

OPENING ADDRESS
PROF EMERITUS DATUK DR KHALID ABDUL KADIR
CHAIRMAN, TMC LIFE SCIENCES BERHAD

MOU SIGNING AND MEDIA LAUNCH – IMU COLLABORATION
25 AUGUST 2017 (FRIDAY)

1. Prof Abdul Aziz Baba, Chief Executive Officer and Vice Chancellor, IMU Education;
2. Ms Nadiah Wan, Chief Executive Officer, Tropicana Medical Centre;
3. Ms Woon Ming Ming, CEO, TMC Fertility and Women's Specialist Centre;
4. Ms Caroline Tan, Director, IMU Healthcare;
5. Dr Surinder Singh, Medical Director, TMC Fertility Centre;
6. Dr Liow Sook Mee, Head of Chinese Medicine Clinic, IMU Healthcare;
7. Senior Management of International Medical University;
8. Esteemed Doctors, Heads of Department and fellow colleagues;
9. Members of the media;
10. Ladies and gentlemen;

Good afternoon and Salam Sejahtera,

On behalf of TMC Life Sciences, I'd like to thank everyone for being here today for the Media Launch and MOU Signing between TMC Fertility Centre and IMU Healthcare Clinics. I'll also like to take this

opportunity to welcome Prof Aziz and his team mates to TMC, and thank you for joining us today for this auspicious occasion.

The coming together of these two healthcare giants is nothing short of a marriage made in (medical) heaven, and we are honoured that you have all taken time to witness our humble ceremony today.

TMC Fertility Centre turns 23 this year, having been established in 1994, initially as a fertility clinic. Over the last 2 decades, it has grown into a full-fledged hospital offering a wide range of medical specialties.

Today, the fertility centre remains a cornerstone of Tropicana Medical Centre, while expanding its reach to other parts of Peninsular Malaysia, with 5 other branches in Penang, Ipoh, Johor Bahru, Puchong and Kepong.

Led by a dynamic and dedicated team, TMC Fertility Centre has won multiple awards in the last few years, such as the

- 2016 Frost & Sullivan Fertility Centre of the Year
- 2016 and 2017 International Fertility Centre of the Year awarded by the International Medical Tourism Journal
- 2016 and 2017 Fertility Provider of the Year awarded by Global Health Travel magazine

The centre continues striving for greater heights, with heavy emphasis on continuous education and human capital development. Some examples of these are:

- Upgrading knowledge and skills of clinical team especially the embryologists, four of whom hold Master degree in Embryology,
- Regular public forums for general public to raise awareness on fertility issues

In recent years, we have seen increasing interest in Traditional and Complementary Medicine (TCM), with many patients asking our doctors for recommendations or referrals for TCM centres.

Of particular interest is Acupuncture, as there have been many peer-reviewed publications in well-recognised journals supporting the use of Acupuncture as adjunct therapy for fertility treatment.

Research shows that Acupuncture may help improve fertility success rates by regulating hormonal balance, improving endometrium lining of the woman, increasing sperm quality in the man, and reducing stress levels.

We are delighted to launch our clinical collaboration with IMU Healthcare to provide Acupuncture services to our patients as a patient-centric initiative in their IVF journey.

IMU Healthcare was an obvious choice as our preferred collaborator, considering International Medical University's illustrious history in the last 25 years as a leading private medical education provider.

The collaboration works both ways, first beginning with cross-referrals from both parties.

Patients who enquire about Acupuncture services at TMC Fertility Centre will be referred to IMU Healthcare, while IMU Healthcare patients who have been trying unsuccessfully for conception with TCM will be referred to TMC Fertility Centre for further evaluation and treatment.

To start off, we will refer patients over to IMU Healthcare for Acupuncture treatment. Effective 2018, *insyaAllah*, we will be able to offer Acupuncture here at TMC Kota Damansara once a week for the convenience of our patients.

As a responsible fertility provider, we strongly uphold our core value of providing evidence-based medicine to all patients, and IMU Healthcare fits into the picture perfectly like a piece of a missing jigsaw.

The ultimate purpose is to provide our patients with a holistic approach to their fertility treatment, so that they achieve their dream of becoming parents.

To borrow a phrase from Robert C Dodds, an award-winning professor and engineer from US – **“The goal in marriage is not to think alike, but to think together”**.

The MOU signed today, like a marriage, will hopefully open up new frontiers in fertility treatment not just for our patients, but for

fertility practitioners all over the world who may now start considering the same for their patients.

We are proud to partner IMU Healthcare as trailblazers in this endeavour, and hope that the collaboration will open new chapters in our quest to be medical providers of choice in the Klang Valley and beyond.

Thank you and wassalam.