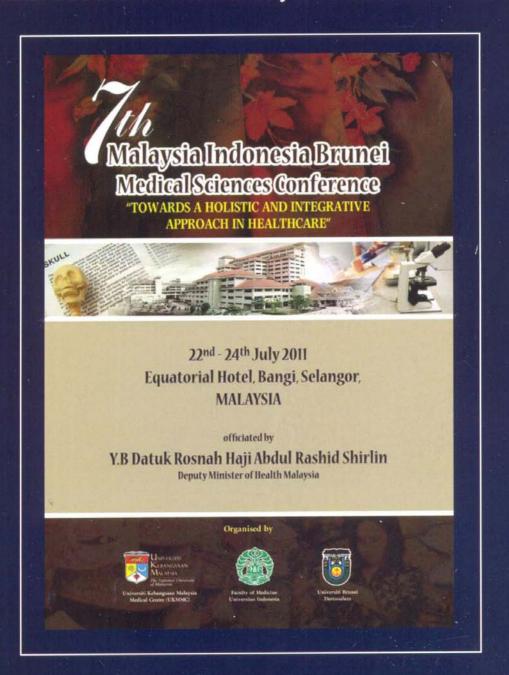


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SYMPOSIUM 10 Ramli AG

TRADITIONAL & COMPLEMENTARY MEDICINE IN MALAYSIA: ROLES & FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

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Malaysia has a rich heritage of various traditional medicine practices, each according to the ethnic origins of its population. There has been a growing interest in complementary medicine as well to wider mix of population. Recognizing the importance and widespread use of Traditional and Complementary Medicine (T&CM), the Ministry of Health (MOH) launched the National T&CM Policy in 2001 with a vision to eventually integrate evidence-based T&CM into the Malaysian healthcare system. Ensuring public safety through safe and effective T&CM practice in accordance to standard ethics, adherence to acceptable standard of safety practice, enhance research and training facilities in the country as well as strengthening collaboration with other countries are the prime roles of the MOH. MOH as custodian for delivery of healthcare system, established focal research center on herbal medicine to ensure acceptable standards of safety and quality for traditional products and practice, several guidelines available to facilitate the integration process for the benefits of mankind. The diversity of T&CM practices and requirement of standardization of T&CM training and education leads to initiation of Traditional and Complementary Medicine Bill. The primary aim of the legislation is to ensure consumer safety through quality education and training. Further roles and future developments of T&CM in Malaysia will be deliberated in the talk.