

WELCOME NOTE

Dear delegates and distinguished guest speakers, I wish you all a very pleasant good morning!

It is my great honour and privilege to welcome you to the “**1ST NATIONAL BIO-THERAPEUTICS Congress – Putting Patient First**”

As we all know, biosimilars have been developed to retain the clinical advantages of biologics at a lower cost. However, the production, development, regulatory approval and clinical use of biosimilars are met with unique challenges.

The regulatory and the clinical guidelines associated with biosimilars are still evolving unlike that for the small molecule industry. Most of these evolving guidelines vary from country to country, with most of them still under debate.

Through today’s Congress, we intend to review the challenges associated with production and clinical use of biosimilars. We will also be reviewing the unmet needs and factors influencing a physician’s choice between a biologic and a biosimilar product. The evolving regulatory landscape in Malaysia and other countries will also be covered.

The distinguished speakers for today’s Congress include those from the Ministry of Health, Malaysia and phAMA; international speakers from Switzerland, Portugal and UK, and experts from the industry.

Today’s Congress has been designed to make it highly interesting, interactive and productive for the participants. In addition to didactic lectures, we have case presentations and focused interactive workshops on high impact topics.

We will be breaking into two groups for two simultaneous workshops which will bring about a greater involvement of delegates.

The PhAMA biosimilar paper, which will be launched in today’s Congress, is intended to serve as a quick reference paper for us.

I believe that the topics addressed here will spark your interest and I hope we will learn something new and useful, through active participation in all the sessions. Further, I am confident that, through constructive discussions, we will be able to resolve the dilemmas we are facing and also answer some key questions.

Thank you for your attention. I wish you all a very successful Congress.