



# MALAYSIAN DIETITIANS' ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE 2026

Organised by



4th July 2026, Saturday

4th July 2026, Saturday		
	Summit 1	Zenith
Time	Session	
07:30 - 08:00	Registration	
08:00 - 08:45	<b>Plenary 1</b> - Building Tomorrow's Allied Health Workforce - a Strategic Blueprint for Transformation Ms. L. Mageswary Lapchmanan	
08:45 - 09:45	<b>Symposium 1A</b> - Diabetes and Metabolic Health	<b>Symposium 1B</b> - Cancer Nutrition
08:45 - 09:05	Diabetes, Prediabetes, and Remission in Malaysia: What Can Dietitians Do Better? Prof Winnie	Cancer Prevention : Diet and Lifestyle in Cancer Prevention: Translating Evidence into Action Dr. Eliana
09:05 - 09:25	Lessons Learned from MyCoSS Implications for Dietetic Practice Puan Nurul Huda Ibrahim	Cancer Cachexia in Oncology Care: Challenges, Mechanisms and Clinical Management TBC
09:25 - 09:45	Q & A	Q & A
09:45 - 10:30	<b>Morning Tea Break &amp; Booth Visit</b>	
10:30 - 11:30	<b>Symposium 2A</b> - Food Service & Sustainability	<b>Symposium 2B</b> - Education & Workforce
10:30 - 10:50	Sustainable Food Service in Healthcare: Balancing Nutrition, Cost, and Carbon Prof Sandra	Sustaining the Dietetics Workforce: Resilience, Retention, and Leadership Ms Mushidah
10:50 - 11:10	Food Waste Reduction as a Quality Improvement Strategy Dr. Nurul Huda Razalli	Student-Lead Diet Clinic Ms. Soh Pheh Huang
11:10 - 11:30	Q & A	Q & A
11:30 - 12:30	<b>Symposium 3A</b> - Microbiome-Guided Nutrition Care	<b>Symposium 3B</b> - Critical Illness
11:30 - 11:50	Gut Microbiome-Metabolic Crosstalk: Mechanisms and Nutritional Implications Assoc Prof Dr Chong Chun Wie	Protein Prescription in Critical Care: Evidence, Uncertainty, and Practice Dr Lee Zheng Yin
11:50 - 12:10	Low FODMAP Diet and IBS: Implications for Dietetic Practice Dr Shanti	Beyond Hospital Discharge: Nutritional Barriers, Outcomes, and Interventions in Survivors of Critical Illness Prof Hazreen
12:10 - 12:30	Q & A	Q & A
12:30 - 13:30	<b>Lunch Symposium 1</b>	
13:30 - 14:15	<b>Networking Buffet Lunch</b>	
14:15 - 15:15	<b>Opening Ceremony</b> : Guest of Honour: Datuk Dr Mahathar bin Abd Wahab	
15:15 - 16:00	<b>Keynote Lecture</b> : MOH Director General : Datuk Dr Mahathar bin Abd Wahab	
16:00 - 16:45	<b>Tea Symposium 1</b>	
17:00 - 19:00	<b>MDA Annual General Meeting &amp; Member Dinner</b>	



