Medical Museum HERITAGE

Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum

FIRST ISSUE, DECEMBER 2025 ISSN: 2838-010X



The Journey of Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum

UNIVERSITI MALAYA
FAKULTI PERUBATAN
Faculty of Medicine

Description of the image: A symbol of life, connection, and beginnings.
The placenta reflects the birth of this journey.

Medical Museum HERITAGE

Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum

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Published by
Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum
Clinical Skills Unit Building,
Faculty of Medicine,
Universiti Malaya
50603 Kuala Lumpur.

Designed and Printed by
Universiti Malaya Press
50603 Kuala Lumpur.

This magazine is published annually.

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Voices of Leaderships

The past year has marked a significant chapter in the journey of the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum at the Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya. The Museum has steadily grown into a vibrant platform for education, discovery, and community engagement.

This inaugural magazine captures the milestones, programmes, and partnerships that have shaped the Museum's progress over the past year. More importantly, it reflects the collective effort of many individuals and institutions who have supported the Museum's mission to transform medical collections into meaningful educational experiences.

The following pages present reflections from our institutional leaders and donor, whose vision and support have been instrumental in guiding the development of the Museum. Their messages highlight the shared commitment to advancing education, preserving medical heritage, and nurturing future generations of healthcare professionals.

Together, these voices celebrate not only the achievements of the past year, but also the promise of the journey ahead.

A Message from Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Noor Azuan Abu Osman

Vice-Chancellor, Universiti Malaya

It is my great pleasure to congratulate the Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum on the publication of this inaugural magazine - a milestone that reflects not merely a year of activities, but the emergence of a powerful intellectual platform that connects medicine, knowledge, and society.

Universities must not only generate knowledge; they must also preserve, interpret, and share the legacy of discovery that shapes humanity's progress. In this regard, the Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum represents far more than a repository of artefacts. It is a living space where the story of medicine is brought to life - where science meets history, where innovation meets compassion, and where the past informs the future of healthcare.

Since its transformation, the Museum has rapidly evolved into a vibrant centre that advances Universiti Malaya's broader mission of education, research, and meaningful engagement with society. By integrating medical heritage with contemporary scholarship and public learning, it enriches the intellectual journey of our students, stimulates interdisciplinary thinking, and strengthens society's appreciation of the remarkable progress of medical science.

This inaugural magazine therefore carries special significance. It documents a year of bold initiatives - from impactful exhibitions and educational programmes to strategic collaborations with institutions, museums, and communities. These efforts reflect Universiti Malaya's conviction that knowledge must travel beyond lecture halls and laboratories, reaching the wider public and inspiring future generations to pursue discovery, service, and innovation.

I commend the leadership, staff, and partners of the Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum for their vision, dedication, and commitment in establishing the Museum as a centre of excellence within the Faculty of Medicine and the wider Universiti Malaya ecosystem. Their work exemplifies the spirit of Universiti Malaya - an institution that honours heritage while relentlessly shaping the future.

May this magazine serve not only as a chronicle of achievements, but as a platform for ideas, inspiration, and continued innovation. As Universiti Malaya advances towards greater global impact, initiatives such as this Museum will remain vital in strengthening our role as a world-class university that preserves knowledge, advances science, and serves humanity.

On behalf of Universiti Malaya, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the entire team behind this publication and wish the Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum continued success in advancing knowledge, heritage, and societal impact in the years ahead.

A Message from The Donor
Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai

Founder and Executive Chairman
Top Glove Corporation, Malaysia

I am pleased to extend my heartfelt congratulations on the publication of this inaugural magazine, which captures the journey, progress, and achievements of the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum over the past year.

Since its launch in January 2025, the Museum has within a short time, actively engaged students, educators, healthcare professionals, and the wider community through educational programmes, collaborations, and public outreach. I am very pleased to witness its continued growth, which reflects the collective effort, dedication, and passion of everyone involved in bringing this vision to life. When we work as a team we can achieve so much more.

I have always believed that learning is a lifelong journey. We must be generous enough to be teachers and also humble enough to be lifelong students, so we can learn and improve together. Knowledge enables us to advance, reduce or prevent mistakes, and be positive contributors. It is therefore especially meaningful to see the Medical Museum evolve into a space where knowledge, history, and scientific discovery come together to inspire curiosity and deepen understanding.

I hope this magazine will help readers appreciate the important work being carried out by the Medical Museum and inspire continued interest in science, medicine, and healthcare. I am proud to be part of this journey in advancing healthcare education, and look forward to seeing the positive impact the Museum will continue to create in the years ahead.

Foreword by Professor Dato' Dr. Yang Faridah Abdul Aziz

Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya

The Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum represents an important extension of the Faculty of Medicine's commitment to excellence in education, research, and community engagement. It is therefore a pleasure to introduce this inaugural magazine, which highlights the many achievements of the Museum during its first year of inception.

On behalf of the Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya, I extend my sincere appreciation to our donors, museum professionals, collaborators, and supporters whose contributions have made these achievements possible. I look forward to the continued growth of the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum as an integral part of our academic mission and as a platform that nurtures informed, compassionate, and forward-thinking healthcare professionals.

Within the Faculty, the Medical Museum plays a valuable role in enriching teaching and learning. By providing access to anatomical and pathological specimens alongside curated narratives of disease and medical history, the Museum supports deeper understanding of the human body and the practice of medicine. It also encourages reflection on the ethical, historical, and human dimensions of healthcare.

Beyond the academic environment, the Museum has emerged as an important platform for public engagement. Through educational activities, collaborations with other museums, and outreach programmes for students and the wider community, the Museum has successfully extended its impact beyond the walls of the Faculty.

This magazine provides a meaningful record of these achievements and reflects the dedication of the Museum's leadership, curatorial team, and collaborators. I would like to congratulate the Director and the entire team for their commitment in developing the Museum as a dynamic educational resource for both the University and the community.

I hope this publication will continue to inspire future initiatives and strengthen the role of the Medical Museum as a centre for learning, reflection, and discovery.

From the Director's Desk
Professor Dr. Julia Patrick Engkasan
Director of Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum

The past year has been an exciting and meaningful journey for the Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum. The Museum has steadily grown into a dynamic platform for education, engagement, and discovery. This inaugural magazine is our way of documenting that journey and sharing the milestones we have achieved together.

Since its launch on 25th January 2025, the Museum has expanded its role beyond a traditional repository of specimens. We have developed educational programmes for students, engaged with schools and communities, participated in national museum events, and strengthened collaborations with other institutions. These initiatives reflect our aspiration to position the Medical Museum as a vibrant learning environment that bridges medicine, history, and society.

The publication of this magazine is particularly meaningful because it captures the collective effort of many individuals who have contributed to the Museum's development. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our donor Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai, whose generosity and vision made the transformation of the Museum possible. I am also deeply grateful to the leadership of Universiti Malaya and the Faculty of Medicine for their continued support.

Most importantly, I would like to acknowledge the dedication of our museum team, volunteers, interns, and collaborators who have worked tirelessly to bring the Museum to life.

It is my hope that this magazine will not only document what we have achieved but also inspire future possibilities. As we continue our journey, we remain committed to making the Medical Museum a place where learning, curiosity, and reflection flourish.

Part 1

The History of Medical Museums in Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya



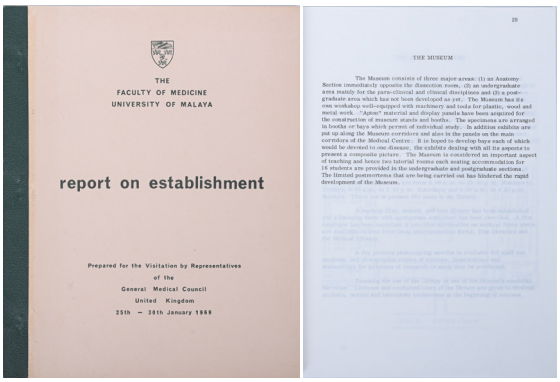
The earliest documentation indicating the existence of a medical museum in the Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya, can be traced to the Report of the Establishment of the Faculty dated 1969. This report was prepared in conjunction with a visitation by representatives of the General Medical Council (GMC), United Kingdom. The establishment of the faculty was considered complete when the first cohort of medical students sat for their Final Examination in April 1969.

The Museum

Page 29 of the report contains a brief description of the museum. According to the report, the museum consisted of three areas:

1. An Anatomy Section
2. An Undergraduate Area
3. A Postgraduate Area (which was not developed yet at the time of reporting)

In addition to these areas, the museum was equipped with its own workshop and two tutorial rooms to support teaching activities. These facilities suggested that the museum was envisioned not only as a repository of specimens but also as an important teaching resource for medical education.


THE
FACULTY OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA

report on establishment

Prepared for the Visitation by Representatives
of the
General Medical Council
United Kingdom
25th – 30th January 1969

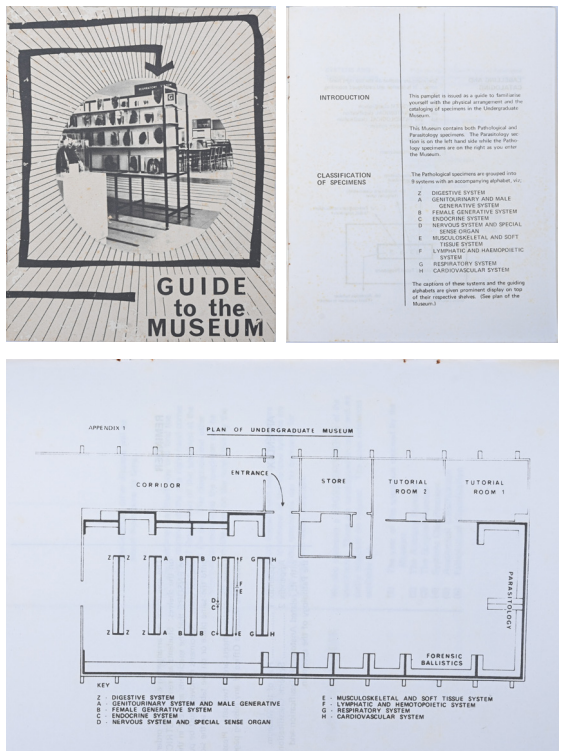
29

THE MUSEUM

The Museum consists of three major areas: (1) an Anatomy Section immediately opposite the dissection room, (2) an undergraduate area mainly for the para-clinical and clinical disciplines and (3) a post-graduate area which has not been developed as yet. The Museum has its own workshop well-equipped with machinery and tools for plastic, wood and metal work. "Apton" material and display panels have been acquired for the construction of museum stands and booths. The specimens are arranged in booths or bays which permit of individual study. In addition exhibits are put up along the Museum corridors and also in the panels on the main corridors of the Medical Centre. It is hoped to develop bays each of which would be devoted to one disease, the exhibits dealing with all its aspects to present a composite picture. The Museum is considered an important aspect of teaching and hence two tutorial rooms each seating accommodation for 16 students are provided in the undergraduate and postgraduate sections. The limited postmortems that are being carried out has hindered the rapid development of the Museum.

Photo shows an excerpt from the report (p. 29) describing the early layout of the medical museum, including the Anatomy Section, Undergraduate Area, and the proposed Postgraduate Area

Another significant piece of evidence relating to the museum is an undated pamphlet titled Guide to the Museum. This guide was intended to help students familiarise themselves with the museum and its collections. The museum housed both pathological and parasitology specimens. The pamphlet illustrated the layout of the undergraduate museum and provided details on the labelling and cataloguing of specimens, as well as how the specimens were arranged within the museum displays.


GUIDE
to the
MUSEUM

INTRODUCTION

This pamphlet is issued as a guide to familiarise yourself with the physical arrangement and the cataloguing of specimens in the Undergraduate Museum.

This Museum contains both Pathological and Parasitology specimens. The Parasitology section is on the left hand side while the Pathology specimens are on the right as you enter the Museum.

CLASSIFICATION OF SPECIMENS

The Pathological specimens are grouped into 8 systems with an accompanying alphabet, viz.:

Z DIGESTIVE SYSTEM
A GENITOURINARY AND MALE GENERATIVE SYSTEM
B FEMALE GENERATIVE SYSTEM
C ENDOCRINE SYSTEM
D NERVOUS SYSTEM AND SPECIAL SENSE ORGAN
E MUSCULOSKELETAL AND SOFT TISSUE SYSTEM
F LYMPHATIC AND HAEMOPOIETIC SYSTEM
G RESPIRATORY SYSTEM
H CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM

The sections of these systems and the guiding alphabets are given prominent display on top of their respective shelves. (See plan of the Museum.)

