

AKHBAR : THE STAR
MUKA SURAT : 10
RUANGAN : NATION

Medical grads can opt to do non-clinical work, says Deputy D-G

KUALA LUMPUR: Medical graduates who don't have the aptitude for clinical work will now have the chance to apply their skills in other areas in the field.

Health Ministry deputy director-general, Datuk Dr S. Jeyaindran (*pic*) said about 15% of medical graduates who did not want to do clinical work or did not have the aptitude for it could now use their skills in areas such as research or even academia.



Speaking to reporters on the sidelines of a seminar on career pathways for doctors in Malaysia, he suggested the creation of two registration categories with the Medical Council – one for clinicians and the other for non-clinicians.

“Registering with the council will give non-clinicians the recognition for their qualifications and opportunities to pursue other areas within the health sector,” he said.

Currently, Jeyaindran said only those pursuing clinical work need to register with the council and registration for non-clinicians would require a change in the law.

Jeyaindran also said doctors would have the opportunity to upgrade their skills and become specialists in their chosen areas with the recent establishment of a deanery.

“The deanery will ensure qualified doctors are given the chance to advance in their careers,” he said adding that there was a general lack of specialists in Malaysia.

Jeyaindran said the deanery has been established on a national level and hopes to bring it to the hospital level by year-end.

He also proposed a standardised national curriculum and a common licensing examination to maintain the quality of doctors practising in Malaysia.

“A national curriculum could standardise the quality of medical education in medical schools in the country while the licensing exam could be an additional qualification for graduates to practise medicine in Malaysia, similar to the Certificate in Legal Practice required by the legal profession,” he said.

AKHBAR : THE STAR
MUKA SURAT : 11
RUANGAN : NATION

Address issue of hospital lobby without chairs fast, says Subra

CAMERON HIGHLANDS: The main lobby of the Sultan Ahmad Shah Hospital in Temerloh, said to be without chairs, will be addressed, Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam said.

The Health Minister said the matter has to be resolved the soonest possible for comfort of visitors as well as patients at the hospital.

"The state health director (Dr Shaari

Ngadiman) has been instructed to identify the reason," he told reporters after a working visit to Sultanah Hajjah Kalsom Hospital (HSHK) here yesterday.

Dr Subramaniam said this in response to a Facebook posting by a man who complained of having to sit on the floor as there was no chairs available for visitors at the lobby.

The matter has gone viral on the social media and a specialist at the hospital responded saying that it was not suitable to have chairs at the lobby as they posed an obstruction during emergency.

On a separate matter, Dr Subramaniam said an allocation of RM280,000 would be needed to repair the cracks on the walls of

some of the buildings at HSHK, adding that the cracks, however, did not pose a danger.

He said another RM750,000 would be required to upgrade the water supply system at the hospital.

"We are also looking into providing a family health specialist to improve services at the hospital," he said. — Bernama