

# From glut to shortage

**2010:** Malaysia had more than 30 medical schools and produced too many doctors for the available posts.

**2011:** MOH and MOHE imposed a five-year moratorium on establishing new medical schools and introducing new undergraduate medical programmes.

**Apr 2016:** The moratorium was extended by another five years to 2021

**Oct 2016:** Graduates faced waits of up to a year to begin their housemanship due to bottlenecks in positions and demand.

**Dec 2016:** MOH introduced the contract system as a temporary measure to manage the backlog of new medical graduates and doctors.

**2018:** MOH implemented a cap on the annual intake of medical students at 4,820 people annually to address the oversupply of medical graduates.

**2021:** 4,000 to 5,000 contract doctors protested the contract system on July 26 to push for its reform.

**2023:** PM Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim announced the government's aim to absorb 12,800 contract doctors into permanent service within three years.