APPENDIX 1

PLAN OF UNDERGRADUATE MUSEUM

CORRIDOR
ENTRANCE
STORE
TUTORIAL ROOM 2
TUTORIAL ROOM 1
PARASITOLOGY
FORENSIC BALLISTICS

KEY

Z - DIGESTIVE SYSTEM
A - GENITOURINARY SYSTEM AND MALE GENERATIVE
B - FEMALE GENERATIVE SYSTEM
C - ENDOCRINE SYSTEM
D - NERVOUS SYSTEM AND SPECIAL SENSE ORGAN
E - MUSCULOSKELETAL AND SOFT TISSUE SYSTEM
F - LYMPHATIC AND HEMOTOPOIETIC SYSTEM
G - RESPIRATORY SYSTEM
H - CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEM

Photo shows an excerpt from the pamphlet Guide to the Museum, illustrating the layout of the undergraduate museum and the arrangement of pathological and parasitology specimens.

Subsequent documentation about the museum appears in the Faculty of Medicine Report published in 1984, which covered the reporting period from 1978 to 1983. In this report, the museum was referred to as the Central Museum and was listed as one of the Faculty's Central Facilities.

The Central Facilities were organised into two primary divisions: Educational Technology Facilities and Research-oriented Facilities. The Central Museum operated under the Educational Technology Division, alongside other units such as the Medical Illustration Unit, Technical Workshop, Central Printing Unit, Electro-Magnetic Recording Unit, Microcomputer Facility, and Multidisciplinary Laboratories I and II.

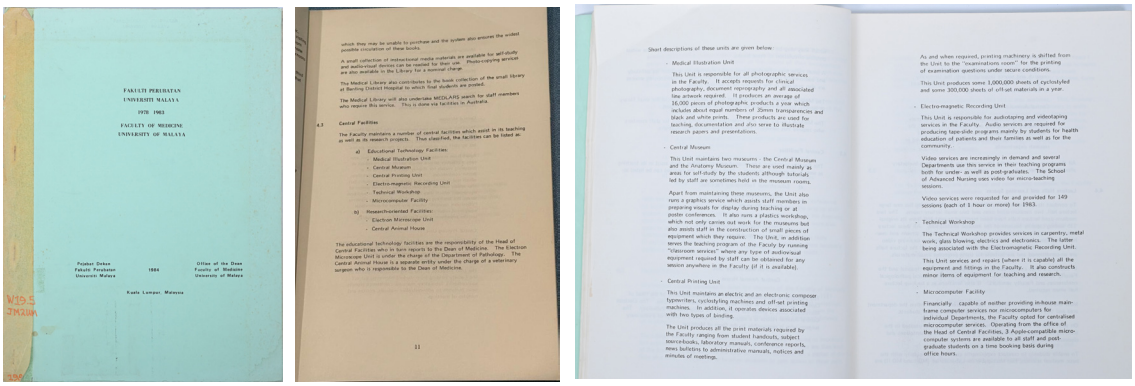
At this stage, the museum facilities still comprised two distinct entities: the Central Museum and the Anatomy Museum. Both spaces were used by students for self-directed study as well as for tutorials conducted by academic staff.

Between 1984 and September 1999, there is limited available documentation regarding the development of the museum. However, it is likely that the Anatomy Museum gradually evolved into a separate entity. This transition coincided with the development of the Anatomy Resource Centre, an initiative that began in 1997 and was officially opened in 2001.

The Central Museum Department Management Manual, published in 1999, provides further insight into the organisational status of the museum. According to this document, the Central Museum functioned as an independent entity within the institution. During this period, the Faculty of Medicine and the University Hospital were reorganised to form the University Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC).



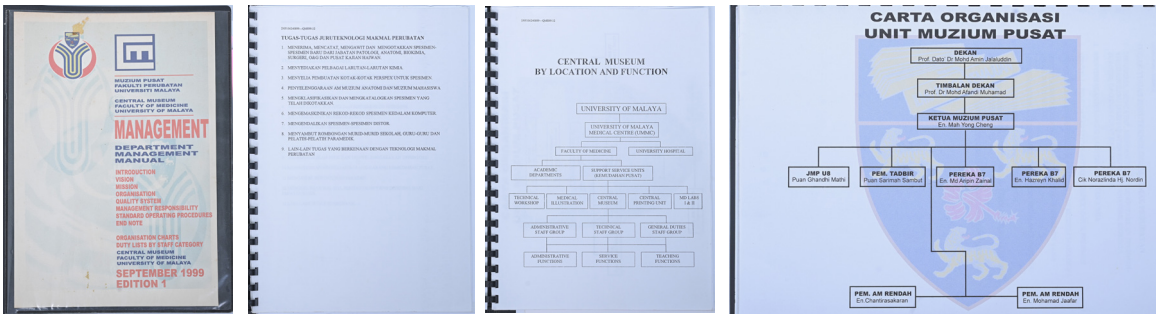
Undated photos showing teaching and learning activities in the museum



FAKULTI PERUBATAN
UNIVERSITI MALAYA
1978 1983
FACULTY OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Photo shows an excerpt from the Faculty of Medicine Report (1978–1983), where the museum was referred to as the Central Museum and listed among the Faculty's Central Facilities.



MUZIUM PUSAT
FAKULTI PERUBATAN
UNIVERSITI MALAYA

CENTRAL MUSEUM
FACULTY OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA

MANAGEMENT
DEPARTMENT
MANAGEMENT
MANUAL

INTRODUCTION
VISION
MISSION
ORGANISATION
QUALITY SYSTEM
MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITY
STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES
END NOTE

ORGANISATION CHARTS
DUTY LISTS BY STAFF CATEGORY

CENTRAL MUSEUM
FACULTY OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA

SEPTEMBER 1999
EDITION 1

TUGAS-TUGAS JURUTEKNOLOGI MAKMAL PERUBATAN

CENTRAL MUSEUM
BY LOCATION AND FUNCTION

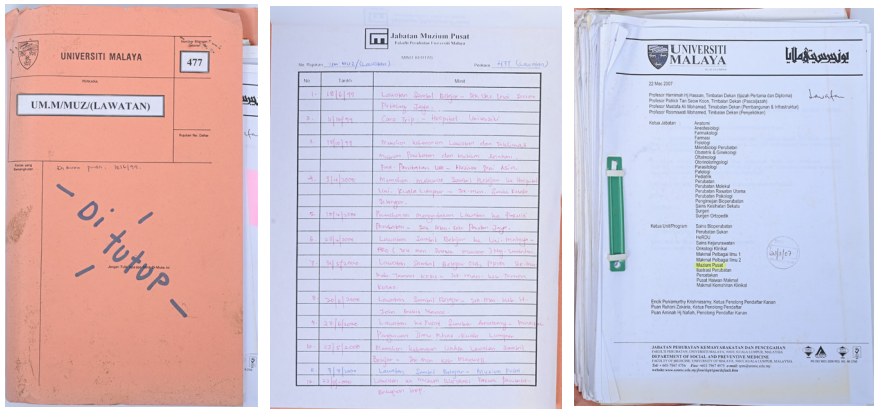
UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA
UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA MEDICAL CENTRE (UMMC)
FACULTY OF MEDICINE
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL
ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS
SUPPORT SERVICE UNITS (KEMUDAHAN PUSAT)
TECHNICAL WORKSHOP
MEDICAL ILLUSTRATION
CENTRAL MUSEUM
CENTRAL PRINTING UNIT
MD LABS 1 & 2
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF GROUP
TECHNICAL STAFF GROUP
GENERAL DUTIES STAFF GROUP
ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS
SERVICE FUNCTIONS
TEACHING FUNCTIONS

CARTA ORGANISASI
UNIT MUZIUM PUSAT

DEKAN
Prof. Datu' Dr Mohd Amin Jalaluddin
TIMBALAN DEKAN
Prof. Dr Mohd Aliand Muhamad
KETUA MUZIUM PUSAT
En. Mah Yong Cheng
JMP U8
Puan Ghandhi Malhi
PEM. TADBIR
Puan Sanmah Santoul
PEREKA B7
En. Md Aiqim Zainal
PEREKA B7
En. Hazreyri Khalid
PEREKA B7
Cik Norazlinda Hj. Nordin
PEM. AM RENDAH
En.Chandrasekaran
PEM. AM RENDAH
En. Mohamad Jaafar

Photo shows an excerpt from the Central Museum Department Management Manual (1999), highlighting the organisational status of the Central Museum within the institution.

Archival records from the museum's filing system also reveal that organised school visits to the museum had already begun by the late 1990s. The earliest documented school visit in the records was dated 18 June 1999, indicating that the museum had started to play a role in community engagement and science education.



UNIVERSITI MALAYA
477
UM.M/MUZ/(LAWATAN)
Di tutup

Jabatan Muzium Pusat
Fakulti Perubatan Universiti Malaya

UNIVERSITI MALAYA

Photo shows archival records of an early school visit to the museum dated 18 June 1999, together with documentation from 2007 referring to the Central Museum as an independent unit before known as the Pathology Museum.

The last available official documentation from 2007 still identified the Central Museum as an independent unit within the institution.

In the years that followed, the museum was renamed as the Pathology Museum. Despite the change in name, the museum continued to preserve and display pathology specimens while remaining active in educational outreach, including hosting visits from schools and members of the public.

The Anatomy Museum and Anatomy Resource Centre

Established around 1964, alongside the founding of the Department of Anatomy in the Faculty of Medicine, the Anatomy Museum has played a central role in medical education from its earliest days. Operating under the supervision of the Central Museum, it was initially created to serve the first cohort of 64 medical students, providing rare and carefully curated anatomical specimens as essential learning references for both undergraduate and postgraduate studies.

Over the decades, the museum's collection expanded through generous donations and the department's dedicated efforts in specimen preservation and acquisition. These contributions gradually transformed the Anatomy Museum into one of the most extensive and significant collections of anatomical specimens in the nation, reflecting both the history of medical education and the evolving practice of anatomy.

Initially located in Block B, the museum was later upgraded and relocated to the current building in Block D. When the new facility was officiated by YTM Sultan Azlan Shah in 2001, the museum was renamed the Anatomy Resource Centre (ARC). With successive technological upgrades, the ARC evolved into a dynamic learning hub serving medical, nursing, dental, and pharmaceutical students at Universiti Malaya. Beyond its academic role, the centre also opened its doors to the public, playing an important part in raising awareness of the relevance of anatomy to clinical medicine. School groups and allied health students from across the country have visited the ARC to deepen their understanding of the human body.

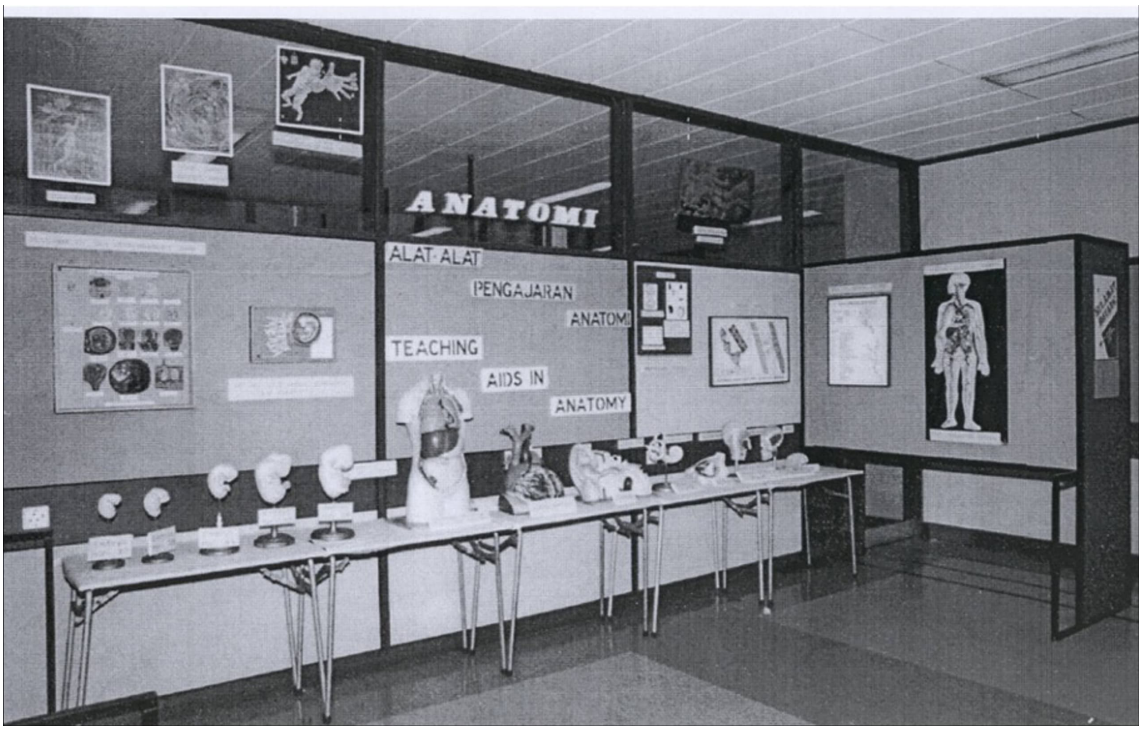


Photo shows teaching aids displayed in the Anatomy Museum in 1964 that were used by lecturers during teaching sessions.

