

Evolving the Subspecialty Cardiology Training

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The subspecialty of cardiology training in Indonesia is still evolving. Indonesia's system is marked by a dualism between university-based (Sp-2) and hospital-based fellowship pathways, both of which operate without unified (yet) terminology or accreditation, resulting in conceptual and regulatory ambiguities. This mirrors the broader complexities found in Indonesia's approach to advanced medical education, where rapid expansion in cardiology has not always been matched by standardization or global recognition.

Timely and relevant to this current situation, Munawar M. et al provides comprehensive, well-contextualized review of the evolving structure of cardiology subspecialty training in Indonesia.¹ They highlighted regulatory gaps, the fragmented dual-track system, and policy challenges, and offer globally benchmarked recommendations. Importantly, the paper's recommendations for a hybrid, competency-based system and unified regulations are timely for Indonesia's ambitions to become a regional leader in cardiovascular training. The call for reforms is especially relevant given the context of Indonesia's healthcare evolution, emerging regional competition, and the growing need to align with international standards. Overall, this review not only addresses technical and policy gaps, but also situates the Indonesian experience in a global perspective—serving as a catalyst for ongoing improvement in

subspecialty medical education.

While the pros and cons of university-based and hospital-based subspecialty training are not unique to Indonesia (it is indeed also found in most countries adopting this dual system), educational maturity can only be achieved if scientific and objective discussions take place. Serving as the peer journal of the Indonesian Heart Association, the Indonesian Journal of Cardiology (IJC) would like to contribute to this development by providing a platform for this kind of discussion.

Share Your Thoughts

Readers are strongly encouraged to engage with the perspectives and policy recommendations presented in this important paper. Please enjoy the article and, if you have thoughts, questions, or relevant experiences to share, consider submitting your comments as a “*Letter to the Editor*.” All correspondence for this new section can be sent by email to ijc@inaheart.org. Selected relevant letters will be published on the next edition of publication. Short comments are also welcome by replying to the post we will publish on the X platform (follow @ijc_inaheart) and/or the LinkedIn platform (Indonesian Journal of Cardiology).

References

1. Munawar M, Lubis AC, Setianto BY, Octoviono YH, Munawar A, Rifqi S, Widito S. Revisiting subspecialty training in cardiology in Indonesia: structural, regulatory, and global perspectives. *Indonesian J Cardiol.* 2025;46(4):139-42. doi:10.30701/ijc.1971.

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