

CRC Taiping Newsletter 2023

Dr Muhammad Radzi, Our New Health DG

Dr Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan has been appointed as the new Health director-general, effective from April 21, 2023. He succeeds Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, who has reached the mandatory retirement age of 60. Dr Noor Hisham held the position since 2013 and is widely recognized for his leadership during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Dr Muhammad Radzi, who is currently 58 years old, brings a wealth of experience, knowledge, expertise, and credibility to his new role.

He previously served as a consultant physician and gastroenterologist at Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah in Kedah, a major public specialist referral center in northern peninsular Malaysia. Additionally, he held the position of head of the Clinical Research Centre at the same hospital.

Throughout his career, Dr Muhammad Radzi has focused on improving hepatitis treatment for patients. His efforts have included making hepatitis treatment more accessible to vulnerable populations by decentralizing it, researching new treatments to reduce duration and improve patient compliance, and exploring innovative liver biomarkers for early detection and prevention of complications such as hepatocellular carcinoma and cirrhosis. He has also played a significant role in drafting national-level policies, particularly in the fields of gastroenterology and hepatology.

In a statement, Health Minister Dr Zaliha expressed confidence in Dr Muhammad Radzi's abilities and highlighted the importance of working together to implement health reforms outlined in the Health White Paper. The goal is to ensure that Malaysians continue to receive comprehensive, high-quality, and sustainable healthcare services.

Having previously served as the Deputy DG of Health (Research and Technical Support), Dr Muhammad Radzi now assumes the responsibility of overseeing Malaysia's healthcare system in his new role as Health director-general.



Inside this issue:

Summary of Research Report in 2022	2
CRC's Activities in 2022	3-4
CRC's In-house CME in 2022	5
CRC's Publication in 2022	6
In focus	7

Special points of interest:

- ◆ Pictures of past year activities!
- ◆ I-CPEP study news!
- ◆ Future activities of CRC Hospital Taiping in 2023!

Summary of Research Report in 2022

A. Number of staff in CRC/CRM Hospital Taiping

Staff Designation		2020	2021	2022
CRC staff	Medical officer (MO)	2	2	2
	Pharmacist	2	2	2
	Research officer (RO)	1	1	1
	Assistant research officer	0	0	0
	Allied health	1	1	1
	Administrative	0	0	0
	Temporary staff (PSH)/ Personel MySTEP	0	1	1
CRM staff	Study coordinator	3	3	2

B. Research services provided by CRC Hospital Taiping

Type of Research Service		2020	2021	2022
NMRR registration	No. of research/Case studies/Clinical audit registered	16	20	17
	No. of research/Case studies/Clinical audit projects with ethical approval	16	19	17
Research consultation	No. of consultations (episodes) provided	57	57	58
Proposal review	No. of proposals reviewed by Hospital Research Review Committee (HRRC)	17	9	26
Publication & presentation submitted to CRC Taiping	No. of application of publication in local/ international journals	9	6	4
	No. of application of oral/poster presentation	3	3	16
Registry	No. of patient registries supported	0	0	0
Training / Conference	No. of training workshops organised	11	3	11
	No. of Ministry of Health staff trained	241	32	311
	No. of state conferences organised	0	0	0

C. Investigator Initiated Research (IIR) in CRC Hospital Taiping

Research Projects and Output		2020	2021	2022
IIR projects	No. of research projects initiated by CRC and/or in collaboration with other institutions	4	2	5
Publications	No. of published articles in local/international journals	9	6	7
	No. of manuscripts pending publication	0	1	3
Research reports	No. of research reports completed	0	0	1
Research presentation	No. of oral presentations	0	1	2
	No. of poster presentations	3	2	0
Research awards	No. of awards received	0	1	1

Continue on Page 5

CRC's Activities in 2022



GCP workshop 2022



A ceremony of appreciation for Dr. Narwani right before her pension



Perak Research Conference in Ipoh 2022

CRC's Activities in 2022



Mini Roadshow at PKD Larut Matang & Selama



Proposal Writing Workshop at Hospital Taiping



2nd Annual Taiping Research Day (TRD) organized by CRC Taiping.