The ARC features a diverse range of learning resources, including potted and plastinated cadaveric specimens, diagnostic imaging displays, and clinical scenario–based quizzes. Interactive learning stations support self-directed exploration through multimedia computers, specialized anatomy software, and educational videos. To ensure secure access and continuous improvement, all users were issued smart cards, while usage data and feedback surveys are routinely analysed to evaluate and enhance the centre's educational impact.



Photo shows nursing students visiting the Anatomy Resource Centre in (a) 2007 and (b) 2022, expressing curiosity about the human anatomy model.



Photos show visitors at the Anatomy Resource Centre (c) SMJK Sacred Heart, Penang (2001) and (d) Universiti Malaya alumni event (2017)

Over the past two decades, the ARC has welcomed more than 20,000 visitors from Malaysia and abroad.

Part 2

The Journey Of Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum

This section traces the journey toward the unification of the faculty's medical museums, culminating in the establishment of the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum, while offering a behind-the-scenes glimpse into the collaborative efforts, thoughtful design process, and key milestones that shaped this new chapter of the medical museum in the Faculty of Medicine.



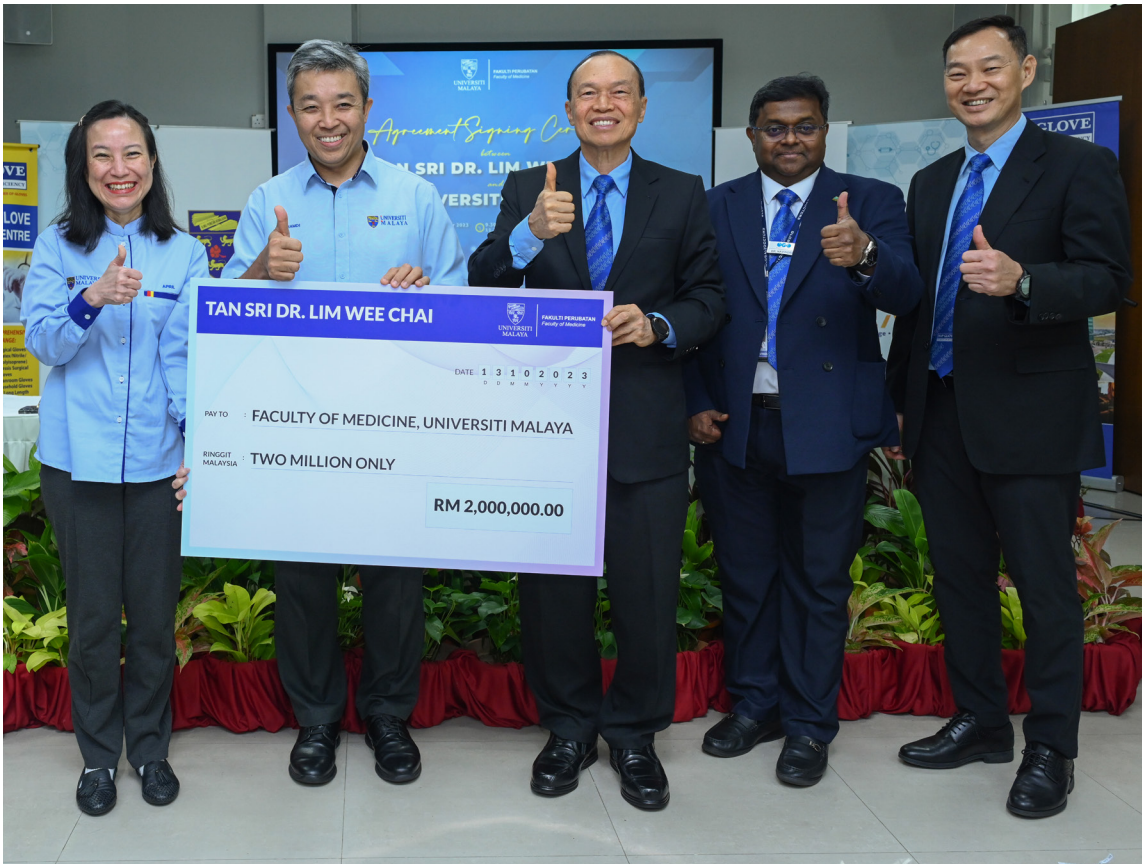


Contribution from
Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai

Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai, Founder and Executive Chairman of Top Glove Corporation Berhad, is an esteemed alumnus of Universiti Malaya, having earned his Bachelor of Science in Physics in 1982. On 13 October 2023, Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai contributed RM2 million towards the establishment of the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum. Situated within the Faculty of Medicine, the museum is envisioned as a state-of-the-art educational facility designed to enhance medical education and to inspire future generations of healthcare professionals.

Professor Dato' Ir. Dr. Mohd Hamdi Abd Shukor, former Vice-Chancellor of Universiti Malaya, conveyed his sincere appreciation, stating that the museum constitutes a significant advancement in medical education while also serving as a conduit for enhanced community engagement. Professor Dr. April Camilla Roslani, former Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, emphasized the museum's distinctive approach in integrating various disciplines, which is poised to foster innovative perspectives in both teaching and research.







The signing ceremony and mock cheque presentation.

The Medical Museum Taskforce

To realize this ambitious vision, the Faculty of Medicine formed the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum Taskforce in mid 2023, a dedicated team responsible for conceptualizing, planning, and overseeing the museum's development.

The Medical Museum Task Force Committee was led by Professor Dr. Julia Patrick Engkasan from Department of Rehabilitation Medicine and supported by Dr. Intan Suhana, Head of the Department of Anatomy and Associate Professor Dr. Mun Kein Seong, who was the Head of Department of Pathology. The Medical Museum Task Force later expanded to include senior academic staff from the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, specifically the Department of History. This collaboration between Medicine and Department of History ensured the museum would be deeply rooted in Medical Humanities. At the end of 2023, the Taskforce welcomed Mr. Abdul Aziz Rashid, former Director of Universiti Malaya's Museum of Asian Art, as the Project Manager. A few months later, Mr. Rizqullah Al. Bariq Azmi was appointed as the museum's curator, tasked with overseeing and assisting in its ongoing development.



PROF. DR. JULIA PATRICK ENGKASAN
Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, FOM



DR. INTAN SUHANA ZULKAFLI
Department of Anatomy FOM



ASSOC PROF. DR. MUN KEIN SEONG
Department of Pathology FOM



EN. ABDUL AZIZ RASHID
Dean's office FOM



EN. RIZQULLAH AL. BARIQ AZMI
Dean's office FOM



DR. ALEX PHANG KEAN CHANG
Department of Pathology FOM



DR. NUR DAYANA MOHAMED ARIFFIN
Department of History FASS



DR. NORAINI MOHAMED HASSAN
Department of History FASS



DR. VILASHINI SOMIAH
Department of History FASS



DR. TAN MIAU ING
Department of History FASS



PROF. DATUK DR. DANNY WONG TZE KEN
Department of History FASS

The Medical Museum Taskforce conducted benchmark visits to several public institutions and universities, including the Institute for Medical Research (IMR), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), and Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS). These visits allowed the team to learn about museum operations, specimen and artefact display techniques, design, and curation practices. The insights gained during these visits were invaluable in shaping the planning of the new medical museum, helping the taskforce create a world-class medical museum that serves both the campus community and the public.



Benchmark visit to the Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) Medical Museum



Benchmark visit to the Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) Medical Museum



Benchmark visit to the Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) Medical Museum

Content Curation

Content curation is essential for the medical museum, as it helps to preserve important knowledge, inspire curiosity, and foster a deeper appreciation of medical history and advancements. The Medical Museum Taskforce visited many different places and met different people to search and collect information for the medical museum. By collaborating with experts from diverse fields, they not only gathered valuable artifacts but also ensured that the museum's exhibits would offer immersive and educational experience for all visitors.



Reference resource search at Za'ba Memorial Library



Meeting with a) Mr Sia Thiam Eng, Manager of the Silent Mentor Programme & b) Dr Wan Hanaa and Dr Chuan Soo Lin from the Department of Paediatrics UM



Meeting with Prof. Dr. Mukhri, Head of the Obstetrics & Gynaecology Department



Meeting with National Archives of Malaysia Team

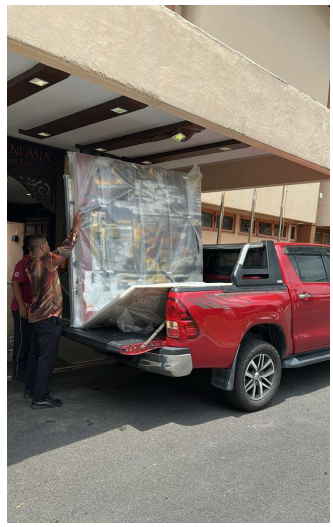
Arts for the Gallery

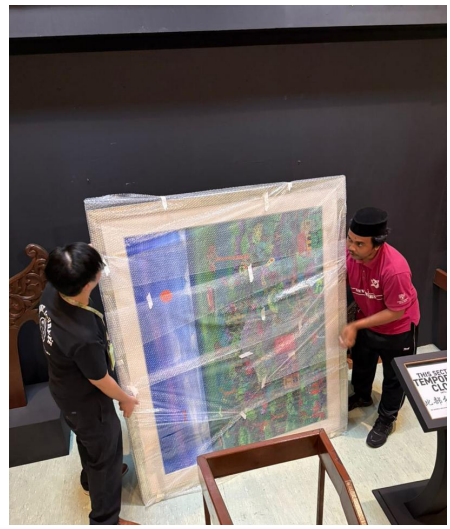
The Gallery was envisioned as a space where medicine meets the humanities. In shaping this section, we sought artworks that would complement the museum's scientific narrative by offering reflection, interpretation, and artistic perspective.

The Taskforce engaged with Muzium Seni Asia, which houses an extensive collection of arts by local artists. From this collection, we carefully selected pieces that resonate with themes of humanity, embodiment, and the human condition including both representational and abstract works.

These artworks were chosen not merely for their aesthetic value, but for their ability to stimulate thought and dialogue. By integrating local artistic voices into the museum, the Gallery reinforces our commitment to interdisciplinary learning and to presenting medicine within its broader cultural and societal context.









Selection, relocation, and installation of artworks for the Gallery

Specimen Selection

The medical museums have more than 2,000 medical specimens. It was a huge feat to select which specimens go to the main exhibition hall. Meeting over meetings were made to choose the correct specimens. The Taskforce also discuss on the exact placement of each specimen, on the appropriate placement of each specimen within the main exhibition areas. Subsequently, writing the caption where there was a need to decide the amount of information for each caption, so as not to overload the visitors.



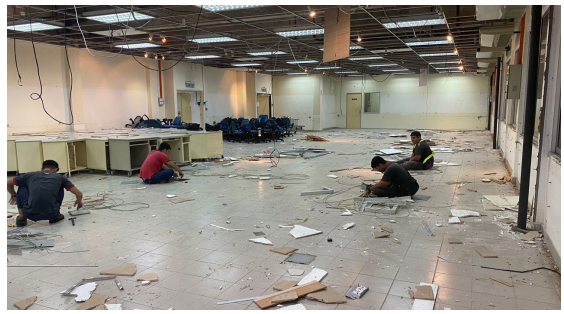


Specimen selection from the Pathology Museum

Construction of the Medical Museum

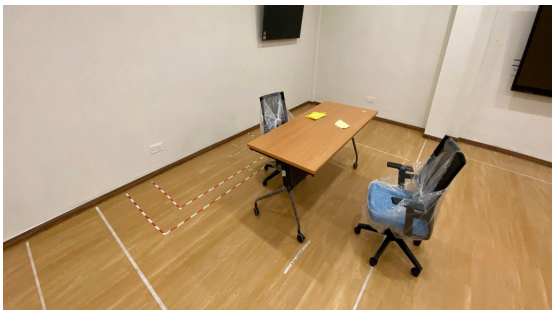
The construction of the medical museum commenced in July 2024, beginning with the careful clearance of the former Anatomy Resource Centre (ARC) and the Computer Lab. The first phase of the project involved giving facelift to the internal structure of the space.



