

**Rising Cost Of Healthcare, Minimum Public Contribution Needed, Says Dr Mahathir
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SERDANG, Feb 15 (Bernama) -- Minimum public contribution is needed following the rising cost of healthcare in the country, former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

At present, he said the healthcare system in the country was non- contributory, which was started by the British and it was cheap where a cough medicine cost only one cent.

"Today, one capsule may cost as much as RM10 and if you have to take four capsules a day for five days, the government will not be able to support that.

"So, maybe there is a case for some contribution towards the cost of healthcare....It (healthcare) is very costly now where an operation can cost you RM100,000. How can the government support this?" he said when asked to comment on the proposed 1Care health system, here, Wednesday.

Earlier, Dr Mahathir, who is the chancellor of Perdana University (PU), delivered his vision for 2012 to university staff, faculty members and pioneer medical students of Perdana University Graduate School of Medicine (PUGSOM) and PU Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland School of Medicine (PU-RCSI).

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