CRC's In-house CME in 2022



NO.	Date	Topic	Speaker
1.	20.01.2021	Berhenti Merokok	En. Ahmad Mu'alzaffardan Putra Bin Kamaruddin
2.	21.04.2022	Persaraan	Pn. Zuraidah binti Mamat
3.	19.05.2022	Cuti Kakitangan Awam	Pn. Zuraidah binti Mamat
4.	21.07.2022	Keselamatan & Kualiti Makanan	Pn. Zamzurohidah Zainudin
5.	15.09.2022	Tindakan Tatatertib	Pn. Juwairiyah Bt Abd Karim
6.	17.11.2022	Keselamatan Bangunan	En. Ahmad Radzi Bin Abd Rahim



From Page 2

D. Industry Sponsored Research (ISR) in CRC Hospital Taiping

Feasibility and Clinical Trials		2020	2021	2022
Feasibility	No. of feasibility studies conducted	38	31	35
Clinical trials	No. of on-going clinical trials	10	14	11
	No. of upcoming clinical trials	1	1	2

CRC's Publication in 2022



Article

Validation of the Visual Cognitive Assessment Test (VCAT) for the Early Diagnosis of Cognitive Impairment in Multilingual Population in Malaysia

Li Yun Ng^{1,*}, Chen Joo Chin¹, Monica Danial¹, Stephenie Ann Alt Kurubaran Ganasegeran¹, Wei Theng Tan¹, Hung Eun Hoo¹, Ewe I Laavanya Vijaya Kumar², Wen Mei Choong², Hooi Ling Tan², Szer I Khian Boon Ng², Mohammad Nabhan Khalil², Esther G. Ebenezer³, Xin Hui Choo³, Wee Kooi Cheah^{4,5}, Sreevali Muthuvadivelu⁵, Prem: Chiann Ni Thiam⁶, Jia Hui Loh⁶, Alan Swee Hock Ch'ng^{1,7}, Nagaen

¹ Clinical Research Centre, Hospital Seberang Jaya, lchenjoo_84@yahoo.com (C.J.C.); monica.dania1834@gmail.com (M.D.); medkurub@yahoo.com (S.A.A.); alanchng@yaho.com (A.S.H.C.)
² Geriatric Department, Hospital Puteri Pasir

Archives of Osteoporosis (2022) 17:72
https://doi.org/10.1007/s11657-022-01111-y

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Screening and management of osteoporosis: a survey of knowledge, attitude and practice among primary care physicians in Malaysia

Chai Li Tay¹, Wei Leik Ng², Hooi Chin Beh², Wan Chieh Lim³, Narwani Hussin⁴

Received: 18 February 2022 / Accepted: 18 April 2022 / Published online: 26 April 2022
© International Osteoporosis Foundation and National Osteoporosis Foundation 2022

Abstract

Summary We surveyed primary care physicians in Malaysia for their knowledge, attitude and practice in screening and management of osteoporosis. We found a low level of screening and active management of osteoporosis.

frontiers | Frontiers in Medicine

TYPE Original Research
PUBLISHED 30 October 2022
DOI 10.3389/fmed.2022.977814

Check for updates

OPEN ACCESS
EDITED BY
Nurfarida A. B. Rosli,
Raffles Medical University,
United States
REVIEWED BY
Adriana Costa R.,
Texas A&M University, United States
Amir Permale,
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory,
United States
*CORRESPONDING AUTHOR
Narwani Hussin,
Clinical Research Centre, Hospital Taiping,
Perak, Malaysia

Dearth of influenza among older adults admitted with respiratory symptoms in Malaysia during the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic in 2021

Maw Pin Tan^{1*}, Chee Loon Leong², Yong Kek Pang³

Asian Journal of Medicine and Health Sciences Vol 5 Issue 2 November 2022

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Timeliness of Interhospital Patient Transfer (IHT) within Hospital Kluster Perak Utara, Malaysia.

Mohammad Mirdam Abdul Aziz¹, Narwani Hussin², Chng Xiao Yuan³, Osman Ali⁴.