# MALAYSIAN DIETITIANS' ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE 2026

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5th July 2026, Sunday

	Summit 1	Zenneth
Time	Session	
08:00 - 09:00	Registration	
09:00 - 09:45	<b>Plenary 2 - CKM, Obesity and GLP-1</b> Prof Lim Lee Ling	
09:45 - 10:30	<b>Morning Tea Break &amp; Booth Visit</b>	
10:30 - 11:30	<b>Symposium 4A - Healthy Aging</b>	<b>Symposium 4B - Paediatrics</b>
10:30 - 10:50	Geri Muscle, Sarcopenia, and Longevity: The Role of Nutrition in Healthy Ageing Dr Rizah Mazzuin	Paediatric Obesity Care: Moving Beyond Calories to Family-Centred Solutions Assoc Prof Azriyanti binti Anuar Zaini
10:50 - 11:10	Nourishing the Ageing Brain: The Role of Dietitians in Dementia Prevention, and Care Dr. Noraida Omar	Inborn Errors of Metabolism TBC
11:10 - 11:30	Q & A	Q & A
11:30 - 12:30	<b>Free Paper 1A</b> Research (Dietitian)	<b>Free Paper 1B</b> Research (Student)
12:30 - 13:30	<b>Lunch Symposium 2</b>	
13:30 - 14:30	<b>Free Paper 2A</b> Case Study (Dietitian)	<b>Free Paper 2B</b> Case Study (Student)
14:30 - 15:30	<b>Workshop 1 - Case-Based Decision-Making in Clinical Practice</b> TBC	<b>Workshop 2 - Meeting MSQH Standards in Food Service: Practical Compliance and Best Practices</b> Ms Basmawati Baharom
15:30 - 16:00	<b>Tea Break</b>	
16:00 - 17:00	<b>Forum Session - Asian Young Dietitians' Network, Young Dietitians' Across Asia: Navigating Challenges, Unlocking Opportunities</b>	
17:00 - 17:30	<b>Closing &amp; Prize Giving Ceremony</b>	



**MALAYSIAN DIETITIANS' ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL CONFERENCE 2026**

📅 4 - 5 July 2026

📍 The Vertical @ CCEC

**EMPOWERING DIETITIANS: SCIENCE, SKILLS AND LEADERSHIP**

Organised by



# **SPEAKERS' PROFILE**

**DATUK DR. MAHATHAR ABD WAHAB**

DIRECTOR GENERAL, MINISTRY OF HEALTH

The Director-General of Health for Malaysia, leading the Ministry of Health (MOH). He was previously the lead of the Emergency & Trauma Department at Hospital Kuala Lumpur. With over 25 years of experience in the public healthcare sector, with specialized expertise in emergency medicine and medico-legal issues. He has begun his career with the MOH as a medical officer on October 1, 1996.

**EMERITUS PROFESSOR SANDRA CAPRA**

THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Professor Capra is an expert on allied health in general and nutrition and dietetics curricula and competencies in particular and reviews educational programs both in Australia and overseas. In early 2017 she was appointed Executive Director of the International Commission for Dietetics and Nutrition Education and Accreditation, implementing an international program of competency development and program accreditation. She is regularly invited to speak on the topic of educational standards, quality and competence. Professor Capra has been recognised for her service to nutrition and dietetics education and research by being appointed a Member of the Order of Australia in 2003, a Fellow of the Dietitians Association of Australia (the first appointed) and elected to life membership of the DAA. She was named one of the Westpac/Financial Review "100 Women of Influence" in the global category in 2014.

**PROF. DR. HAZREEN MAJID**

HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY, UNITED KINGDOM

He completed his PhD at King's College London and also did his fellowship attachment at Harvard Chan School of Public Health under Professor Walter Willett team. He also had practised as a specialist dietitian from tertiary acute hospitals in Kuala Lumpur, London and community set up in Liverpool. Currently in the UK, he is Wessex Intensive Care Innovation and Research (WICIR) Steering Group committee with the target to advance collaborative, inclusive, high-impact research in critical care by uniting clinicians, trainees, allied health professionals and other colleagues working in intensive care research and innovation across Wessex. In Feb 2026, he also be collaborator for the Wessex Global Health Network and Institute for Life Sciences Global Health group. He pioneered the MSc Pre-Reg Dietetics Program (as the course lead) at Health Sciences University and also set up student led dietetics clinic in Bournemouth..

