

## EDITORIAL

It is a pleasure to introduce the special issue on “Advancement in Health Sciences”. Health sciences encompass the fastest growing fields such as genetic, biomedical sciences, public health and occupational & environmental health which extend the frontiers of medicine and health sciences. Taking this into consideration, the current thematic issue provides a strategic platform to the “young” researchers from the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Universiti Putra Malaysia to highlight their studies and bring their research to the broader dissemination for scientific scrutiny.

Despite having a higher number of young researchers as contributing authors, the present special issue also records remarkable and exciting articles from the postgraduate students from the faculty. In the past years, the Deputy Dean office of Graduate Study and Industry and Community Relations has advocated the acquisition of key skills among postgraduate students which are essential for the scientific studies. This covers the core aspects of scientific thinking, research methodology and scientific writing skills which are indispensable in conducting responsible research and publishing scholarly articles. As a result, the current special issue witnesses impactful research from the postgraduate students which in line with the aspiration of Malaysia government’s policy on medical and health research. The advancement in health sciences research not only emerged from the high impact research but also initiated at the beginning stage of the smaller-scale research that eventually led to a significant contribution to the advancement within the research field.

The rate of advancement in medical, dental, nursing and the health sciences field is enormous in such, research from young scientists or prominent researchers should be considered as building blocks within each discipline. Therefore, we encourage young researchers mainly the

postgraduate students to publish research and studies in various fields of health sciences. Just like any other special issue, the subjects in this issue are also strongly interdisciplinary within the field of health sciences and medical sciences.

The current special issues comprise of ten articles on respiratory symptoms among children in Malaysia; occupational health in relation to quality of work life; safety and health related to mobile apps application; the association of environmental health to children health; the study of water contamination; neurobiology and genetic profiling of genes related to Down syndrome research as well as interdisciplinary research between occupational and environmental health in relation to the usage of pesticide among paddy farmers.

We hope that this inaugural issue of the “Advancement in Health Sciences” will be a precursor and serve as a catalyst for more research conducted by young researchers and post-graduate students. It is our hope that their research will be published and recognized locally and internationally as they build their career towards becoming future prominent researchers. We would like to thank the Malaysian Journal of Medicine and Health Sciences, published by the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Universiti Putra Malaysia for giving this valuable opportunity to showcase the excellent research by young researchers.

**Prof. Dr. Shamsul Bahri Md. Tamrin**  
**Lead Guest Editor**  
**Deputy Dean (Graduate, Industry & Community**  
**Relations and Income Generation)**  
**Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences**  
**Universiti Putra Malaysia**  
**43400 UPM Serdang**  
**Selangor, Malaysia**