¹Hospital Taiping, Ministry of Health Malaysia.
²Clinical Research Centre Taiping, Ministry of Health Malaysia.
³Department of Community based, Faculty of Medicine, Royal College of Medicine Perak, Universiti Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh, Perak, Malaysia.
⁴Department of Community based, Faculty of Medicine, Royal College of Medicine Perak, Ipoh, Perak, Malaysia.

Corresponding Author

Prof. Dr Osman Ali
Department of Community based, Faculty of Medicine, Royal College of Medicine Perak, Ipoh, Perak, Malaysia.

Research

JAMA Internal Medicine | Original Investigation

Efficacy of Ivermectin Treatment on Disease Progression Among Adults With Mild to Moderate COVID-19 and Comorbidities: The I-TECH Randomized Clinical Trial

Steven Chee Loon Lim, MRCP; Chee Peng Hor, MSc; Kim Heng Tay, MRCP; Anilawati Mat Jelani, MMed; Wen Hao Tan, MMed; Hong Bee Ker, MRCP; Ting Soo Chow, MRCP; Masliza Zaid, MMed; Wee Kooi Cheah, MRCP; Han Hua Lim, MRCP; Khairil Erwan Khalid, MRCP; Joo Thye Cheng, MRCP; Hafizadilla Mohd Unit, MRCP; Noralfazita An, MMed; Azraai Bahari Nasruddin, MRCP; Lee Lee Low, MRCP; Song Weng Ryan Khoo, MRCP; Jia Hui Loh, MRCP; Nor Zaila Zaidan, MMed; Suhaila Ab-Wahab, MMed; Li Heng Song, MD; J. BPharm; Nai Ming Lai, MRCPCH; Asu M. Pearlyasamy, MSc; for the I-TECH Study Group

ensive and widely available antiparasitic drug, is prescribed data to recommend either for or against the use of

cy of ivermectin in preventing progression to severe

Visual Abstract
Related article page 452
Supplemental content



Emerging Microbes & Infections

ISSN: (Print) (Online) Journal homepage: <https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/temi20>

Efficacy of heterologous boosting against SARS-2 using a recombinant interferon-armed protein vaccine (V-01): a randomized, double-blind and placebo-controlled phase III trial

Wang, Syed Faisal Mahmood, Fang Jin, Wee Kooi Cheah, Muhammad

Asian Journal of Medicine and Health Sciences Vol 5 Issue 2 November 2022

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Diabetic Control among Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM) Patients before and after the Implementation of Movement Control Order (MCO) due to COVID-19 Pandemic.

Narwani Hussin¹, Sreevali Muthuvadivelu, Chan Wai Seong, Nurul Najjha Jafery.

¹Clinical Research Centre, Hospital Taiping, Perak, Malaysia.

responding Author

Narwani Hussin,
Clinical Research Centre, Hospital Taiping, 34000 Taiping, Perak, Malaysia.
*narwan@research.crc.com.my

In Focus Section 2023

The I-CPEP Study: Assessing the Efficacy of Ivermectin as Post-Exposure Prophylaxis for COVID-19

The I-CPEP study aimed to assess the efficacy of Ivermectin as post-exposure prophylaxis for COVID-19 among close contacts. It was a randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trial that used oral Ivermectin as the investigational product. However, the study faced recruitment challenges and was terminated after five months.

Ivermectin is an antiparasitic drug that has been used as a treatment for COVID-19 in some countries. However, the I-TECH study in Malaysia did not support its use for COVID-19 patients.

The I-CPEP study enrolled asymptomatic adults aged 18 or older who had close contact exposure to a confirmed COVID-19 case. They were given oral Ivermectin (0.4 mg/kg/day - maximum 24 mg) on Day 1 and Day 3 after a negative COVID-19 test. Follow-up was conducted through phone calls and clinic visits, and blood parameters were monitored for drug safety. The study was approved by the MREC on November 17, 2021, and was initiated by Dr. Cheah Wee Kooi with support from 10 health clinics across Malaysia.

