

Editorial

The year 2021 is coming to an end, with the landscape of COVID-19 seems to ease down with daily reducing trend of infections throughout Malaysia. As of 16th October 2021, 91% of the above 18-years Malaysians are fully vaccinated, while the adolescents (12-17 years) have started being vaccinated and currently achieved 20% full vaccination status. Despite this, I believe we should not be complacent, SOPs on masking and social distancing should be our new normal now. Certainly we do not want another ‘variant of concern’ to hit us with another wave, and definitely not another lockdown that will cripple our economic recovery.

For Asian Journal of Medicine and Health Sciences (AJMHS), its June Issue 1, 2021 had seen the farewell editorial notes from outgoing Chief Editor, Assoc Prof Dr Basanta Kumar Mohanty. In this November Issue 2, 2021, the Editorial Committee of AJMHS would like to pen a few words of gratitude and deep appreciation to Assoc Prof Dr Basanta for being an exemplary Chief Editor, who has started this journal which is currently indexed in *MyJournal*. He also has paved the way forward for indexing in *MyCite* and hopefully soon in the near future for being *Scopus-indexed*.

In this issue we have clinical papers on lupus nephritis, systemic lupus erythematosus and neglected lateral condyle fracture of humerus in children. I find the paper on “Clinical characteristics of patients with Lupus Nephritis in a tertiary care hospital in Malaysia– A cross sectional study” very informative as it sheds light on our local lupus nephritis patients especially when the most

common form at presentation is the severe form of lupus i.e., proliferative LN which encompasses class III and class IV LN. It would be interesting if the author could follow-up with a retrospective analysis on the same cohort of patients to understand why they present at this severe stage.

We have two papers on extracts of natural products i.e.; the *Piperaceae* species or the local term is ‘**sireh**’ which appear promising in their antimicrobial activity. I believe there is a potential for this but it requires further study to standardize and elucidate the stability of the extracts.

“Awareness towards optional vaccinations among pre-clinical MBBS students in a medical college in Malaysia” shows an interesting finding of gaps in knowledge on optional vaccinations among medical students. This would be of concern unless these gaps have been addressed during their clinical years training. Otherwise we will have our future doctors not advocating vaccinations and the anti-vaxxers will find no resistance in fighting their cause.

I would like to express my gratitude to the Dean of Faculty of Medicine, Assoc Prof Dr Syed Rahim Syed Hamid, for this appointment as the new Chief Editor. I would like to say thank you to Dr Vignesh, Associate Editor for the great work in ensuring review timeline, editing and formatting this journal. I hope authors and reviewers who have been contributing to AJMHS would continue their support and contributions to AJMHS.

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