

PROCEEDINGS

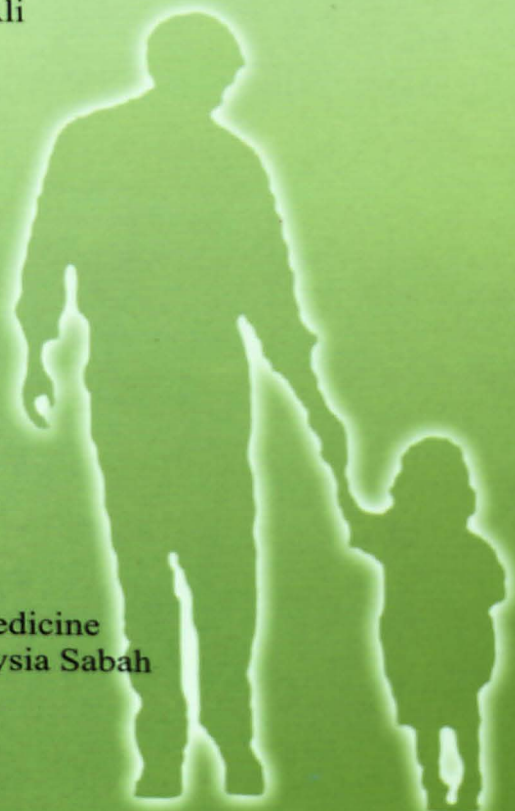
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON QUALITY OF LIFE (QoL) AND QUALITY OF DEATH (QoD)

29 - 30 August 2005, Universiti Malaysia Sabah

Editors

Urban John Arnold D'Souza
Osman Ali

School of Medicine
Universiti Malaysia Sabah



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AND QUALITY OF DEATH (QoD)**

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Organizer



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CONTENTS

PREFACE

1. Setting the Agenda for 21st Century: Ensuring Quality of Life from Womb to Tomb
Narimah Awin 1-11
2. Use of EORTC (European Organization for Research and Treatment of Cancer) - QLQ (Quality of Life Questionnaire) in Assessing HRQOL of Cancer Patient
Khaing Khaing Myint 13-22
3. Improving the Quality of Life (QoL) of Healthcare Professionals: Is Values-Based Approach the Solution?
Nirmala Ragbir-Day 23-40
4. How Good is The Malaysian Quality of Life?: Experience from Hulu Langat Quality of Life Survey
Osman Ali, Izzudin A., Azmi T., Syed Al Junid & Khalid BAK 41-48
5. Quality of Life Among Medical Students of Year-1 on Transition from School to University (Medical School) Life
Charanjeet Singh, Freddie R. & Urban J.A.D'Souza 49-54
6. Care of a Dying Patient - Medical Aspect
Muhammad Tauffik Mohd Noor 55-59
7. Care of a Dying Patient - Nursing Aspect
Morna Chua 61-65
8. Care of a Dying Patient - Psychological Aspect
Rosnah Ismail 67-71
9. Care of a Dying Patient - Spiritual Aspect
Suzain Suhaimi 73-79
10. A Journey to Batticalao - Reports of the Post Tsunami Suffering
Ahmad Faris Abdullah 81-87
11. Tsunami: Back to Basics (Hand-on Experience in Aceh)
Omar M., Asmawi M & Fadhillah K. 89-93
12. Palliative Care in Rural Australia - A Young Doctor's Perspective
Suliong Chin 95-98

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PREFACE

The National Conference on Quality of Life and Quality of Death (QoL & QoD) is one of the unique conferences by its own message of "Quality Care for Humanity" was organized by the School of Medicine, University Malaysia Sabah at Kota Kinabalu, university campus on 29th-30th August 2005. The theme of the conference was very much relevant to the present scenario of changing and fast moving world. As the world is leaping forward with all-round developments mostly in terms of better life and better facilities, man seldom finds time to dedicate or think about the welfare of the person with chronic illness/dying patient and also neglecting one's own welfare because of the busy involvement in worldly commitments. As the number of elderly population is growing and the incurable chronic diseases are in the rise, the quality of life led by each individual must be of the utmost best 'Quality'. Role of health providers, administrators and researchers to re-look and research more and more on practical ways for the cause and provide a better quality of life to humanity. Similarly, as death is inevitable and is one of any other natural incidents, the best quality of death is a right of every individual and needs a better approach and should not be neglected as any other routine processes. In one word, life and death are though the two sides of same coin but being natural, quality of life and quality of death should be of the utmost best quality and this unique conference with a theme of its own provided a platform to discuss the issues and ideas and undertake further steps in research for the betterment of human kind. The conference has received overwhelming response from the participants, not only within the country but delegates from Western countries also shared their views by presenting interesting papers. The organizers have invited 11 speakers to share their expertise in the field ranging from ensuring quality of life from womb to tomb, instruments in assessing quality of life, a good quality death, care of dying patient and updates on palliative care. Presentations on interesting topics including 'Setting the agenda for the 21st century on quality of life from womb to tomb', 'Improving the quality of life of health care professionals', 'Malaysian quality of life', 'Hand on experience on tsunami affected area Aceh, Indonesia' and 'Care of the dying patient on spiritual, nursing and medical aspect' attracted the attention of participant and debated well with zeal and enthusiasm. Hopefully, these proceedings shall serve as an important reference to students, researchers and the fellow colleagues.

I would like to thank the vice chancellor, deputy vice chancellors, dean, invited speakers, various committee members, support staff, participants and all our students who have contributed to ensure the success of this conference.

Associate Professor Dr. Urban J. A. D'Souza
Editor