Before the renovation: Clearing the space






After renovation: New layout and elevated interior

The construction of the museum space required careful planning and continuous dialogue to ensure that every structural and aesthetic decision were aligned with the intended philosophy of the museum. The project was closely supervised at every stage, from spatial design and cabinetry fabrication to lighting configuration and display installation.

Throughout the installation phase, detailed attention was given to specimen placement, label alignment, visitor flow, accessibility to wheelchair users, and integration of digital and interactive elements. This comprehensive and well-coordinated approach ensured that both functional and educational considerations were fully integrated into the final design of the museum. The whole process took 16 months of hard work.





Further facelift and installation of furniture

Launch of the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum

The Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum was officially launched on 25 January 2025, after 16 months of meticulous planning and development. The launch took place in the museum itself and was attended by approximately 50 guests consisting of Universiti Malaya and Faculty of Medicine top management, Top Glove Board of Directors and Top Management, and Tan Sri's close friends.

In his address, Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai expressed his heartfelt gratitude to his alma mater and shared his hope that the museum would inspire future generations of healthcare professionals while promoting greater public awareness of health and wellness. The launch ceremony was officiated by Tan Sri Datuk Ter Leong Yap, a member of the Universiti Malaya Board of Directors.

Echoing this sentiment, Professor Dato' Dr. Yang Faridah Abdul Aziz, Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, highlighted the museum's distinctive integration of medicine, culture, art, and history, designed to engage visitors and encourage interdisciplinary collaboration.

Today, the museum is open to the Universiti Malaya community and the public, standing as a dynamic bridge between education, culture, and innovation in healthcare.



Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai giving his speech during the launching ceremony



Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai, Tan Sri Datuk Ter Leong Yap and Professor Dato' Yang Faridah Abdul Aziz after the opening ceremony gimmick



Presentation of a special souvenir, a painting drawn by UM medical student Hor Ye Hong to Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai



A medical student describing the specimen to Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai and other visitors.



A group photo of the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum Taskforce during the launch

Part 3

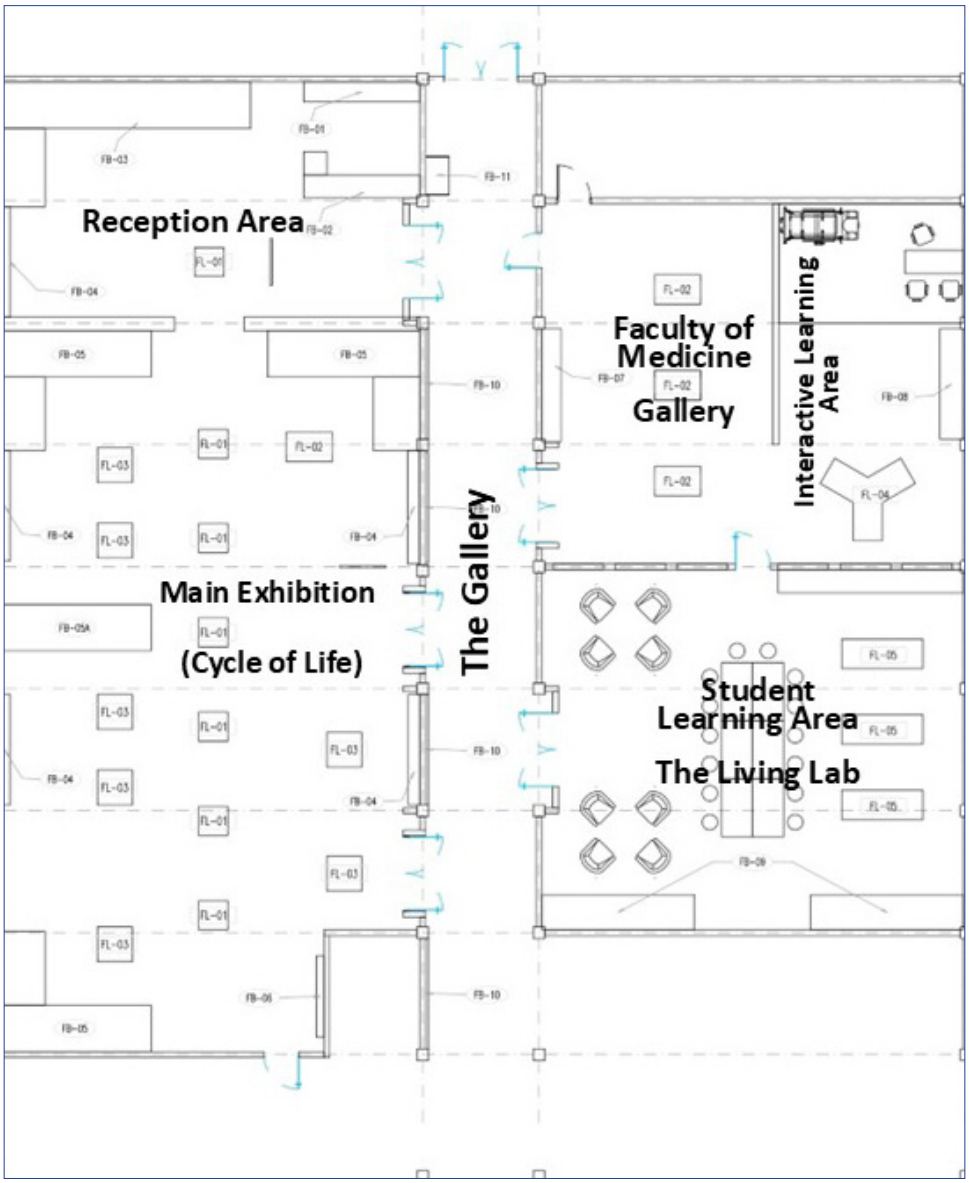
Inside The Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum



The Floor Plan

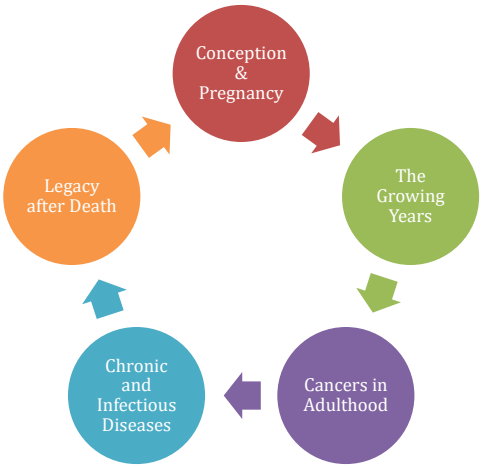
The Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum is organised to guide visitors through a coherent and progressive narrative of the human experience.

The spatial layout is intentionally structured to facilitate logical movement, thematic clarity, and reflective engagement. Each section represents a distinct dimension of medicine while remaining interconnected within the broader story of life, health, and disease. The museum consists of five sections: The Cycle of Life Exhibition, Faculty of Medicine Legacy, Interactive Learning Area, The Living Lab and The gallery.



The floor plan and sections of the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum

The Cycle of Life Exhibition



The Cycle of Life serves as the overarching theme of this exhibition, tracing the intricate journey of human existence from conception to death. By exploring each stage of life, the exhibition highlights the importance of health education, preventive care, and appropriate support systems across the lifespan. Specimens are thoughtfully arranged according to life stages, beginning with Conception and Pregnancy, followed by The Growing Years, Cancer in Adulthood, Chronic and Infectious Diseases, and concludes with Legacy after Death.

Together, these narratives invite reflection on personal life journeys and encourage a holistic understanding of health, well-being, and human experience. The museum's rich specimen collection, some dating back to 1960, offer valuable insight into human anatomy and illustrates how disease and cancer affect organs and, ultimately, daily life. This theme invites visitors to reflect on their own life journeys, fostering a holistic understanding of health, well-being, and human experience, while inspiring a deeper appreciation of the beauty and fragility of life and the meaningful role each of us can play in shaping healthier futures.



The Pregnancy and Conception exhibition area



The seven wonders collection

The Seven Wonders is a precious collection of rare human specimens, meticulously curated over the past 30 to 50 years. Located at the centre of the exhibition hall, the seven wonders attract instant attention of the visitors. Each specimen tells a unique story, offering an unparalleled glimpse into the complexities of the human body and the medical marvels that continue to inspire awe and fascination. The specimens in this collection are among the most treasured artifacts in the museum.

The main exhibition hall also features Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Interactive TV. This interactive TV presents an engaging digital narrative of Tan Sri's journey, from his early childhood to his leadership as Founder and Executive Chairman of Top Glove Corporation Berhad. Through curated multimedia content, visitors gain insight into his personal values, work ethic, and philosophy on perseverance, discipline, and health. The platform also incorporates interactive elements, including quizzes and educational games, allowing visitors to actively engage with the content. This feature transforms the display from a biographical presentation into an experiential learning opportunity, reinforcing the museum's commitment to interactive and reflective education.





The Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Interactive TV



The Faculty of Medicine Legacy section

Faculty of Medicine Legacy

The Faculty of Medicine Legacy section stands as a tribute to the remarkable journey of the Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya. This space showcases the faculty's evolution, highlighting its establishment, leadership, and invaluable contributions to medical education and healthcare. Through carefully curated displays, visitors can explore historical artifacts, including original medical books, equipment, and surgical instruments, offering insight into the advancements in medical practice over time. A key feature of this hall is the recognition of distinguished faculty members whose work has shaped the nation's healthcare landscape such as the Merdeka Award recipients.

The Interactive Learning Area

The Interactive Learning Area is designed to provide visitors with a hands-on, engaging experience that brings medical science to life. This space offers three dynamic stations that allow visitors to explore different aspects of medicine through technology and simulation.



The Interactive Learning Area with various of activities for the museum visitors

The Living Lab

The Living Lab is a dynamic learning space where medical students immerse themselves in hands-on training in anatomy and pathology. Within this dedicated environment, students work directly with human specimens and pathological materials to deepen their understanding of the human body and disease. Although access to space is restricted, a glass partition allows visitors to observe these learning activities, offering a rare glimpse into real time medical education.



The Living Lab for the medical students teaching and learning activities

The Gallery

At the heart of our medical museum lies The Gallery, a dedicated space where art and medicine intersect. Medicine and art, though distinct, share a common thread; they both reflect human experience in its many forms. Through art, we explore the emotions, stories, and perspectives that often remain hidden within clinical settings. The Gallery features a selection of renowned paintings by famous local artists such as Yusuf Gajah, Awang Damit Ahmad, Redza Piyadasa and Soh Boon Keong. The current paintings are on loan from Universiti Malaya Art Gallery

In the future, The Gallery will serve as a rotating showcase for the artistic works of our faculty and students, encouraging them to engage with creativity alongside their scientific endeavours. Each collection will be curated around themes that reflect the different aspects of life, health, and healing.

Some of the art pieces are also located in the different sections of the museum. Their placement is intentional. Medical museums, by nature, present complex and sometimes intense subject matter. By situating artistic



Yusuf Gajah's Landscape Series adorned the museum wall in the main exhibition hall



The art pieces from local artists featured at The Gallery

expression alongside scientific specimens, the museum cultivates an environment where reflection, inquiry, and creativity coexist, enhancing both intellectual engagement and visitor well-being.

Part 4

Building The Medical Museum Ecosystem: Engagement, Outreach, And Institutional Presence In The First Year

This chapter highlights how strategic engagement and outreach activities shaped the Medical Museum's first year, fostering a dynamic ecosystem of education, research, collaboration, and public connections. As a newly established entity, the Museum prioritized meaningful relationships with the university community, industry experts, public and private institutions, and the wider public. These efforts strengthened its presence both within the University and nationally, while supporting the continuous refinement of its facilities and programs.



Educational Engagement

Educational outreach formed a central pillar of the Medical Museum's activities in its inaugural year. The Museum welcomed visits from schools, pre-university institutions and universities, offering students early exposure to medical science, human biology, and the role of medical museums in preserving and communicating knowledge.

The school visits were designed to be exploratory and interactive, encouraging curiosity and engagement rather than passive observation. Through guided tours and facilitated discussions, students were introduced to anatomical specimens, historical narratives, and ethical considerations in medicine. The Museum thus served as a bridge between classroom learning and real-world scientific understanding.