**ASSOC. PROF. DR. CHONG CHUN WIE**

MONASH UNIVERSITY

Dr Chong (BSc (HONS) Biochemistry, PhD (Microbial Ecology) is an Associate Professor and the Deputy Head of School (Research) at the School of Pharmacy, Monash University Malaysia. Dr Chong is an experienced researcher in microbial ecology, gut microbiome science and digital health. As a leader of microbiome science in Malaysia, he participated actively in public talks and forums on gut health topics related to disease, diet and lifestyle. With over a decade of interdisciplinary expertise, his work bridges microbiology, public health, and technology to address global challenges such as diabetes prevention, antimicrobial resistance (AMR), and neurodegenerative disorders. His current research interest includes understanding the role of the gut-brain axis in neurological disorders, the interplay between diet, gut microbiome and host metabolism, and the impact of antibiotics on the gut microbiome.

**MS. L. MAGESWARY LAPCHMANAN**

ALLIED HEALTH SCIENCES DIVISION, MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Ms. L. Mageswary Lapchmanan currently serves as the Director of the Allied Health Sciences Division at the Ministry of Health Malaysia. Her work plays a critical role in enhancing healthcare delivery, professional development, and regulatory standards for the allied health in Malaysia. Ms. Mageswary also served as a clinical dietitian prior to her current position, accumulating over three decades of experience in healthcare. Her dedication to advancing the allied health sciences has seen her represent Malaysia at various international platforms, including the 72nd World Health Assembly and collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO) on projects aimed at establishing new recommendations and policies for Allied Health workforce. A committed advocate for multidisciplinary collaboration, education, and innovation in healthcare, Ms. Mageswary continues to lead efforts that bridge clinical practice, regulation and health policy.

**PROF LIM LEE LING**

UNIVERSITI MALAYA

Prof. Lim is the Executive Director, Department of Clinical Research and Advancement at Universiti Malaya, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. She is a Senior Consultant Endocrinologist and former Head of the Diabetes Care Unit, Universiti Malaya (2022-2025). She also holds honorary positions at the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the Baker Heart and Diabetes Institute, Melbourne, Australia. As a clinician-scientist, Prof. Lim's major areas of interest are cardiometabolic medicine (epidemiology, molecular, and implementation science).

**DR. NURUL HUDA RAZALLI**

UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN MALAYSIA

Dr. Nurul Huda currently holds a senior lecturer position at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. After earning her bachelor's degree in Dietetics, she then completed her post graduate studies in the US and also became a Commission of Dietetic Registration (CDR) certified Registered Dietitian Nutritionist (RDN). Her research interests include food service management, dietary intervention and oncology nutrition. She received few grants researching on the challenges faced by Malaysian hospitals in reducing hospital food and plate waste and also working on culinary solutions to improve the intake of textured modified foods among hospitalized patients. She is also a passionate educator and loves exploring ways to integrate creative teaching and learning.

**DR. SHANTHI KRISHNASAMY**

UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN MALAYSIA

Dr. Shanthi Krishnasamy is a lecturer and a registered dietitian (RD) attached to the Department: Nutrition and Dietetics. I have worked as a clinical and community dietitian for 8 years in Malaysia, Saudi Arabia and New Zealand. Currently I teach both undergraduate and postgraduate courses related to clinical nutrition and dietetics. My research expertise includes food and function and diet and digestive diseases particularly IBS. My research interests include food insecurity, health and well being of children and metabolic syndrome.

**DR. LEE ZHENG YII**

UNIVERSITI MALAYA

Dr Lee is a post-doctoral research fellow from the Department of Anesthesiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, who specialized in critical care nutrition. He is part of the Critical Care Nutrition team and am currently the person in charge of the [criticalcarenutrition.com](http://criticalcarenutrition.com) systematic reviews. His research interests include, but are not limited to, energy, proteins, lipids, vitamin C, vitamin D, and probiotics in critical illness. He is also interested in muscle mass and physical function assessments in critically ill patients.

