



AN ECO-HOSPITAL

Amanjaya Specialist Hospital is Malaysia's first green hospital and has been awarded the Silver rating by Green Building Index (GBI) Sdn. Bhd. Situated in Sungai Petani, Kedah, the Amanjaya Specialist Hospital was set up in 2005 by Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, Dr. Tan Chiang Hooi.

"Our founder, Dr. Tan, who is also the Managing Director of the hospital, is passionate about creating an affordable healthcare center in an eco-friendly environment," says General and Engineering Manager of Amanjaya Specialist Center Alex Kang Swee Long.

Starting out as a 19-bed hospital, it is now a trailblazer in the green development scene in Malaysia, particularly in healthcare. "The fact that we are the first to successfully build and operate a GBI certified hospital in Malaysia, should serve as an example for other healthcare players to seriously consider

this option when it comes to constructing new hospitals in the future," Kang stresses.

There are several reasons that inspired and initiated the development of the hospital. Kang shares that, "Our intention for setting up an environment-friendly hospital is to reduce energy consumption. This is because a hospital has high energy consumption as it operates 24 hours a day. We also hope to create an green environment that will enhance a patient's recovery."

THE GREEN PERKS

To be certified a green building, it is important that every step and decision made must not compromise the environment or the health of the people. "Some of the initiatives the hospital has taken to preserve the environment is to install a Solar Photovoltaic (PV) system which generates electricity without greenhouse gas emissions and hence, does not contribute to global warming. Another initiative that we've taken is to

have a recycling water system derived from rainwater and air-con condensate water for the purpose of irrigation. This significantly saves water," shares Kang.

By taking these green initiatives, Amanjaya Specialist Hospital has also seen a long list of benefits for the hospital and the environment. "There are many folds," says Kang. "The benefits of establishing a green building includes enhancing our patients' health and comfort, improving indoor air quality, reducing carbon dioxide (CO²) emission, improving water conservation. We also hope to achieve low operating and maintenance cost in the long run."

Preserving the environment is not a one-off initiative. In fact, it is important to ensure that this initiative is long-term practice and Amanjaya Specialist Center will ensure that they abide to their vision of a sustainable, green building. "We will continue to monitor our energy utilisation using an electronic monitoring system which we have installed," reveals Kang adding that the management of the hospital is always open to new and innovative ideas to strengthen the hospital's efficiency in energy management. "We are now sharing our success story with others at a local and regional level. Visits to the hospital by organisations and schools have also been organised to educate those who would like to learn more about a green hospital."

