

Housemen may train at medical university hospitals

KUALA LUMPUR — The Health Ministry is mulling over the idea of training medical housemen at private medical university hospitals should they fulfill the requirements set by the ministry, said Minister Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam.

He said among the requirements were having enough patients, beds and specialists departments.

"If all the requirements have been met,

then there should not be a problem for housemen to be trained there," he told a press conference after officiating at the International Medical University (IMU) ground-breaking ceremony for its first hospital here yesterday.

Dr Subramaniam said the idea was still being discussed and would be implemented in the near future.

IMU's chief executive officer and vice-

chancellor Professor Abdul Aziz Baba said at IMU, the patient was the centre of everything, from its processes and procedures to the way specialists were recruited.

"Patients will have access to the latest equipment and facilities and be treated by some of the country's best medical practitioners, by virtue of being part of a university," *Bernama* quoted him

as saying.

IMU Hospital, to cost between RM150 million and RM200 million, will be built on land adjacent to the university and is targeted to be operational in 2021.

Phase 1 of the hospital will have 96 inpatient beds with three operating theatres, an emergency room, 22 specialist clinics and two wellness clinics. It will expand gradually to a 312-bed hospital.



Anesthesiologist and neurologist departmental consultant Dr Premela Naidu Sitaram explains to Dr Subramaniam the ICU features (West Wing) during the official opening at Sungai Buloh Hospital yesterday. — Picture by Firdaus Latif