Meanwhile university delegations included students, academics, and institutional representatives from medical, health sciences, and non-medical disciplines. Engagements often extended beyond tours, evolving into discussions on curriculum integration, educational innovation, and the role of museums in primary, secondary and higher education.

The Museum received a total of 2,600 visitors within its first year, of which nearly 80% were from schools and universities.



Educational visit by SMK Raja Tun Uda, Penang



Exploring the museum: SMK Jerantut, Pahang





Understanding plastination: An educational session during the MySymbios 2025 visit



Interactive learning in action with students from Vision University College

Research Engagement

The Medical Museum's first year also saw active engagement with researchers and professionals interested in museum-based scholarship and collaboration. Meetings with potential researchers explored opportunities for interdisciplinary research, including studies on medical education, public engagement, ethics, and heritage preservation.

These conversations highlighted the Museum's potential as a research platform, not only through its collections, but also through its educational programmes, visitor interactions, and curatorial practices. By hosting such engagements, the Museum affirmed its role as a space where academic inquiry and museum practice intersect.

These engagements laid the groundwork for future collaborative projects and reinforced the Museum's alignment with the University's research mission.









Engagement with UM community (a) other UM museums (b) Faculty of Creative Arts, and (c)Department of History and (d) Academy of Islamic Studies.

Institutional Partnerships

Building institutional relationships was another key focus during the Museum's inaugural year. The Medical Museum engaged with the Jabatan Muzium Malaysia, Jabatan Warisan Negara and established connections with other medical museums from public universities across Malaysia.

Through these interactions, the Medical Museum became part of a broader heritage and museum network, contributing to conversations on conservation, ethics, education, and public engagement. Such partnerships strengthened institutional credibility and opened avenues for collaboration, benchmarking, and shared learning.

These connections positioned the Medical Museum within the national and academic museum landscape, reinforcing its role as both a custodian of medical heritage and an active professional participant.

(a) Courtesy visit from the Department of National Heritage (b) Hybrid meeting with Medical Museums from other public universities (c) Courtesy visit to the Mufti of Kedah (d) Courtesy visit to the Department of Museums Malaysia









Media Visibility

The Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum has also gained meaningful visibility through several national media platforms, reflecting its growing role in public engagement and medical education. The Faculty of Medicine's Dean was featured in *The Malay Mail*, where the museum's vision and its contribution to education, heritage preservation, and community outreach were highlighted to a wider audience. In addition, both the Director and Curator were invited to share insights on TV Didik, bringing the museum experience to younger viewers and reinforcing its value as an educational resource beyond the university setting. The Director was also interviewed by BFM 89.9, where discussions centered on the evolving role of medical museums in bridging science, humanities, and public understanding of health. These media engagements have collectively strengthened the museum's presence, positioning it as a dynamic platform for learning, dialogue, and societal impact.

MALAYSIA

Universiti Malaya opens public access to one of Asia's most unique medical collections



Various diseased human body parts from hearts, lungs and kidneys all on display. — Picture by Firdaus Latif

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By R. Loheswar
Saturday, 17 May 2025 7:00 AM MYT

The museum was featured in malay mail on 15th May 2025









Photos during the TV Didik filming:

(a) An interview session on becoming a medical museum curator, (b) a sharing on the curator's daily specimen inspection routine, and (c) a discussion session on content of the interview. (d) Professor Dr. Julia Anak Patrick Engkasan sharing insights into the museum's collections and its role in society during an interview with BFM 89.9.



Medical Museum participation at the Festival Hari Muzium Antarabangsa 2025

The Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum participated in Festival Hari Muzium Antarabangsa (HMA) 2025, held from 24 to 29 July 2025 at Muzium Padi, Kedah. This national-level event, which attracted approximately 140,700 visitors, provided an important platform for the Medical Museum to engage with the public, strengthened professional networks, and positioned itself within the broader museum and heritage ecosystem in Malaysia and the region.

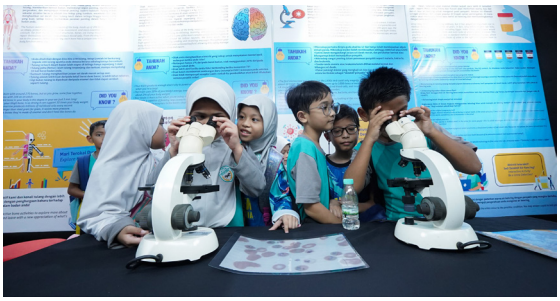
The Museum's booth was designed to engage visitors of all ages through hands-on learning and discovery. The booth featured a range of educational and experiential activities, including microscopy sessions examining



Opening ceremony of Festival Hari Muzium Antarabangsa 2025 by DYMM Sultan Kedah Darul Aman



blood slides, the *"Urine Detective"* activity, skull identification games, colouring stations, and an interactive session "Know Your Body". Informative posters and videos complemented these activities, allowing visitors to explore medical science in an accessible and engaging manner.





Visitors participating with various activities at the booth

In addition to booth-based activities, Prof. Dr Julia Patrick Engkasan and Dr Intan Suhana Zulkafli organized a public talk aimed at schoolchildren and teachers, attended by approximately 80–90 participants. The session highlighted the educational role of medical museums and explored how museums can function as spaces for learning, reflection, and curiosity beyond the classroom.





Prof. Dr. Julia and Dr. Intan Suhana at the public talk which was attended by school children







Prof. Dr. Julia at the mentorship activity

The Medical Museum's involvement in HMA 2025 also extended into mentorship and professional engagement. As part of the event, Prof. Julia participated as a mentor in Bank Negara Malaysia Museum's program, "Teh Tarik Talk: Cerita Mentor, Aspirasi Anda." This participation underscored the Museum's commitment to youth engagement, mentorship, and cross-institutional collaboration within the national museum landscape.

Participation in Hari Muzium Antarabangsa 2025 marked an important step in building the Medical Museum's public identity, professional networks, and confidence as a young institution. The Medical Museum looks forward with enthusiasm to continued participation in future HMA events, including HMA 2026 in Johor, as part of its ongoing journey within the national and regional museum ecosystem.

Accessibility, Inclusion, and Learning from Lived Experience

As part of its commitment to inclusive practice, the Medical Museum welcomed visits from wheelchair users. These visits provided an important opportunity not only for engagement, but also for institutional learning. Rather than treating accessibility as a static requirement, the Museum approached these interactions as a process of reflection and improvement.

During these visits, the Museum conducted informal access audits in collaboration with wheelchair users, observing movement through galleries, entry points, circulation spaces, and visitor facilities. Feedback was gathered through direct experience, allowing the Museum team to identify physical, spatial, and operational aspects that supported or hindered access.

This process highlighted the value of lived experience in shaping museum practice. Insights gained from the access audits informed discussions on circulation flow, display height, signage, and visitors' comfort. More importantly, it reinforced the understanding that accessibility is integral to the Museum ecosystem, intertwined with design, education, and public engagement. These early efforts established a foundation for ongoing improvement, ensuring that the Museum evolves as a space that is welcoming, respectful, and usable for diverse communities.



a) Miss Bella, Nurse Chua Siew Chien and Sr. Yuslina from the Universiti Malaya Medical Centre in front of the registration counter b) Sr. Yuslina shared her opinion with Dr. Intan about the Medical Museum

Reflections on the First Year

Collectively, these engagements reflect a formative year defined by openness, collaboration, and purposeful outreach. The Medical Museum's first year was not solely about establishing physical spaces and collections, but about building relationships, trust, and institutional presence.

Through educational visits, academic engagement, professional networking, and media outreach, the Museum positioned itself as a dynamic and responsive institution. These early experiences provided valuable insights, shaped institutional identity, and informed strategic directions for the years ahead.

As the Medical Museum continues to evolve, the foundations laid during this first year will remain central ensuring that the Museum grows as a vibrant space for learning, research, and public engagement.

Part 5

People, Learning and Capacity Building

Beyond collections and exhibitions, the museum functions as a space of learning, contribution, and professional formation to undergraduate students. In its first year, the museum welcomed both volunteers and interns, creating opportunities for structured engagement, service learning, and experiential training. These individuals formed an integral part of the Museum's daily operations and educational mission. Through guided participation, mentorship, and responsibility, volunteers and interns contributed meaningfully to the museum while gaining insight into museum practice and public engagement.



Volunteerism@ MedicalMuseum

The Medical Museum received undergraduate volunteers as part of compulsory academic requirements from various programmes. This volunteer engagement was structured as a **service-learning experience,** where students were able to apply academic learning within a real institutional setting while contributing to the Museum's operational and educational needs.

The Volunteerism course (GKS 1001) was established in line with the objectives of co-curricular programs set by the Ministry of Higher Education, with a strong emphasis on self-directed learning and alternative forms of assessment. The students are required to spend 42 hours on volunteer activities for this course. In the academic year 2024/2025, the museum welcomed eight students as the first cohort to undertake their volunteer placement at the museum

Volunteers were introduced to the roles and functions of a medical museum, including visitor engagement, gallery support, basic collection awareness, and assistance during educational activities and events. They participated in day-to-day Museum routines, gaining exposure to professional expectations such as punctuality, teamwork, communication, and responsibility. For many volunteers, the experience provided their first insight into museums as active educational institutions rather than static exhibition spaces.

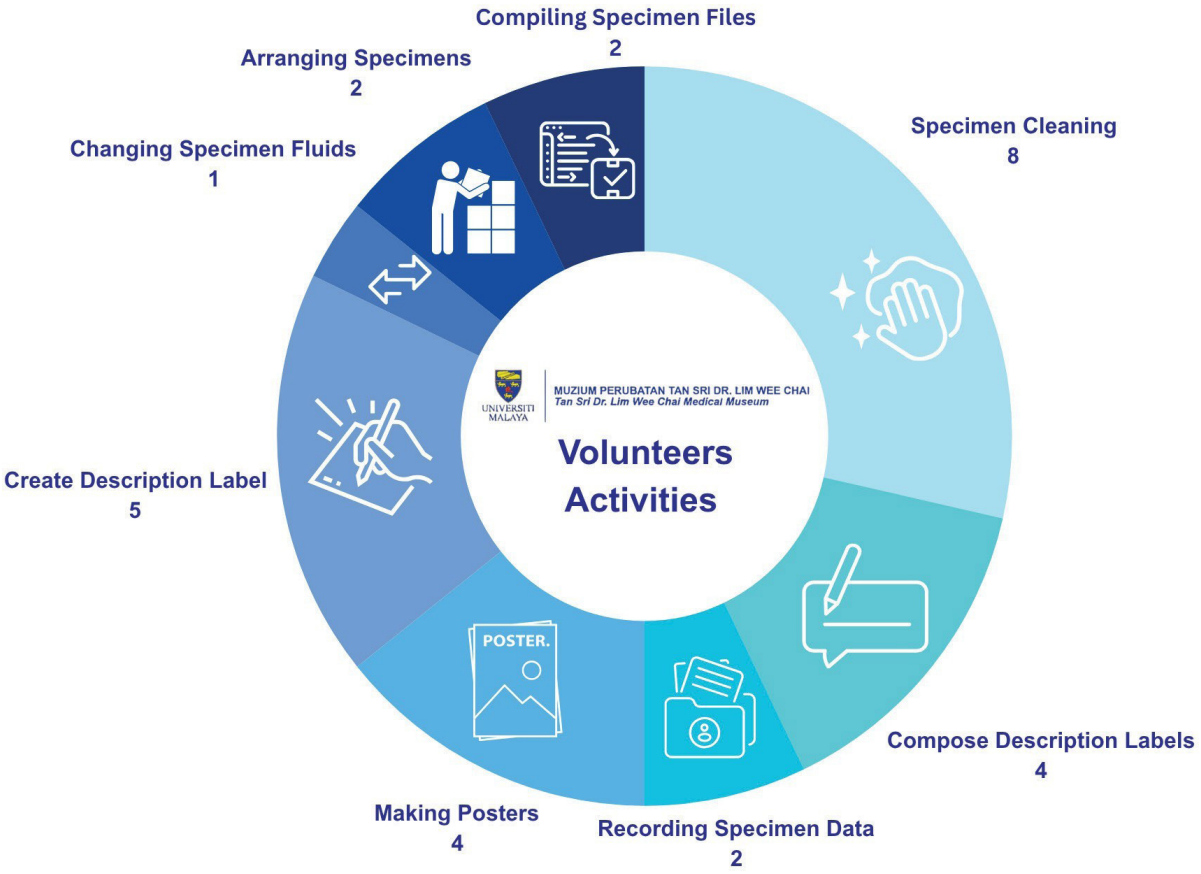
The volunteer programme also benefited the Museum by strengthening its capacity during periods of high visitor engagement and institutional activities. The presence of motivated students brought energy, curiosity, and fresh perspectives, reinforcing the Museum's identity as a shared learning environment.

