraizah Abd Karim Assoc. Prof. Dr. Leong Chooi Fun	Forensic Pathology Dr. Siew Sheue Feng - <i>Chairperson</i> Dr. Khairul Anuar Zainun

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Some highlights from the consensus for the Pathology training standards are as follows:

- Entry criteria include at least 3 years of clinical experience, inclusive of housemanship of which 1 year post-housemanship shall be in any clinical discipline and passing an entrance evaluation for adequacy in knowledge and aptitude to undertake Pathology training.
- Exit criteria include satisfactory completion of supervised training for a duration of at least 4 years in an accredited diagnostic laboratory and passing an exit examination.
- At least 1 year of post-qualification practice as a pathologist in their respective disciplines with good service record for entry into NSR.
- Trainer to trainee ratio not to exceed 1 to 4.
- Trainers must have at least 2 years of working experience as a pathologist in their respective disciplines.
- Minimum requirements for educational resources for each discipline complies with National Accreditation Guidelines for Recognition of Laboratories for the Purpose of Training for the Master of Pathology Part II.
- The Head of Programme shall have at least 5 years working experience as a pathologist and as supervisor in a pathology training programme.
- The Head of Programme and programme coordinators shall show involvement in a programme curriculum development and review committee, however named.
- A curriculum review of the training programme should be undertaken at least once in 5 years.
- A stakeholder feedback/survey should be obtained at least once in 5 years.

The meeting ended at 1.00 pm. CPathAMM is grateful to all SSC-Edu members who participated in the discussion and for their invaluable input in establishing standards specific to Pathology based on Malaysian Standards for Medical Specialist Training. CPathAMM would also like to thank Prof. Ulung Datuk Dr. Looi Lai Meng for preparing the template that was used for the consensus document. This meeting marks an important milestone in Pathology training in Malaysia facilitated by CPathAMM.



Listing of Webinars

Date	Duration (mins)	Webinar Topic	Link	Organiser	CPD Points
21-July-20	90	Haematology Testing in Diagnosis & Management of COVID-19 and Dengue	Refer attached flyer	Sysmex	1
09-Sept-20	90	Lecture 1: Clinical and Haematological Aspects of Dengue & Lecture 2: Introduction of effective Items on Sysmex haematology analyzer	https://www.linkedin.com/posts/sysmex-asia-pacific_clinical-and-haematological-aspects-of-dengue-activity-6703556490143383552-TBSb	Sysmex	1
13-Oct-20	90	An Important Update: Haemostatic Abnormalities in COVID-19 and Associated Infections	https://www.sysmex-ap.com/an-important-update-haemostatic-abnormalities-in-covid-19-and-associated-infections/	Sysmex	1



Sysmex Malaysia Scientific Webinar Series

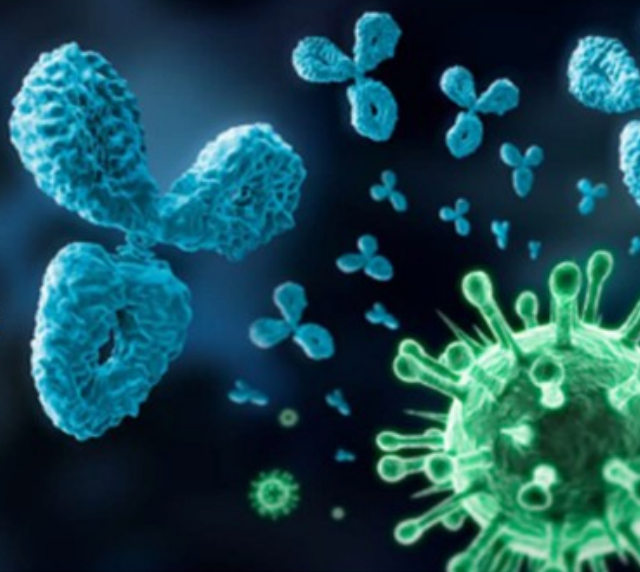
In collaboration with College of Pathologists, Malaysia

Join us on live webinar

Date : 21st July 2020 (Tuesday)

Time : 2:30 - 4:00 pm (MYT)

Haematology Testing in the Diagnosis & Management of COVID-19 and Dengue



Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic, the threat of dengue continues to loom largely across Southeast Asia. Both viral diseases may show similar clinical symptoms including fever, sore throat, nausea/vomiting, and diarrhea. It was also reported that COVID-19 may cause false positive NS1 results. The haematological profile may help to distinguish between the two, especially during the early stages while waiting for confirmatory test results. In COVID-19, haematology results reveal changes related to lymphocyte decrease, while in dengue changes are driven by plasma leakage and platelet decrease. Thus, this webinar will highlight several haematological parameters, comprising of routine and research parameters, which may aid in the differential diagnosis as well as efficient management of COVID-19 and dengue.

CPD point accreditation will be given by Malaysian Medical Council



Speaker
Dr. dr. Agus Susanto Kosasih,
SpPK, MARS

SCAN ME



Register now at <https://cvent.me/0l0D5z>



ANNOUNCEMENT



Virtual Conference

2021 International Congress of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine (ICPaLM), and
2021 Annual Scientific Meeting, College of Pathologist, Academy of Medicine, Malaysia

3rd - 5th MARCH 2021 (Wednesday - Friday)

EXPLORING ADVANCES AND POTENTIAL OF DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES IN PATHOLOGY AND LABORATORY MEDICINE

Organised by :

- College of Pathologists, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia
- Universiti Putra Malaysia
- Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman



In collaboration with:



Supported by:



Abstract submission is now open:

CPD/CME POINT : 20

Abstract submission deadline:
31st DECEMBER 2020

E-Poster submission deadline:
2nd FEBRUARY 2021

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



PROF JOHN RASKO
• Australian clinical haematologist, pathologist and scientist.
• Professor of Medicine, Sydney Medical School
• Past President of International Society for Cell & Gene Therapy (ISCT).