The I-CPEP study faced recruitment challenges due to changes in government policies regarding the management of close contacts. The study protocol was amended twice to ensure enough sample size from each site. Despite screening thousands of potential participants, only 50 subjects made it to the final list. This was far from the target of 300, and after discussions with Hovid and interim data analysis, the study was terminated on November 8, 2022.

The I-CPEP study aimed to assess the efficacy of Ivermectin as post-exposure prophylaxis for COVID-19 among close contacts. However, recruitment challenges led to its termination with only 50 subjects making it to the final list. Interim data analysis can still provide valuable information for future research. This highlights the importance of randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled clinical trials for assessing potential COVID-19 treatments.

Clinical Trial of Ivermectin for Post Exposure Prophylaxis for COVID-19 Infection among Close Contacts (I-CPEP)

IVERMECTIN

- Are you a close contact to a COVID-19 patients **in the past 4 days**?
- Volunteers needed for research study on Ivermectin efficacy.

Come and join us if you are:

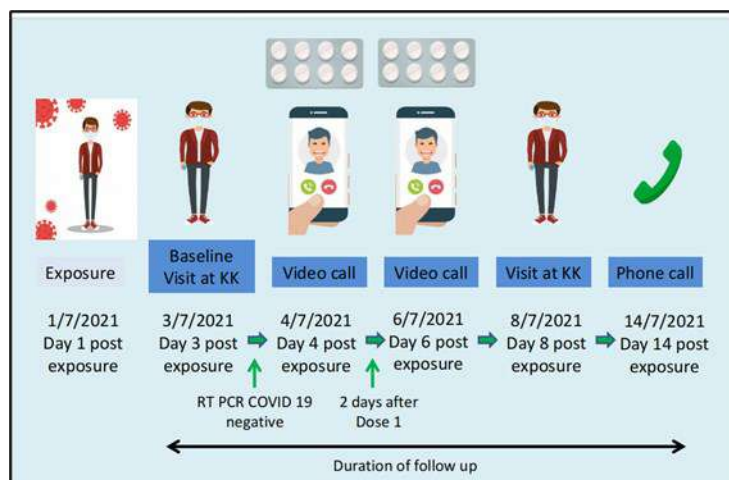
- ✓ 18 years and above
- ✓ Asymptomatic close contact to a COVID-19 patients

Study locations (Klinik Kesihatan):

- KK Simpang, PKD Larut Matang 05-8491466
- KK Seberang Jaya, PKD 04-3997640 Seberang Perai Tengah
- KK Greentown, PKD Kinta 05-2530801
- KK Kangar, PKD Kangar 04-9779043/04-9760712
- KK Marat, PKD Kuala Kangsar 05-7576355
- KK Bagong Serai, PKD Kerlan 05-7215355
- KK Tanjung Matim, PKD Muallim 05-4520821
- KK Bandar Sungai Petani, 04-4213355
- KK Ayer Tawar, PKD Manjung 019-3925185
- PKD Kuala Muda
- KK Tapah, PKD Batang Padang 05-4010260

ICR NIH
NMRR ID: NMRR-21-1371-60569

Recruitment date:
16/02/2022 - 31/05/2022



**Clinical Research
Centre, Hospital
Taiping**

Pusat Penyelidikan
Klinikal, 1st Floor, CME
Building, Hospital Taiping,
Jalan Stesen,
34000 Taiping,
Perak.

Phone: ext 8400



**CALL FOR
ABSTRACTS!**

Key Dates



Organized by



- ❖ CRC Hospital Raja Permaisuri Bainun
- ❖ CRC Hospital Seri Manjung
- ❖ CRC Hospital Taiping



**Lucky draw PRIZES
up for grabs!**

Tentative Program of CRC in 2023

Month/Date	Workshop/Training/Activities
18 January	Pubmed Short Training
20-21 February	Introduction to Clinical Research (ICR)
6-7 March	Proposal Writing Workshop
15-17 May	Good Clinical Practice Workshop
13-15 June	Basic SPSS Workshop
22 June	Google e-form short Training
12-13 July	Manuscript Writing Workshop
22-23 August	Qualitative Research Workshop
20-21 September	Intermediate SPSS Workshop