**DR. RIZAH MAZZUIN**

HOSPITAL KUALA LUMPUR

Dr. Rizah Mazzuin Razali is a distinguished Geriatrician and Internal Medicine specialist at KPJ Ampang Puteri Specialist Hospital, renowned for her comprehensive care of elderly patients. Her expertise extends to conditions like Alzheimer's disease and dementia, complemented by significant research contributions in these areas and the impact of COVID-19 on geriatric acute medical care. She offers dedicated and specialized care for the unique health needs of older adults.



## **PROF WINNIE CHEE SIEW SWE**

IMU UNIVERSITY

Prof Winnie Chee is Professor, Nutrition & Dietetics and Pro-Vice Chancellor (Academic) at the IMU University, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Prof Chee's research and publications are on dietary/lifestyle intervention in diabetes, obesity and bone health nutrition. Prof Chee serves on national & international committees for setting guidelines for medical nutrition therapy and professional development. She actively contributes to education programmes for healthcare professionals and the public at national and international level. Prof Winnie is a prominent speaker in local and international platforms and featured in local media on diet and nutrition issues. She was the founding Council member and led the Malaysian Dietitians' Association (MDA) as President from 2014-2023. She is also Fellow of the Malaysian Dietitians Association and the Nutrition Society of Malaysia. In 2015, she was the recipient of the Wimpfheimer-Guggenheim International Lecture Award from the Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics, USA. Prof Winnie is a practicing dietitian at IMU Healthcare.



## **PUAN NURUL HUDA IBRAHIM**

MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA

Ms Nurul Huda Ibrahim, Senior Principal Assistant Director (Dietetic) in Family Health Development Division, Ministry of Health Malaysia, Putrajaya. Twenty-two years experiences as dietitian in Ministry of Health, 16 years in dietetic clinical in various medical and surgical disciplines. Currently, leading dietetics services and profession in primary healthcare, contributed to non-communicable diseases program and guidelines such as Malaysian Healthy Plate Guidelines, Malaysian Recommended Nutrient Intake, Salt Reduction Strategies and iFitEr program module. Members of innovation team, innovated the easy method to calculate sodium intake, "Smart Na+". Won first prize Innovation Award at MOH level (2018) and top three in Genovasi Malaysia DTAM Award in public category (2019). In 2020, led Dietetic and Food Services Unit at Quarantine and Low Risk Covid-19 Treatment Centre (PKRC) MAEPS Serdang. Had experience working with multi-agency in combatting covid-19 and given opportunity in applying robotic technologies in delivery food to covid-19 patients.



## **MS MUSHIDAH ZAKIAH MOHAD AKRAN**

PRINCE COURT MEDICAL CENTRE

Ms Mushidah Zakiah serves as a Senior Dietitian in Prince Court Medical Centre. After obtaining her degree in Dietetics from the International Islamic University Malaysia, she has been practising as a dietitian mainly in private healthcare settings applying her knowledge and expertise in various scope of dietetics. Apart from her roles in clinical dietetics, she has vast experience in healthcare foodservice management. With more than 10 years' experience in the field of nutrition and dietetics, she has been passionate about advocating healthy eating to the public. Her passion in the field of nutrition and dietetics is further delivered through her involvement as Assistant Honorary Secretary of the Malaysian Dietitians' Association, a professional body for dietitians in Malaysia. She has also served as Honorary Secretary and MDA newsletter editor in the past.



**DR. ELIANA AHMAD**  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA

Dr. Eliana binti Ahmad is a Public Health Medicine Specialist at the Ministry of Health Malaysia, where she currently leads the National Cancer Control Programmes as well as the Surveillance and Registry Unit for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs). She holds a Doctorate in Public Health from the University of Malaya, and her professional work is centred on cancer prevention and control, alongside the epidemiological surveillance of NCDs. Dr. Eliana has been instrumental in formulating and implementing national strategies aimed at reducing the burden of non-communicable diseases, including the expansion of cancer screening programmes and the strengthening of disease surveillance systems. She is also actively involved in the Lung Health Initiative Malaysia, a comprehensive effort to improve lung health outcomes through integrated prevention, screening and early detection, diagnosis, treatment and management strategies. Her contributions to public health policy, research, and programme development continue to play a significant role in advancing Malaysia's health system response to NCDs and in promoting evidence-based interventions at the national level.



