

## BIODATA

### **Professor Dr. Ong Kok Hai**

Professor Dr. Ong Kok Hai had his tertiary education in Canada and UK. On both occasions he was awarded international study scholarships. He lectured in the National University of Malaysia (UKM) Medical Faculty from 1977 and was seconded to University Sciences Malaysia (USM) to start the USM Medical School in 1979. At USM, he was involved in typhoid research which culminated in the invention of a rapid diagnostic test for typhoid fever. In 1995, with Malaysian Technology Development Corporation (MTDC) as a partner, he commercialized this test as “**Typhidot**” and started Malaysian Bio-Diagnostic Research Sdn. Bhd. (MBDr). The test is still used in many typhoid endemic countries. Prof. Ong also helped to commercialize many R&D products from USM. In 1992, Prof. Ong helped to start the International Medical University (IMU) and continued with his research. Today Prof. Ong continues with his research in enteric fever and is working on a rapid antigen detection test for *Brugia malayi*.