

## PRESS RELEASE

### CANCER RESEARCH MALAYSIA APPOINTS NEW CEO

KUALA LUMPUR, 7 April 2020 - Ms Janet Yap has been appointed as CEO of Cancer Research Malaysia, with Professor Datin Paduka Dr Teo Soo Hwang OBE remaining at the helm to focus on delivering impactful research programmes in Asian cancers.

Ms Yap was the Managing Director of Accenture and the lead for its CSR programmes for a number of years. She is also a strong proponent of Inclusion and Diversity and is a mentor to executive women in various programmes.

Ms Yap is also a Trustee of World Vision Malaysia, and a non-executive Director of OCBC Bank. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Arts, majoring in Computing & Information Science and Economics from the University of Guelph, Canada.

"I am delighted to announce Janet's appointment as Cancer Research Malaysia's new CEO. She is an outstanding and seasoned leader who will be bringing her expertise and experience in the corporate world to lead Cancer Research Malaysia in the next phase of achieving our mission of ensuring that the fight against cancer doesn't miss Asians," said Yang Bhg. Toh Puan Dato' Seri Hajah Dr Aishah Ong, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Professor Datin Paduka Dr Teo said, "Cancer Research Malaysia's research portfolio has grown and I am pleased to welcome Ms Janet Yap to the team. Over the past 15 years, Cancer Research Malaysia has had a scientist at the helm and with the growth of its research portfolio, the appointment of a strategic thinker with a heart will enable us to chart a brighter and more sustainable future for the organisation."

Ms Yap said, "I believe 'All we have to decide is what to do with the time given to us'. Having received much blessings in my life, I look forward to the opportunity to pay it forward. I am a nerd at heart and the science at Cancer Research Malaysia appeals to me. With this role, I hope to marry my corporate experience with the scientific knowledge at Cancer Research Malaysia to bring about a significant impact to the Asian community, not just for cancer patients but to their families and loved ones as well."

The appointment of Ms Yap as CEO amidst global economic quandary is critical as research progresses and presents possible commercial and translational opportunities which will have a great impact on treating Asian cancers. In view of the number of research programmes under Cancer Research Malaysia gaining international significance, Ms Yap's role as CEO serves as a vital component in the growth trajectory of the organisation. These research programmes include a new cancer vaccine that is going into human clinical trials, a new method to accurately personalise treatment for Asian cancer patients that will be opening for clinical trials later this year, patient navigation programmes that are improving survival for low income cancer patients in the country and genetic counselling programmes that has increased access to essential services from 4% to 65%.

Ms Yap will work together with Professor Datin Paduka Dr Teo Soo Hwang OBE who will assume the role of Chief Scientific Officer. As CSO, Professor Dr Teo will continue to play an

important role in driving the organisation's scientific programmes to achieve results that will translate into better prevention, detection, treatment and survival for cancer patients here in Asia. With the appointments of Ms Yap as CEO and Professor Dr Teo as CSO, the organisation is set to continue breaking barriers and making headwinds in research.

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### **About Cancer Research Malaysia**

Cancer Research Malaysia is a Malaysian charity dedicated to saving lives through research, focusing on Asians. Cancer Research Malaysia is reliant entirely on research grants and charitable donations from the public and corporates for its life-saving research. Cancer Research Malaysia has been at the heart of making sure that research does not miss Asians and its research includes the discovery of new therapies, the development of precision medicine for Asians and ensuring that there is access to life-saving therapies. Together with its partners and supporters, Cancer Research Malaysia's vision is a future free of the fear of cancer. For more information, visit us at [www.cancerresearch.my](http://www.cancerresearch.my) or follow us at

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