UNIVERSITI MALAYA

MUZIUM PERUBATAN TAN SRI DR. LIM WEE CHAI
Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum

		1 FACULTY	2 WORKING HOURS	3 ACTIVITIES
1	Wan Nur Alya Nabihah Binti Kamaruzzaman	Faculty of Science	42	Insert Specimen Inventory Data into Excel
2	Rayessa Faqeera Binti Roslan	Faculty of Science	42	Providing Anatomy Diagrams
3	Sushmitaa A/P Devedass	Faculty of Science	42	Making a Brain Cancer Poster
4	Nurfadira Binti Azizul	Faculty of Creative Arts	42	Recording into Inventory
5	Azmirul Arif Bin Azizul	Faculty of Sports and Exercise Science	42	Specimens Cleaning and Welcoming Guests
6	Guok Yue Qin	Faculty of Business and Economics	42	Specimens Cleaning at the Pathology Museum
7	Annisa Nugraheni Cahyaningtyas	Faculty of Business and Economics	42	Specimens Cleaning
8	Reva Abidah Belvana Dartaman	Faculty of Business and Economics	42	Specimens Cleaning

List of volunteers and their tasks in the Medical Museum.



The task and the number of volunteers in the Medical Museum.

In summary, the dedication from these volunteers is deeply appreciated by the museum team. This experience not only supported the museum's operations but also provided the students with meaningful exposure to museum work, including collection care, documentation, and exhibition support.





The first batch of volunteers at the museum



The first cohort of four interns (from left to right): Muhammad Haziq, Muhamad Faiz Azrin, Muhammad Faisal, and Tan Aik Kai.

Internship@ MedicalMuseum

In addition to volunteers, the Medical Museum also hosted four interns from the Department of History, Faculty of Social Sciences, Universiti Malaya. These internships were designed to provide structured exposure to museology and heritage practice, combining theoretical grounding with hands-on experience over a three-month period. The internship program contributed to capacity building while strengthening the Museum's educational mission and interdisciplinary collaborations.

Throughout the internship, interns were introduced to the foundational principles of museology, covering the roles of museums within society, professional ethics, collection care, exhibition development, and public engagement.





Interns paying attention to En Aziz during their weekly classes

Interns were actively involved in museum operations. They assisted with collection documentation, interacted with visitors, and joined fieldwork and exhibitions. Through these experiences, they came to understand the museum as a dynamic public-facing institution, a place that educates, inspires curiosity, and fosters dialogue across disciplines and generations.



Interns were actively involved in the museum activities

This internship program reaffirmed the Medical Museum's role as a site of training, mentorship, and knowledge exchange. We look forward to receiving interns in the coming years



The interns at the end of their internship programme

In Tribute

The Medical Museum pays tribute to Tan Aik Kai, an intern who sadly passed away due to illness during his internship period.

Kai was a dedicated and thoughtful member of the Museum community. He showed genuine enthusiasm for the Museum's work and had expressed his wish to continue contributing beyond his internship. He was instrumental in the preparation of this museum magazine, and his efforts formed part of the legacy he leaves behind.

Kai is remembered with gratitude and respect. He is deeply missed, and our thoughts and prayers are with his family.







Kai's happy moments during his internship



A visit from Kai's family in January 2026

Part 6

Curated Voices: Experts Insight





Nine Months of Life: Rebirthing Anatomy at the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum

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In the biological world, nine months marks the miraculous journey from a single cell to a breathing human life. As we are launching the inaugural edition of our museum magazine, we look back on our first nine months since the grand opening in January 2025. This period has been our own "gestation". The first nine months of the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum represent more than a simple timeline of activities. They symbolise a process deeply rooted in the very subject the museum stands for, a time of nurturing a new vision for medical heritage and watching it transition from a bold concept into a living, breathing educational landmark at Universiti Malaya.

The Cycle of Life: More Than an Exhibit

At the heart of the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum is the "Cycle of Life" philosophy. For centuries, anatomy was taught as a static study of the deceased. We have chosen to revolutionize this. By merging the historic Anatomy and Pathology collections, we have created a narrative that doesn't just show the body in isolation but follows the human journey from the moment of conception through the trials of disease to the eventual close of the life cycle. By transforming anatomical knowledge into visual, spatial, and experiential learning, the museum opens its doors to a much wider audience, not just with white-coated future doctors, but with wide-eyed secondary school students and health college trainees from across the world. In doing so, it reframes anatomy not as an intimidating discipline, but as a fascinating exploration of the human body that everyone inhabits.

Revolutionizing the Learning Landscape

Our mission was never to build a closed sanctuary for UM medical students alone. We designed this museum to be a "Living Lab" that breaks down the ivory towers of academia. The museum's approach emphasises understanding over memorisation, curiosity over fear, and connection over compartmentalisation. Visitors are encouraged to see the human body not as isolated organs and systems, but as a unified, dynamic whole, much like the cycle of life itself. This perspective is especially powerful for younger learners, who are at a stage where foundational impressions shape long-term attitudes toward science, health, and the human body.

For these visitors, the museum offers a revolutionary shift in perspective. Instead of learning about the liver from a diagram in a textbook, a teenager from a local school can see the physical reality of health, such as the "Five Wells" philosophy advocated by our benefactor, contrasted with the stark reality of pathology. We are democratizing medical knowledge, turning complex science into accessible health literacy that empowers every visitor to be knowledgeable for their own body.

Legacy in Motion

As the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Museum moves beyond this symbolic gestation period, we recognize that the birth of the museum was just beginning. We are fostering a new generation of "health-conscious citizens." By integrating interactive technology with

Malaysia's most extensive collection of human specimens, we have created a space where art, history, and science converge.

The Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum is no longer just a repository of the past; it is a catalyst for the future. As we move forward, we continue to bridge the gap between academic medicine and public understanding, between university-based learning and community engagement. In doing so, it affirms a simple yet profound truth, that learning about the human body is not reserved for a select few, it is a shared journey that begins with life itself.



Maternal and Child Healthcare in Colonial Malaya: Lessons from the Federated Malay States, 1912–1938

Dr. Noraini Mohamed Hassan
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From the early twentieth century onward, British medical policy in the Federated Malay States increasingly prioritised cultivating local confidence in the colonial hospital system. This emphasis was not merely humanitarian in orientation but formed part of a broader strategy to normalize and legitimize Western medical institutions among the local population.

Within this framework, particular attention was directed towards women, especially local women, who were perceived as both reluctant participants in Western medical care and critical agents in shaping household health practices. To overcome cultural resistance and facilitate greater engagement, the British administration adopted a policy of gender concordance by appointing female physicians to its medical service. This initiative, proposed by the Chief Secretary of the Federated Malay States during the presentation of the 1913 budget estimates at the Federal Council meeting on 13 November 1912, reflects a calculated administrative response to gendered barriers in healthcare access rather than a purely progressive commitment to women's welfare. The appointment of three Lady Medical Officers in the following year institutionalised this approach within the colonial medical apparatus.



The midwife in the rural area from the Federated Malay States attended a lecture, conducted by health sister

The establishment of hospitals specifically designated for women further underscores the instrumental nature of British healthcare reforms. In 1914, two small women's hospitals were constructed in Kuala Kangsar and Kuala Pilah, both staffed by female doctors, while women's wards were incorporated into



Women had to bring their newborn babies to the hospital for check up

existing hospitals across the Federated Malay States, including those in Kuala Lumpur, Ipoh, Seremban, Tampin, Port Dickson, and Jelebu.

In Selangor, by 1922, women's healthcare had become a clearly articulated priority through the operation of women's and maternity wards at Kuala Lumpur General Hospital, women's wards at the Kuala Lumpur District Hospital, and the Kuala Lumpur Malay Hospital. The centralisation of supervision and administration under Lady Medical Officers—such as Dr. E. B. Jacques at the Kuala Lumpur General Hospital, Dr. M. J. Ahern at the Kuala Lumpur District Hospital, and Kuala Lumpur Malay Hospital—was justified on the grounds of fostering trust among female patients. However, this arrangement also reinforced colonial assumptions that cultural and gender sensitivities could be managed administratively without fundamentally altering the hierarchical structure of colonial medicine.

The deployment of trained Malay midwives at village dispensaries represents another dimension of this strategy. While their presence facilitated greater penetration of biomedical practices into rural communities, their work remained firmly subordinated to colonial oversight through supervision by Lady Medical Officers. In Selangor, formal midwifery training began relatively late, in 1933, with a small cohort of three students, expanding to seven the following year. The limited scale of this programme, with only two trainees qualifying as certified midwives, suggests that local capacity-building was secondary to maintaining professional authority within colonial medical structures.

Public health initiatives, particularly those addressing maternal and infant health, became a focal point of government intervention in response to persistently high infant mortality rates across the Federated Malay States. Official discourse attributed these rates largely to inappropriate infant feeding practices, poor sanitation, and inherited diseases, framing the problem in terms of indigenous behaviour and domestic environments. This interpretation



Ladies who gave birth at the Kandang Kerbau Hospital, Singapore in 1950

conveniently obscured broader structural factors such as poverty, overcrowding, and unequal access to resources under colonial rule. Educational programs targeting expectant mothers and infant care, introduced in the early 1920s, were thus designed as corrective measures to reshape local practices in accordance with Western biomedical norms. The establishment of the first infant welfare centre in Kuala Lumpur in April 1922, followed by centres in Taiping, Ipoh, and later Seremban in 1926, exemplifies this didactic approach to public health.

Infant welfare centres were administered by Lady Medical Officers and supported by nurses and health visitors, with health visiting identified as a central mechanism for intervention. British officials explicitly viewed these visits as a means of dismantling what they characterised as ignorance and superstition among the local population. Attendance figures—rising from 33,837 in 1924 to 56,916 in 1925—were cited as evidence of success. The Chief Secretary, William Peel, celebrated these figures as indicators of growing acceptance and effectiveness, praising staff for reducing fear and resistance to participation. Similarly, the Selangor Resident attributed the decline in infant mortality in Kuala Lumpur in 1924 to the influence of the infant welfare centre. Such assessments, however, relied heavily on administrative metrics and official narratives, leaving little room for local perspectives or alternative interpretations of health outcomes.

Urban dispensaries further extended maternal and child healthcare services, particularly in Kuala Lumpur, where 12,180 women, infants, and children received treatment and advice. Managed by Lady Medical Officers, these dispensaries also conducted home visits, reinforcing the reach of colonial medical surveillance into domestic spaces. Infant welfare centres continued to function as key sites for disseminating advice on nutrition and household hygiene, reflecting the broader colonial objective of regulating everyday life through medical expertise. The establishment of an additional centre in Klang in 1928 and the subsequent expansion of services to Pahang and Perak between 1934 and 1938 indicate the

consolidation of this model across the region.

Staffing structures within these centres mirrored colonial hierarchies, with European-trained personnel occupying senior roles and Asian staff confined largely to auxiliary positions. Although the composition of staff varied by centre's size, the primary emphasis remained on antenatal and postnatal care as well as outpatient services for mothers and children. The introduction of free bus services to transport mothers and children, particularly Malays, from rural and remote areas to welfare centres further illustrates the paternalistic logic underpinning these initiatives, positioning the colonial state as both provider and arbiter of appropriate healthcare.

Finally, the use of cinematograph film screenings as a public health education tool reveals the extent to which propaganda and persuasion were integrated into colonial medical policy. Films addressing infant care and tuberculosis in a local setting and featuring actors, were intended to enhance relatability and acceptance. In Selangor, the inclusion of the Sultan of Selangor in the final scene of the film *Aminah* exemplifies the strategic mobilisation of traditional authority to legitimize colonial health messages and reinforce compliance.

This writing is extracted from a paper presented at the *Unveiling Selangor's Identity* Webinar Series 3, held on 15–16 December 2020



The Anatomical Pathology Museum

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Diseases have always fascinated man in a morbid way. Illnesses with debilitating symptoms in primitive folk would have been a source of great concern as it could lead to starvation when members are unable to source for food or even death when they are too weak to defend from predators. Later, more "enlightened" communities regarded diseases as the work of the devil and evil spirits, even blaming plagues and epidemics as evidence of the wrath of God on man – invariably leading to great loss of life and even major shifts in world hierarchy.

Luckily for us in the modern era, we now know much more about the causes of various diseases and indeed, modern technologies and advancements have allowed modern societies to come up with preventions and cures. However, many diseases still remain a mystery and the cure for cancer still eludes us.

