

GREENRx INITIATIVE: EDUCATING ON RESPONSIBLE MEDICATION DISPOSAL

The issue of environmental pollution, particularly water pollution due to the improper disposal of toxic substances like medications, has become a pressing concern requiring urgent attention. The GreenRx Initiative aims to address this issue at its core by raising awareness and educating the public. The overarching goal is to encourage responsible medication disposal practices, ultimately preventing environmental damage, especially water pollution resulting from the inappropriate disposal of chemical medications. This campaign will be implemented in collaboration with the District Health Office (PKD) of Kuala Selangor and will target the residents in the surrounding areas. The participants are not only from the general public but also include vulnerable groups such as people with visual impairments who often miss out on the benefits of such programs due to the unsuitability of campaign materials and modules.

To achieve the goal, the GreenRx Initiative will implement various strategic actions. One of our key strategies involves creating awareness about the importance of medication compliance and the quality use of medications to avoid excess and waste. This involves educating the community on adhering to prescribed medication regimens and ensuring the appropriate use of medications. Emphasis will be placed on avoiding unnecessary excess and minimizing waste. Another crucial strategy is to raise awareness about the environmental impact of medication disposal, particularly emphasizing the implications for water pollution. The initiative recognizes that improper disposal of medications can lead to the contamination of water sources, posing a direct threat to aquatic ecosystems and, consequently, human health.

Additionally, the initiative aims to encourage awareness and the adoption of safe and environmentally friendly practices for medication disposal. This involves educating the community about proper disposal methods that minimize harm to the environment. Initiatives such as organized medication take-back programs, the use of designated disposal boxes, and guidance on eco-friendly disposal techniques will be promoted.



The GreenRx Initiative will conduct educational sessions at key locations, such as health clinics, supplemented by home visits to ensure the widespread dissemination of information about the importance of proper medication disposal. It will also leverage social media platforms like Facebook, Instagram, TikTok and X (formerly known as Twitter) to share information related to proper medication disposal. Engaging content in the form of images, infographics, and short videos will be created to convey easily understandable messages and tips. Furthermore, our initiative will implement medication disposal programs at health centers, pharmacies, and other public spaces. Special disposal boxes will be provided at strategic locations to facilitate proper medication disposal.

To measure the effectiveness of the campaign, various indicators such as participant involvement, increased community awareness, and the quantity of recycled medications, will be tracked. Surveys will be conducted to assess the knowledge, attitudes, and practices of the community before and after the GreenRx Initiative, providing valuable insights for future initiatives.

In conclusion, the "GreenRx Initiative: Educating on Responsible Medication Disposal" represents a dedicated effort to enhance awareness among the public and visually impaired individuals. Through a holistic approach involving educational materials, sessions, disposal programs, and collaboration, the initiative aims to instill safe and environmentally friendly medication disposal practices. This project is expected to commence in early 2024.



Mr. Muhammad 'Izzuddin Zamery
Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM

Issue 12/2023

PRESCRIPTION

Latest news and updates from the Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM



NEWSLETTER EDITORIAL TEAM

Editorial Advisor:

Prof. Dato' Dr. Abu Bakar Abdul Majeed

Authors:

Assoc. Professor Dr. Mahmathi Karuppanan, Dr. Nor Khaizan Anuar, Dr. Gurmeet Kaur Surindar Singh, Mr. Muhammad 'Izzuddin Zamery, Dr. Norkasihah Ibrahim, Dr. Khuriah Abdul Hamid, Mdm. Nor Zaleha Ishak, Mdm. Nor Hidayah Mohamed Mobin, Mdm. Siti Hanim Mohd Noor, Mr. Ahmad Assakir bin Ahmad Shukri, Mr. Muhammad Aliff Shahkirin Hamdan, Mr. Norzaharin Mohd Nor and Mr. Mohamad Fikrey Bin Ramli, Mr. Hafizy Akmal Hamzah, Mr. Mohd Shah Rezan bin Hamzah, Mdm. Nur Sabiha Md. Hussin

Illustrator:

Mdm. Nurul Izzati Ismail

PRESCRIPTION

Faculty of Pharmacy,
Universiti Teknologi MARA,
Kampus Puncak Alam,
42300 Bandar Puncak Alam, Selangor.

 @pharmacyuitm



 @pharmacy_uitm




 Faculty of Pharmacy UiTM



 <https://pharmacy.uitm.edu.my/>



 +603-3258 4645

 korporatff@uitm.edu.my