**ASSOC. PROF. DR. AZRIYANTI BINTI ANUAR ZAINI**  
UNIVERSITI MALAYA

Associate Professor Dr. Azriyanti binti Anuar Zaini is a leading Consultant Paediatrician and Paediatric Endocrinologist at UMSC, dedicated to the health and well-being of children. Her expertise is solidified by premier training, including a distinguished fellowship in paediatric endocrinology at Oxford, a world-renowned institution in the United Kingdom. This prestigious international experience, combined with her extensive local practice as a consultant since 2015, places her at the forefront of her specialty. Parents can trust in her comprehensive approach, which covers both general paediatrics and complex hormonal conditions in children. As an Associate Professor and Senior Lecturer at the Faculty of Medicine, University Malaya, Dr. Azriyanti is not only a clinician but also an educator shaping the next generation of doctors. She is deeply passionate about patient care and education, making her a compassionate and highly sought-after expert for families seeking specialized medical care for their children.



**MS. SOH PHEH HUANG**  
IMU UNIVERSITY

Ms. Soh Peh Huang is an Experienced Clinical Dietitian graduated with BS dietetics, she has received the Outstanding Clinical Instructor Award at the 27th MDA Hybrid Conference.

**DR NORAIDA OMAR**  
UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

Dr. Noraida is a Senior Lecturer and a practising dietitian in the Department of Dietetics, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Universiti Putra Malaysia. She runs the Older Adult's Diet Clinic in Medical Specialist Clinic, Hospital Pengajar UPM. She has a strong interest in clinical nutrition in geriatrics and institutional foodservice management. She is actively involved in the Malaysian Dietitians' Association subcommittee, sharing her expertise and experience in developing two new Medical Nutrition Therapies for cardiovascular disease and hypertension. She is a co-author of the Malaysian Dietary Guideline for Older Adults under the Ministry of Health, Malaysia. A notable achievement in her career thus far is the receipt of the Early Career Researcher Award at the 6th Global Higher Education Forum in 2018. She also successfully secured a Fundamental Research Grant Scheme Award from the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia in 2019. She is currently working on this project to develop a new Malaysian guideline for hospital foodservice to prevent malnutrition among geriatric patients. Dr. Noraida is also certified in the Public Service Guidance Program (Rakan Pembimbing Perkhidmatan Awam) AKRAB and AKRAB CARE in providing guidance services to help colleagues to increase potential and self-excellence.

**PUAN BASMAWATI BAHAROM**  
HOSPITAL KUALA LUMPUR

With nearly three decades of experience in the field of dietetics, Ms. Basmawati Baharom has made significant contributions to Malaysia's healthcare nutrition services. She currently serves as the Head of Dietetics & Food Services at Hospital Kuala Lumpur (HKL). Ms. Basmawati is deeply committed to advancing clinical dietetics, with a particular focus on geriatric nutrition. Her leadership extends to national policy, having served as the Head of the Dietetic Profession at the Ministry of Health in 2019. That same year, she was selected to participate in a leadership development program in Germany, reflecting her dedication to continuous professional growth. Beyond her clinical and administrative roles, Ms. Basmawati is an active advocate for the dietetic profession. She regularly engages in quality improvement initiatives and strives to unite dietitians across Malaysia, empowering them to enhance their impact in healthcare.

**PROF SHIGERU YAMAMOTO**  
ASIA NUTRITION AND FOOD CULTURE RESEARCH  
CENTRE UNIVERSITY

Prof Shigeru Yamamoto is a researcher at Asian Nutrition and Food Culture Research Center, Jumonji University. He is the Editorial Board Member of many peer reviewed journals and his area of expertise, as a Research Scholar credits him with many publications in national and international journals.