An essential tool in this on-going war against diseases is the study of Pathology. Pathology is a clinical specialty that encompasses examination of the patient and diseased system (anatomical pathology, chemical pathology, forensic pathology, haematopathology and microbiology), thus allowing a Pathologist to work out a diagnosis of the patient's condition so that the clinician can start treatment. Anatomical Pathology involves studying tissues and cells, and a trained Anatomical Pathologist can often formulate differential diagnoses just by gross examination of the diseased organ or resected tumour. Further microscopic examination of the sampled tissue, along with ancillary tests, help confirm diagnosis and provide additional information for the clinician, e.g. clearance of resection margin, tumour differentiation, molecular markers for targeted therapy. To facilitate this process, the Anatomical Pathology Museum was born and

has become an important feature of reputable medical schools.

The earliest Pathology or Medical Museums were more like museums of curiosity serving more to titillate and entertain. However, as medical healthcare practice and education progressed, the value of these museums changed. Now, such museums not only serve to train doctors (and the public) by advancing knowledge in the recognition of diseases, but they are also an important part of our heritage. Along with careful records of other historical events, such museums serve as reminders of the challenges a nation has undergone in order to achieve current level of healthcare and prosperity for its population, preserving the achievements and sacrifices of its people and allowing younger generations to appreciate the history.

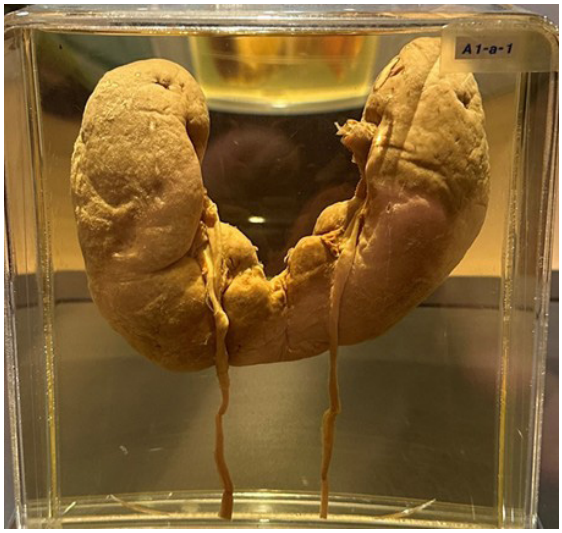
Some of the diseased conditions displayed, e.g. leprosy, are now so rare that many doctors may not diagnose a case in their lifetime. Some diseases, e.g. tuberculosis, have been prevalent since the ancient Egyptians and remain a serious scourge in modern times. Preservation of such samples serves a continuous living history for medical healthcare professionals as well as the public.

The Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum of the Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya (UM), was officially opened in 2025 and represents the combined efforts of the Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of History, UM. Exhibits from the original Pathology Museum are rotated as part of the main exhibits of the Medical Museum. The Pathology Museum exhibits, or pots, are created from post-surgical specimens obtained via Standard Operating Procedures established under UM Medical Centre. These organs are carefully prepared and then inserted into clear Perspex containers, fixed in ways that allow the specimens to be viewed from all angles.

These Perspex pots are then filled with Kaiserling solution. Smaller pots are filled using a syringe in a fume cabinet while observing proper personal safety protocols. Larger pots are filled using a peristaltic pump.



The original Pathology Museum of the Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya, contains almost 2000 specimens.



The horseshoe kidney was first described by Jacopo Berengario da Carpi during autopsies in 1522. The frequency of this condition is about 1 per 400 - 600 births and occurs more often in men (2:1 ratio).



Syringing Kaiserling solution into a small Perspex pot in a fume cabinet.

As time passes, depending on the type of tissues that make up the specimen, the solution may become discoloured and will need to be changed. Bits of degenerate material may also flake off the specimen leaving sludge and debris that may obscure the clear Perspex. Maintenance of the hundreds of specimen pots is an ongoing and never-ending responsibility that requires dedication, skill and perseverance.



Pot containing stomach cancer showing discoloured Kaiserling (left) and clear Kaiserling (right) solution.

The Anatomy Resource Centre UM is now an important component of the Tan Sri Dr Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum. Together with the Faculty of History of UM and other collaborators, the Medical Museum strives to celebrate our nation's history by cataloguing each advancement and recording as well as acknowledging the sacrifices and achievements of its citizens – hopefully serving as the conscience of the community and to teach new generations of doctors to appreciate and learn from the past while pursuing their dreams for the future.



Preservation in Natural History and Medical Museums: Why is it Important?

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Introduction

Museums are institutions of great importance when it comes to conservation, research and the spreading of knowledge to the general public. In the context of Natural History Museums and Medical Museums, collections that are preserved are mainly biological and anatomical specimens that require specific techniques in order to extend the preserved specimens lifespan. The work put into each specimen is not merely to keep its physical shape intact; it is more so to retain its biological records for the study of anatomy, allowing researchers now and in the future to identify species that are harmful or beneficial to humanity and even monitor genetic changes that may impact public health.

According to Gary Edson and David Dean (1996), the management of specimens is one of the main foundations of these museums, as it is a means to seek biological references for research and education. In the context of Natural History Museums and Medical Museums, most specimens are organic matter that easily decays should there be no proper preservation techniques in place. It is therefore vital that museums have put in place stringent techniques and procedures, enabling both the physical and biological aspects of specimens to be preserved for a long time.

Preservation in Natural History Museums

Natural History Museums keep a vast collection in relation to biodiversity and its historical value on earth. These collections include vertebrates, invertebrates, plants, fossils, minerals and microorganisms. These specimens are collected via scientific expeditions, fieldwork, or gifted by individuals, researchers and academic institutions.

The preservation techniques used by Natural History Museums very much depend on the type of specimen. Over the years, museums have adapted various techniques to prolong the lifespan of specimens. These include the well-known taxidermy technique for vertebrates, wet preservation in alcohol or formalin for invertebrates, dry preservation for plants in herbariums, and skeletal articulation for the purpose of anatomical comparison.

It is therefore apt that Natural History Museums be acknowledged globally as the

world's biodiversity record centres. Their collection of specimens evidently provides geographical and morphological information, including species variation and adaptation over the years. These vital inputs are crucial for evolutionary and climatological studies, including the monitoring of species extinction (Keene, 2005).

One notable example of a well-known museum would be the Natural History Museum of London. It is considered the largest natural history research institution, housing over 80 million specimens of all sorts. One of the best-known successes of the Natural History Museum of London is that new species of flora and fauna continue to be discovered regularly through the specimen comparison work carried out by this museum. Aside from this, the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in the United States, which houses millions of specimens collected and preserved since the early 19th century, is also known for its global biodiversity research efforts.

Preservation in Medical Museums

Medical Museums, on the other hand, vary in their objectives and focus. The collections found in Medical Museums cover human biology, disease pathology, and the historical advancement of medicine and healthcare (Cooter & Roger, 1997). These museums serve as a critical educational tool in the field of medicine and greatly benefit medical students, professionals and even the public, allowing them to visually and hands-on understand the human body, disease progression, its effects, and the advancement of medical treatments, techniques and tools over the years (Davies & Carolyn, 2000).

Specimens that are extensively exhibited in Medical Museums include human organs, skeletons and anatomical models affected by diseases or deformities. Preservation work in Medical Museums therefore, involves more complex techniques, as it deals with human tissue. Without proper care, these specimens will be easily affected by decay. Besides the regular formalin solution used in preservation, Medical Museums utilise the plastination technique on biological specimens, where water and fat in tissues are replaced with a liquid polymer. The specimen becomes dry, odourless, and durable once hardened using gas, light, or heat for ease of handling (Pashaei, 2010).

One can witness the marvel of medical history and advancement at the world-renowned Hunterian Museum in London, where thousands of anatomical and pathological specimens are housed. This museum was founded by John Hunter in the 18th century and provides the world with a glimpse into the history of medicine and how doctors in the field of medicine have advanced over the years. Another renowned Medical Museum is the Museo Anatomico (University of Padua) located in Padova, Italy. This museum is one of the oldest anatomy museums in the world and houses collections dating as far back as the 16th century.

Importance for Education and Research

Preserving specimens provides significant value for learning and research across a wide range of scientific fields. In Natural History Museums, these specimens allow students and visitors to see the actual form of organisms, including those that are rare or difficult to observe in their natural habitats. This direct exposure deepens understanding of the variety of life on earth.

Museum collections also play a crucial role in scientific studies. Many taxonomic and ecological investigations rely on specimens stored in museums as reference material to identify and classify new species. Without maintaining these collections carefully, recognising and documenting species would be far more challenging.

In medical education, preserved anatomical specimens are invaluable for helping students grasp the structure and organisation of the human body. Even with the increasing use of digital models and simulations, real specimens remain a fundamental resource for learning, offering

details that cannot always be captured virtually.

Modern scientific techniques, such as DNA analysis, have further increased the relevance of museum collections. Specimens preserved centuries ago can now be studied genetically, providing insights into species evolution, genetic variation, and long-term changes in biodiversity.

Importance of Ethical Practices in Museum Preservation

Natural History and Medical Museums play a vital role in education and research, but their work must also be grounded in ethical responsibility. Preserving specimens is not just about scientific utility; it also requires careful ethical consideration to respect human and cultural rights.

Historically, museums sometimes collected human remains, tissues, and cultural artefacts without consent, particularly from marginalised or colonised communities. Medical Museums are known to preserve organs and skeletal material without informing donors or families, while Natural History specimens were occasionally acquired with poor provenance documentation. Such practices are now widely recognised as unethical because they violate the rights of individuals and communities (Camara, 2020).

Today, museums follow frameworks like the ICOM Code of Ethics and repatriation policies to ensure transparent stewardship of collections. Ethical standards will help strengthen scientific credibility, public trust, and respect for both human and natural heritage (ICOM, 2004; Journal of Cultural Heritage, 2025).

Conclusion

In essence, the sustainable, ethical, and carefully managed preservation practices are essential for safeguarding the world's scientific and natural heritage. They ensure that future generations can continue to learn and benefit from these invaluable collections. Natural History and Medical Museums, therefore, stand as unique repositories of scientific evidence, offering tangible proof of the critical role that preservation plays in understanding the natural world and the history of medicine today.


The museum you don't really know about

by Shaik Osman Majid

In 1960s, taxidermy was one of the key preservation methods used in preparing specimens for the Natural History Gallery at Jabatan Muzium Negara.



Bone articulation is another method used to preserve animal skeletons for display and reference purposes.



Natural History specimens are important educational resources that support learning among visitors of all ages.

The Silent Mentor Programme

Written by Tan Aik Kai
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Endorsed by Mr. Sia Thiam Eng
Manager, The Silent Mentor Programme UM

The Silent Mentor Programme (SMP) is a body donation initiative introduced by Tzu Chi University in Taiwan, through which individuals may voluntarily pledge to donate their bodies to medical schools after death. Donated bodies are meticulously preserved and used for medical education and surgical simulation workshops, providing students with invaluable hands-on learning experiences. Beyond enhancing technical and clinical competence, the programme places strong emphasis on cultivating compassion, humility, and respect. Donors are honoured as *"Silent Mentors"* in recognition of their selfless contribution, as they become the first "patients" who teach students about the human body and the dignity of life through dissection and surgical training.

The origins of the Silent Mentor Programme date back to 1995, when it was established to foster a more humanistic culture within the dissection room. The program was inspired by the teachings of Dharma Master Cheng Yen, who emphasised that life should continue to serve others even after death. The first Silent Mentor was Mrs. Hui-Min Lin, a devoted Tzu Chi volunteer from Taiwan. A pivotal role in the development and structuring of the programme was played by Professor Guo-Fang Tseng, a distinguished Professor of Anatomy at Tzu Chi University. Observing a gap between technical clinical training and compassionate patient care, Professor Tseng envisioned a curriculum in which students would not only acquire surgical skills but also learn to cherish life and honour those who generously donated their bodies for medical education.

In line with this vision, Professor Tseng advocated replacing impersonal dissection practices with a ritual-based, empathy-centred approach to anatomical education. Students are encouraged to visit the mentors' families, learn about their life stories, write reflective accounts, and participate in solemn ceremonies of farewell and gratitude. Supported by Tzu Chi University, the Tzu Chi



The 40th Silent Mentor Workshop – Dressing and Coffining Ceremony with the Silent Mentor Team



The 40th Silent Mentor Workshop – Otorhinolaryngology Research and Surgical Training

Foundation, and an expanding network of volunteers, the programme gradually evolved beyond a conventional teaching module into a living philosophy of appreciation and respect.

