ADDRESS BY PROFESSOR DATO’ DR P KANDASAMI

MASTER, ACADEMY OF MEDICINE OF MALAYSIA

Induction Comitia & Opening Ceremony of 49th SMCM 2015
of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore

31 July 2015, Friday @ Auditorium, The Academia, SingHealth

Mr J Y Pillay, Chairman of the Council of Presidential Advisers of the Republic of Singapore

Prof Lim Shih Hui, Master, Academy of Medicine, Singapore

Dr Donald Li, President, Academy of Medicine Hong Kong

Past Masters of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore

Council members of the Academies of Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong

Visiting Overseas Presidents of Sister Colleges

Guests, Ladies & Gentlemen.

It is my great honour and pleasure to welcome all of you to the 49th Singapore-Congress of Medicine. The theme for congress ‘Greater integration for better patient care’ is very pertinent and timely. One of the great achievements of the twentieth century is a dramatic rise in life expectancy. The number of people over the age of 65 years has dramatically increased, and this growth will continue. Unfortunately, older persons are vulnerable to chronic medical conditions. It is not uncommon for them to have multiple co-morbid. As a result they often seek consultation from several healthcare workers, located in different offices and settings. These
services are often are not patient-centered, poorly coordinated and result in inefficiencies, escalation of health costs and poor outcomes. The current health care system has difficulties in caring for older patients, we need a system that is age-friendly. I am sure this Congress will provide the participants with new insights in caring for these group of patients more efficiently and effectively.

For the new specialists who are to be inducted this evening, my heartiest congratulations. Your induction as a Fellow of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore is a significant milestone in your career. It marks the beginning of new opportunities; however please remember that it comes with heavy responsibilities as well. I wish each of you every success and a bright and happy future.

Ladies and gentlemen, the jointly organized Congress of the Academies of Singapore and Malaysia is an annual event since 1966. The meeting has evolved to become a significant forum for members and colleagues to not only share their experience in their clinical work and research but also to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. Over the years the Academies have worked together in a variety ways to ensure high standards of professional practice. Next year, 2016 marks the completion of 50 years of this incredible partnership. It is fittingly that we celebrate this historic occasion; and I take this opportunity to cordially invite you to the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the Malaysia-Singapore Congress in August 2016. The relationship of our two Academies with the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine will be further strengthen with the organization of the 3rd Tripartite Congress as well.

We look forward to welcoming you to Kuala Lumpur and we promise you a most delightful experience.

Thank you