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## **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: THE FUTURE OF DENTISTRY**

*Q & M shares about the future implementation of AI technology at its newest outlet launch*

**SINGAPORE, 3 DECEMBER 2019** – Dental and oral healthcare is an essential part of one’s overall health and wellbeing with a long history dating way back to more than 4000 years ago, and has been constantly evolving throughout history. In this day and age, the cutting-edge technology of artificial intelligence (AI) is the future in dentistry. Q & M Dental Group, the leading private dental healthcare group in the region has unfolded its plans on AI technology’s future implementations and developments at the launch of their newest clinic at EkoCheras Mall, Kuala Lumpur.

From a single clinic in 1996, Q & M has become the largest private dental healthcare group in Singapore with up to 78 dental clinics located island-wide. Besides Singapore, Q & M has also expanded its presence geographically and vertically through the value chain in Malaysia and China. Since the establishment of Malaysia’s first Q & M clinic in 2010, they now have 30 clinics with 130 staff supporting all clinics inclusive of general dentists and dental specialists. Today, Q & M Dental Group is proud to present its latest addition in the Malaysian market.

At the launch, Dr Ng Chin Siau, Group CEO of Q & M Dental Group and Professor Toh Chooi Gait, Pro Vice Chancellor (Strategic Development and International) at International Medical University (IMU), shared that the AI system will assist to prevent misdiagnosis through automatic radiographic interpretation and form automated treatment plans from current best practices. With the AI system that is being developed in collaboration with IMU, Q & M wishes to promote ethical dentistry in the industry, and bring accessible and quality dental healthcare to everyone.

“We feel that AI tech could be used to fill in the gap in patient care as it can help to provide the best treatment plans for patient outcomes, and give a holistic analysis of the patient’s dental conditions and symptoms,” said Dr Ng.

Professor Toh also added, “This system will assist in making sound clinical decisions, evidence based practice and enhance communication with the patients. For patients, they can be assured of more accurate diagnosis and best treatment options while avoiding possible errors based on personal judgement and bias.”

In the tête-à-tête session, Dr Ng also shared some insights on the general dental health of Malaysians, saying that “Awareness and the knowledge of good dental oral healthcare regime in the country can be further improved. Even in major cities and urban areas, it may still be a challenge as oral health is not regarded as an important part of overall well-being”.

In light of this, Q & M hopes that by introducing AI technology, more people will be encouraged and feel confident to get regular dental checkups to keep their dental and oral healthcare in check.

Apart from providing excellent services to the community, Q & M is also very passionate in grooming young talents. In October 2019, Q & M is proud to announce the official opening of Q & M College of Dentistry, a private college that offers postgraduate diploma studies in clinical dentistry. The college offers premier postgraduate dental education, covering 9 modules in: orthodontics, endodontics, implantology, periodontics, laser dentistry, oral & maxillofacial surgery, CAD/CAM dentistry & digital dentistry,



prosthodontics and restorative dentistry, and patient management & ethics in dentistry. This graduate diploma course is a very structured program that includes lectures, hands-on instructions and treating patients under the supervision of clinical instructors.

“With the setting up of Q & M College of Dentistry, we hope to create a new generation of competent dentists with added expertise in advanced surgical skills. Apart from dentists in Singapore, the college could also enrol interested practitioners in Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia and China,” Dr Ng added.

Q & M Dental Group will continue to pursue organic expansion in its existing markets of Singapore, Malaysia and China, along with working on acquisition opportunities for large and established dental institutions and dental supply manufacturers in the region. The group will also be actively exploring good local working partners in SEA countries like Thailand, Cambodia, Myanmar and Vietnam in the next few years. It is partnering Enterprise Singapore, the government agency working with Singapore companies to build capabilities and internationalise, on its growth expansion plans. The group is part of the agency’s Scale-up SG programme that aims to help aspiring, high-growth Singapore companies scale rapidly.

The launch was attended by Mr Png Cheong Boon, CEO of Enterprise Singapore, Dr. Ng Chin Siau, Group CEO of Q & M Dental Group, Professor Toh Chooi Gait, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the International Medical University, business partners of Q & M Dental Group and members of the media.

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