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FAMILY MEDICINE HANDBOOK



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CHAPTER 6 PATIENT MANAGEMENT IN PRIMARY CARE

Suhaiza Samsudin and Mohammad Che' Man

Learning Objectives

- 1. Able to recognize differences between disease centred approach and patient centred approach.
- 2. Able to describe and apply holistic approach upon managing primary care patients.
- 3. Able to appraise and evaluate the management of individual patients.

Introduction

Primary care is one of the medical disciplines which provides community-based, continuous, comprehensive and preventive healthcare. It is very common for a medical doctor in primary care to manage medical illness that covers a wide spectrum of clinical conditions from the most common and simple diseases to the rare ones. Features that make primary care practice to be different from a tertiary centre or any specialist-based medical practice include its role as the first point of contact care, the strategy used in arriving at the right diagnosis, personalised care, holistic approach, health promotion and providing domiciliary care as well as family care.