PROF JO MARTIN
• Past President of the Royal College of Pathologists.
• Professor of Pathology at Queen Mary University of London.
• Director of Academic Health Sciences and an honorary consultant at Barts Health NHS Trust.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Artificial intelligence, deep learning, data mining and data analytics
- Nobel prize stem cells and cell-based therapy for cancers & regenerative medicine
- Recent advances & updates in major disciplines of pathology & lab medicine.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND:
CLINICIANS, PATHOLOGISTS
MEDICAL LABORATORY SCIENTIST/TECHNOLOGIST
POST GRADUATE STUDENTS (DrPath, MPath, MSc, PhD)
CLINICAL RESEARCHERS

Registration Deadline: 2nd FEBRUARY 2021

For more information and registration, tap here:
www.cpathamm.org.my/icpalm2020welcome

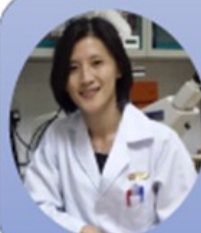
ANNOUNCEMENT

Webinar

STEM CELLS : FROM BENCH TO CLINIC



Dr. Wong Chee Yin
Cytopeutics Sdn. Bhd.,
Malaysia
Current development of stem
cell therapy in Malaysia:
A perspective from a private
company



Dr. Teoh Hoon Koon
UTAR, Malaysia
Mesenchymal stem cells:
Application in cell and
gene therapy



Prof. Chua Chee Wai
Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China
Application of the organoid
technology in the study of
prostate stem cell and cancer
biology



Dr. Erica Choong Pei Feng
Majlis Kanser Nasional,
Malaysia
Cancer-derived iPSC as
cancer model: An
overview



Ms. Tai Li Hui
Cytopeutics Sdn Bhd,
Malaysia
iPSC technology: Their
role in regenerative
medicine

Date: 8.1.2021 (Friday)

Time: 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

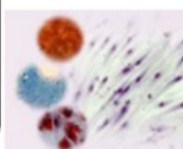
Platform: Microsoft Teams (code: 2xb1vxp)

**Free
Admission!!**

**Register now before
1st Jan 2021:**



Organised by:



Centre for
Stem Cell Research
幹細胞研究中心



MAKNA
Malaysian Cancer Research
Foundation

A Meaning to Life



ADVERTISEMENT

McQAS

Malaysian College Quality Assurance Scheme

External quality assurance programmes organised by the College of Pathologists, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia

Standard Programmes

If the programme you intend to subscribe is not listed, it could be arranged through our collaborating partners.

B) Clinical Chemistry Programmes

GCC10	GCC20	GCC30	GCC40	GCC50
1-10 Parameters	11-20 Parameters	21-30 Parameters	31-40 Parameters	41-50 Parameters
Once a year sample distribution, 1 x 12 monthly cycle, 12 x 5ml primary tubes of human-based lyophilised samples				
Acid phosphatase, prostatic	Calcium, total	Glucose*	Potassium*	
Acid phosphatase, total	Chloride*	HBDH	Protein, total	
Albumin	Cholesterol	HDL-Cholesterol	PSA	
ALP	Cholinesterase	Iron	Sodium*	
ALT (ALAT)	CK, total (CPK)	Lactate (Pilot)	TIBC	
Amylase, pancreatic	Copper	LD (LDH)	Total T3	
Amylase, total	Creatinine	Lipase	Total T4	
AST	D-3-Hydroxybutyrate	Lithium*	Triglycerides*	
Bicarbonate	Free T3	Magnesium*	TSH	
Bile Acid	Free T4	NEFA	Urea	
Bilirubin, direct	Gamma GT	Osmolality	Uric acid*	
Bilirubin, total	GLDH	Phosphate, inorganic	Zinc	
Calcium, ionised				

A) Hematology Programmes

Full blood count (FBC)

7 Parameters

Quarterly sample distribution, 1 x 12 monthly cycles, 12 x 2.5ml glass-vial of ready to use whole blood samples

Haemoglobin (Hb)	Mean Cell Volume (MCV)	Mean Platelet Volume (MPV)	Platelets (PLT)	Total White Blood Cell Count (WBC)
Haematocrit (HCT)	Mean Cell Haemoglobin (MCH)	Mean Cell Haemoglobin Concentration (MCHC)	Red Blood Cell (RBC)	

C) Serology Programmes

SEROLOGY – VIRAL MARKERS PROGRAM

9 Parameters

Once a year sample distribution, 5 x 12 monthly cycles, 3 x 2.0ml glass-vial of ready to use serum samples

Anti-HIV-1&2 Combi	Anti-HAV (IgM)	HBsAb	HBsAg	Anti-HCV
Anti-HAV (Total/IgG)	Anti-HBc (Total/IgG)	Anti-HBc (IgM)	HBeAg	

SEROLOGY – SYPHILIS PROGRAM

3 Parameters

Once a year sample distribution, 5 x 12 monthly cycles, 3 x 1.0ml glass-vial of ready to use serum samples

RPR	TPHA	VDRL
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In the pipeline:



a) Digital Haematology EQA

b) Bacteriology EQA

For enquiry, please contact:

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