

Prof. Datuk Dr. Lekhraj Rampal
(MBBS, MPH, DrPH, FAMM, FRSH, FAMS, FPHMM)
President, Malaysian Council for Tobacco Control
Malaysia



Prof. Datuk Dr. Lekhraj Rampal obtained his degree in Medicine and Surgery in 1972, a Master Public Health degree with honors in 1978. He obtained his Doctorate of Public Health degree in Epidemiology in 1988. In 1986, he received training in Cancer Epidemiology under WHO Fellowship. In 1991, he received a Fellowship from Asian Development Bank for CVD prevention Program 'The North Karelia Project' in Finland, W.H.O. Fellowship in Advance Epidemiology in CDC Atlanta in 1992, USA. He has worked in the field of Public Health Medicine with the Ministry of Health for 22 years and 20 years with Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Universiti Putra Malaysia. He has been a Member of Board of Directors Health Promotion Board Malaysia 2007-2013 (Deputy Chairman, 2007-2010). He is also a Fellow Academy of Medicine Malaysia, Fellow of the Academy of Medicine Singapore, Fellow Royal Society of Health London, Fellow of Public Health Medicine Malaysia. Registered as a Public Health Medicine Specialist in the National Specialist Register, Malaysian Medical Council since 2008. He was the President, College of Public Health Medicine, Academy of Medicine Malaysia (2009-2014). He served as Temporary Advisor and Short Term Consultant with W.H.O.. Professor Dr. Lekhraj Rampal has been involved with Public Health and Health Promotion for more than 40 years. He has been involved with Tobacco Control and Health Promotion for more than 30 years.

He is the President, Malaysian Council for Tobacco Control (2018-2020) and was Deputy President, Malaysian Council for Tobacco Control (2014-2018). He is a Member of the W.H.O. FCTC Steering Committee Malaysia. He has been the Chairman, Action on Smoking and Health Committee (ASH), Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) (1993, 1996 - 2009, 2014 - 2019) and also served as Secretary, ASH Committee, MMA for 7 years (from 1983 and 1986 to 1992). He has run many hard-hitting public education campaigns. He is a strong advocate of efforts to educate communities about the harms of tobacco and enhancing tobacco control efforts in developing countries. At the individual level he is involved in educating the population on the harmful effects of tobacco products and the harmful effects of second hand smoke. At community level he is a catalyst and strong advocate for changes in Government policy on educating the population on the harmful effects of tobacco products, smoking cessation facilities, smoke-free work places, raising of tobacco tax, ban on tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship and packaging and labeling of tobacco products. He has been involved with mapping the advancing tobacco control in Malaysia since 1983. As secretary, organizing committee, he organized the National No Smoking Day in 1986, National No Smoking Week in 1987, 1988, 1999, 1991 and 1993. As Chairman, Organizing Committee "International Quit Smoking and Win

Campaign" Malaysia Year 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004 and 2006 he has organized this events successfully at National level. As Chairman, National Organizing Committee "World No-Tobacco Day" he organized "World No-Tobacco Day" in 1993, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2018. He has organized training for doctors and healthcare workers in tobacco cessation. He has been involved with research for more than 30 years.

He has won several honors and awards such as: Top student and University Scholar Master of Public Health Class in 1978; Tobacco Free Initiative Award 2001 and 2006 for active participation in Anti Tobacco Activities. He was also awarded the Gold Medal 2003 for outstanding Public and Healthcare Services for the Nation from Malaysian Medical Association and Best Oral Presentation paper at the World Assembly on Tobacco Counters Health, New Delhi 2005. In 2014 he was awarded the Gold Medal by MMA for the outstanding contribution to the Nation building and the Excellent Award Blue Ribbon (individual Category) for the outstanding achievement in advocacy of smoke free environment. He has been awarded at University level, the Excellent Service Award UPM 2006, 2007, 2008, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016.

He is a keen researcher and has published more than 125 papers both in local and international peer reviewed journals. He is a reviewer to numerous journals. He carried the national study on CVD risk factors in Malaysia involving more than 18,000 respondents. He is the Editor in Chief, Medical Journal of Malaysia (2014-2021) and served as the Editor in Chief for Malaysian Journal of Medicine and Health Sciences (2013-2016). Member Universiti Putra Ethic Committee for Human Research 2010 -2016 and Member Medical Research and Ethics Committee Ministry of Health 2014. He has served as a Panel member for Malaysian Qualifications Agency to ensure Quality of National Higher Education Institutions for auditing Institutions of Higher Education. His Scopus h Index 17 with 2500 Citations and Google h index 21 with 2577 citations. He has provided consultancy services to at least 300 Medical student research projects and several post graduate students. He has supervised 19 PhD and 26 Master students who have graduated. He has been the Chairman, Scientific Committee of several International Conference on Public Health He has served as external examiner for PhD for University Sains Malaysia, University of Malaysia and Monash University, Australia; and for MSc for University Sains Malaysia Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and University College Dublin and Internal Examiner for the PhD, DrPH, MSc and MPH Examinations in University Putra Malaysia.