Transparency is another foundational principle of the SMP. Donor families are invited to witness the entire process, from body donation and preservation to the final farewell, thereby fostering trust and mutual understanding. Professor Tseng frequently explains to families that their loved ones are treated with the same dignity and care afforded to patients preparing for surgery. At its core, the SMP maintains a careful balance between technical training and humanistic care, enabling students to acquire surgical skills while also accompanying their mentors through story, memory, and a final act of gratitude.

Each Silent Mentor workshop typically runs over five days. Before the workshop begins, students meet with the donor's family and are introduced to the mentor's life story. An initiation ceremony, led by a Christian priest, or Buddhist reverend, is held to offer final rites and blessings. Practical hands-on training continues over four days in the dissection or surgical lab. On the final day of practical work, students carefully examine and close all wounds, dress their Silent Mentor with dignity, and place the body in a specially designed coffin as a gesture of deep gratitude.

On Day 5, a gratitude ceremony is held at the medical school. Students and trainers involved in the workshop express their appreciation to the Silent Mentor and their family. The mentor is then accompanied by students, faculty members, relatives, and Tzu Chi volunteers on their final journey to the crematorium at Nilai Memorial Park. After cremation, the family collects the ashes for further arrangements. At this point, the programme cycle is complete, and the wishes of the Silent Mentor to continue serving others even after death have been fulfilled.

At Universiti Malaya, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Universiti Malaya and Tzu Chi University of Taiwan laid the foundation for introducing the SMP. The Silent Mentor Centre was officially established at the Faculty of Medicine on 23 March 2012.



The 39th Silent Mentor Workshop – Gratitude Ceremony

The centre coordinates training for medical students, doctors, and surgeons through this unique body donation programme. It aims not only to produce knowledgeable and skilled medical professionals, but also to cultivate empathy and compassion. The centre further encourages public participation in medical education by inviting individuals to register as donors and supports research using Silent Mentors to better understand the nature and management of various diseases.

In 2019, the Silent Mentor Corridor was created to honour the contributions of donors. This corridor, which connects the Faculty of Medicine to the Universiti Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC), prominently displays the names of the first hundred Silent Mentors on its walls. To date, more than 2,000 individuals have registered as donors, and over 180 Silent Mentors have contributed to medical education through this programme.



Epilogue from the curator

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Assalamualaikum and greetings to the guests of the Medical Museum. Welcome to Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum, where history, medicine, and humanity converge to explore the profound connections between the evolution of healthcare and its impact on society. Our museum is dedicated to the preservation, exploration, and celebration of medical knowledge, both historical and contemporary.

First, I want to embrace my sweet story about the medical museum work as the new Curator for this Medical Museum. When I first stepped into the halls of the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum, the walls were still bare, and the space echoed with possibilities. I couldn't help but feel an overwhelming sense of responsibility and excitement. This wasn't just about assembling artifacts and exhibits. It was about telling a story, one that connected the past, present, and future of medicine, and more importantly, the people behind those stories.

I remember the first specimen that I saw in the old Pathology Museum, an old Siamese Twin from the early 1965s. It rested





quietly in its glass case, suspended in fluid, preserved not just as a medical curiosity but as a moment in time, a story of two lives impossibly intertwined. As I stood before it, a mix of emotions surged through me curiosity, awe, and an unmistakable pang of sorrow. The first thing that struck me wasn't the clinical detail, but the humanity behind it. Here were two tiny, fragile lives that never had the chance to grow, play, or experience the world beyond that small space they shared. The bodies were perfectly formed, but impossibly linked, as if they were trying to tell a story not just about biology, but about the shared fate that brought them into the world and ended their brief time in it.

One of the sweetest moments during this journey happened when the task force team came together to help me establish the museum. It was a day I'll never forget not because of the artifacts or the deadlines we were racing to meet, but because of the sense of camaraderie, support, and shared purpose that filled the room. We had been working tirelessly for months, each of us focused on our own areas of expertise researching, cataloguing, designing exhibits. The weight of the project felt heavy at times, as there was so much to be done to bring the vision of the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum to life. The task force team comprising professors, historians, curators, and administrators gathered in the main gallery. Boxes of artifacts and display materials were scattered around the room, and we were all a bit anxious about how everything would come together. But instead of each person sticking to their own task, something magical unfolded: the whole team began to pitch in, side by side.

Besides sharing the general information of the specimen, Mr. Rizqullah Al. Bariq Azmi, curator of the museum, shared the interesting story behind the specimen to the students.

Curating this Medical Museum has been more than just about finding objects and writing descriptions. It's been about the quiet moments like the day I sat with an elderly physician, who, with tears in his eyes, donated his first medical bag. It had travelled with him through war zones, clinics, and rural villages, bringing life-saving care to those in need. His hands trembled as he handed it to me, and I realized that this museum wasn't just a collection of items, it was a collection of lives, stories, and legacies. This institution represents more than just a collection of medical artifacts; it embodies a commitment to education and engagement through interactive exhibits and innovative displays that bring the story of medicine to life. The transformation of the ARC Anatomy Resource Centre into an interactive medical museum was a collaborative effort that drew upon the expertise of medical professionals, historians, anthropologists, and museum specialists.

Through this interdisciplinary approach, we've created a space where science, history, and culture intersect.

Our exhibits in the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum span a wide range of fascinating and educational topics, with a special focus on the interconnected fields of Anatomy and Pathology. These two departments serve as the foundation for understanding the human body, how it functions in health and how it breaks down in disease. At our medical museum exhibit, we already represent all 400 specimens from the various category Anatomy and Pathology specimens. The cycle of life concept museum developed by Professor Madya Dr. Julia Patrick Engkasan played a big role in bringing the specimen back to the real-life health issue. Beside the specimen exhibit, we also have the various artifacts from the old medical equipment including the historical facts about the medical history in our country. I hope this exhibit will be useful for the visitor to understand more about the link between Medical and Humanities. This reflects our mission that Medical Humanities will provide us a deeper understanding of how medical science influences and is influenced by cultural, social, and historical contexts.

Besides sharing the concept of exhibition, Mr. Rizqullah Al. Bariq Azmi, curator of the museum also helps the student to understand each phrase of human life.

Moreover, this museum was conceived as an evolving educational resource. It is designed not only to engage medical professionals and students but also to foster a deeper public understanding of healthcare. Our collection is constantly growing, and as we move toward the digital age, our virtual initiatives will ensure that the museum's resources are accessible to a global audience.

As the curator, I am honoured to oversee this remarkable project. Together with a dedicated team, we aim to continue developing this museum into a premier institution for medical history and education. Whether you are a student, a healthcare professional, or simply a curious visitor, I hope that your experience here will inspire you to reflect on the vital relationship between medicine, humanity, and the future of healthcare. For me, this museum is a tribute to the resilience of the human spirit, and my hope is that every visitor walks away feeling inspired by the extraordinary journey of medicine, a journey that continues to save lives and shape our world!

We invite you to explore, engage, and discover the rich heritage of medical science.

VISITOR'S INFORMATION

Location of the museum

The museum is located at the Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya.

Planning for a Visit

The visiting time for the museum is 9:00 am until 4:00 pm during working days.

Last admission for visitors entering the museum is at 3:30pm.

The Museum is accessible for wheelchair users. Please do email us in advance if you are using a wheelchair as we need to provide directions to the accessible drop-off point.

Booking a Guided Tour

Our museum provides guided tours to enhance the visits of visitors in the museum.

Guided Tour will be applicable for a group of more than 15 pax.



This package is strictly on an appointment basis, preferably made at least 2 weeks in advance.



This guided tour package includes tour of the museum and interactive activities. The tour package will take approximately 90 minutes

Email us at fommedicalmuseum@um.edu.my to book the guided tour booking

Advice and Restriction

Age: The museum contains human remains which may be upsetting for some people. The recommended age for visiting the Museums is 7 years old and above. Children under the age of 7 must be accompanied by adults. Parents are asked to use their discretion when deciding to bring younger children to the museum.

Photography: No photography or filming of any kind is permitted in the main exhibition area. This is to respect the individuals in our collections; However, you may take photos at the museum counter, Interactive Learning area, the Gallery or in other areas where there is no human specimen.

Food or drink: Not allowed in the museum

Conduct: Visitors are expected to maintain respectful behaviour, considering the educational and sensitive nature of the displays.

Follow us on our official website and social media account below for more updates in the future:

- Web page: https://medicine.um.edu.my/fom-museum
- Instagram: tslwc_medical_museum
- Facebook: Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum

Acknowledgement

As we celebrate the one-year anniversary of our Medical Museum, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all those who have contributed to making this vision a reality. Your unwavering support, dedication, and expertise have been invaluable in bringing this project to life.

To our researchers, curators, and volunteers, thank you for your tireless efforts and passion for advancing medical knowledge. Your commitment to educating and inspiring future generations is truly commendable.

We would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to all individuals and organisations whose dedication and support made the establishment and successful launch of the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum possible. The following individuals and groups have played significant roles in bringing this vision to life:

1. Professor Dato' Seri Ir. Dr. Noor Azuan Abu Osman, Vice Chancellor, Universiti Malaya
2. Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai, Founder and Executive Chairman, Top Glove Corporation Bhd.
3. Professor Dato' Dr. Yang Faridah Abdul Aziz, Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya
4. Datuk Professor Dr. Danny Wong Tze Ken, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Universiti Malaya
5. Professor Dato' Dr. April Camilla Roslani, Former Dean, Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya
6. Professor Dr. Julia Patrick Engkasan, Director, Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum, Universiti Malaya
7. Associate Professor Dr. Man Kein Seong @ Mun Kein Seong, Head, Department of Pathology, Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya
8. Dr Intan Suhana Zulkafli, Head, Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya
9. Dr. Vilashini Somiah, Head, Gender Studies Program, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Universiti Malaya
10. Dr. Noraini Mohamed Hassan, Senior Lecturer, Department of History, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Universiti Malaya
11. Dr. Nur Dayana Mohamed Ariffin, Senior Lecturer, Department of History, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Universiti Malaya
12. Dr. Tan Miau Ing, Senior Lecturer, Department of History, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Universiti Malaya
13. Mr. Rizqullah Al. Bariq Azmi, Curator, Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum, Universiti Malaya
14. Mr. Abd Aziz Rashid, Project Manager, Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum, Universiti Malaya
15. Mr. Abdul Rahman Awang Senik, Photographer, Visibility, Informa tion and Communication (VICFOM), Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya
16. Mr. Muhamad Zulhilmi Mohamad Zaini, Photographer, Visibility, Information and Communication (VICFOM), Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya

We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to our interns who has contributed to the development and publication of this special edition of the magazine. Your commitment, creativity, and teamwork have made this publication possible, capturing the remarkable journey behind the establishment of the Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum. The following individuals and teams deserve special recognition for their dedication and support:

1. Muhamad Faiz Azrin bin Sapuwan, Intern, Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum, Universiti Malaya

2. Muhammad Faisal bin Zubir, Intern, Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum, Universiti Malaya
3. Muhammad Haziq bin Abdullah, Intern, Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum, Universiti Malaya
4. The late Tan Aik Kai, Intern, Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum, Universiti Malaya

A special thank you to our generous sponsors and partners. Your belief in our mission and your financial support have made this endeavour possible. We are deeply grateful for your commitment to enhancing public understanding of healthcare and its evolution.

Finally, to our visitors, thank you for joining us on this remarkable journey. Your curiosity and eagerness to learn will not only enrich your own experience but will also help create a vibrant atmosphere that encourages discovery and dialogue. Together, we shape the future of medical museums in Malaysia!

Photo Credit

1. Visibility, Information, and Communication Faculty of Medicine (VICFOM) Universiti Malaya
2. Mr. Rizqullah Al. Bariq Azmi
3. Mr. Muhmmad Faisal bin Zubir
4. Universiti Malaya Arts Gallery
5. Silent Mentor Centre Universiti Malaya
6. Department of Anatomy, Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya
7. Mr. Mohd Fadhli bin Yong
8. The Merdeka Award
9. The Malaysia Gazette
10. Corporate Communication Centre, Universiti Malaya
11. Ms. Mastura binti Mohamad Yusoff
12. Mr. Abdul Aziz Rashid

Published by
Tan Sri Dr. Lim Wee Chai Medical Museum
Clinical Skills Unit Building,
Faculty of Medicine,
Universiti Malaya
50603 Kuala Lumpur.

Designed and Printed by
Universiti Malaya Press
50603 Kuala Lumpur.

ISSN 2838-010X
9 772838 010001