



**OPENING ADDRESS AND OFFICIAL LAUNCHING OF  
WOMEN & CHILDREN'S CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE**

**YB. DATO' SRI HAJAH NANCY HAJI SHUKRI  
MINISTER OF WOMEN, FAMILY & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

**KPJ DAMANSARA SPECIALIST HOSPITAL, DAMANSARA UTAMA  
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Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim

Assalamualaikum Warahmatullahi Wabarakatuh,

And a very good morning to everyone

**(SALUTATIONS)**

**SALUTATIONS WILL BE PROVIDED**

1. First of all, thank you KPJ Healthcare for inviting me to say a few words today at the launch of **the Women & Children's Centre at KPJ Damansara Specialist Hospital.**
2. On behalf of the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development (KPWKM), I would like to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the hospital and everyone who has contributed towards the successful establishment of this centre.

3. I believe this is a significant milestone in our collective efforts to improve the well-being of women and children in Malaysia.

The Women & Children's Centre of Excellence is not just a place for medical treatment, but also provides a safe and nurturing environment where our women and children can feel loved and cared for during their time of need.

## **Importance of Meeting the Unique Health Needs of Women and Children**

Ladies and gentlemen,

4. As part of the Ministry that oversees women, families and communities, it is my utmost priority to protect and safeguard our communities, especially the women and children of Malaysia, which entails ensuring that all women and children have access to the necessary resources and services to improve their health, safety, and well-being.

5. In Malaysia, we have made great strides in improving our healthcare system, but there are still areas that require our attention. **Women and children, in particular, need specialised care and support.** A woman's body differs critically from a man's in both structure and function, and a child's body doesn't fully mimic an adult's.
6. This is why the establishment of Women & Children's Centres around the country is so important. It provides a dedicated space where they can receive the comprehensive and compassionate services to meet their unique health needs.

7. Aside from providing medical treatment, the centre is intended to support and enhance the most up-to-date, evidence-based models of care, with improved integration of services and the space to offer innovative patient-centered care including counseling, educational programmes, and advocacy initiatives.

8. We understand that healthcare is not just about physical well-being but also encompasses mental and emotional well-being. Through this centre, we aim to address the holistic needs of women and children and empower them to lead healthy and fulfilling lives.
  
9. I am proud of the exceptional people who pulled together to achieve this important milestone for KPJ Healthcare, which represents a new standard of care for the community.



## **Enhancing Collaboration Between the Public & Private Sectors**

Ladies and gentlemen,

10. Despite global progress, the World Health Organisation (WHO) states that nearly 6 million children die annually before age 5, with 4.5 million deaths within their first year. These deaths, mainly from preterm birth complications, pneumonia, and intrapartum-related events, are mostly preventable.

11. In addition to that, over 300,000 women who die annually due to pregnancy and childbirth related causes are from low-and middle-income countries. Many of these deaths can be preventable with proper healthcare, skilled birth attendants and emergency obstetric care.
  
12. As we push towards advancing Malaysia, KPWKM is here to back initiatives that benefits our valued stakeholdersThe Women & Children's Centre stands as a solid example of this dedication. It's a place meant to provide Malaysians with the care they rightfully deserve.

13. The establishment of this centre is not just a one-off effort. We will collaborate closely with KPJ Damansara Specialist Hospital and other healthcare providers to ensure the continuous success of the Women & Children's Centre.

Ladies and gentlemen,

14. I would like to once again commend KPJ Damansara Specialist Hospital for setting up this centre and for recognising the importance of women and children's health.

15. We're attuned to evolving women's needs, from pre-care to post-care. Communities rely on providers like KPJ Healthcare to set the women's and children's health standard.
  
16. Congratulations on launching the Women & Children's Centre of Excellence! My sincere gratitude to the dedicated healthcare professionals, staff, and volunteers ensuring its success. Together, let's keep striving for a healthier Malaysia for our women, children, and generations to come.

17. With that, I would like to officially launch the KPJ Damansara Specialist Hospital Women & Children's Centre of Excellence. I wish you a pleasant and enlightening day ahead.

Thank you.