

Brief Curriculum Vitae & Statement of Intent

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Nor Azmi was formerly Professor of Medicine and Head of Diabetes and Endocrinology, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) before retiring in 2021 to join Institut Jantung Negara (IJN) as a Consultant Endocrinologist. A graduate of Monash University Melbourne, he did his postgraduate training in Internal Medicine and Endocrinology at the Hospital Kuala Lumpur and the Northern General Hospital, Sheffield, UK. He is a fellow of the American College of Endocrinology and Academy of Medicine Malaysia.

Previously he was Head, Department of Medicine, UKM(2004-2007), President & Vice-President of the Malaysian Endocrine and Metabolic Society(MEMS)(2008-2016 & 2002-2008), President of the Asia-Oceania Congress of Endocrinology(AOCE)(2008-2010), President of the ASEAN Federation of Endocrine Societies(AFES)(2013-2015), Chairperson, Subspecialty Committee Endocrinology, National Specialist Registry(NSR)(2014-2016), Chairperson of the M'sian CPG on the Management of Type 2 Diabetes 2015 and the first from South-East Asia to be a member in the Executive Committee of the International Society of Endocrinology(ISE)(2013-2016).

“MMC as the body that registers and regulates Registered Medical Practitioners in this country needs to seriously address the following pertinent issues:

1. The number of medical students needs to be tightly regulated to ensure that there will be no long breaks before starting their housemanship. Internationally accepted ‘housemen to patients’ ratio need to be adhered to ensure that we continue to produce quality house officers, the foundation of a respectable medical profession.
2. The uncertainty of medical graduates’ future vis a vis the limited availability of permanent posts and postgraduate training positions can only be addressed if annual admission into the work force is tightly regulated right from the moment they enter both local and overseas medical schools so that the eventual number that graduated annually can be conscientiously sustained by the Ministry of Health and the government.
3. MMC should initiate the setting up of a National Postgraduate Medical Training Committee akin to the one in UK responsible for the manpower needs, planning and placement of medical officers throughout the country to prevent a repeat of the recent problem where majority of medical officers did not get the training positions that they desired.
4. MMC should support efforts made by medical NGOs such as MMA, FPMPAM etc to reduce unnecessary restrictive regulations that currently governs the various aspects of private and general practices. Such restraining measures are putting off doctors from pursuing what used to be a noble pursuit that of a family based private practice.
5. Unfair practices such as fee splitting etc by MCOs need to be redressed so private practitioners can maintain a decent standard of living and not solely go for the number of patients at the expense of meticulous and quality care.
6. MMC as a professional regulatory body should articulate the need for the annual government budget allocation for health services to be systematically increased in order to match those of developed countries to meet the ever-increasing demands of healthcare in this country.