

Dissecting the Malaysian Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) 2023 for Heart Failure – What You Should Know?

By: Ms. Nurulfalihin Daud @ Ibrahim, Dr. Hanis Hanum Zulkifly & Dr. Gurmeet Kaur Surindar Singh

On April 17, 2024, our final year pharmacy students had the opportunity to engage in a talk programme, discussing the latest updates in heart failure management, which was delivered by two esteemed speakers, Dr. Raja Ezman Faridz bin Raja Shariff and Dr. Hanis Hanum Zulkifly. One of the speakers, Dr. Raja Ezman Faridz, is a consultant cardiologist at the Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) and has vast experience managing patients with heart failure. He is currently leading the heart failure services at the Clinical Training Centre (CTC), Sungai Buloh, Selangor. Meanwhile, Dr. Hanis Hanum is a Clinical Pharmacy Lecturer at the Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM Puncak Alam, where she also conducts research with a dedicated focus on the management of cardiovascular diseases, particularly heart failure. These two-hour lectures aimed at strengthening students' knowledge and understanding regarding the management of heart failure, focusing on the latest updates and important keynotes from the guidelines. This programme was officiated by Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Shahezwan Abd Wahab, who is the Deputy Dean of Academic Affairs, Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM.



In order to maximise the full benefit of the lecture, this programme was opened to other participants, targeting healthcare practitioners from various institutions, to join either physically or via online platform. A total of 99 participants, including UiTM staff had registered for the programme, showing their enthusiasm to learn about the updates on heart failure management. In addition, this programme opened their opportunities to connect with each other while delving into the intricacies of the latest Clinical Practice Guidelines for heart failure.

The topics delivered include the epidemiology of heart failure and tactical insights into the management of acute and chronic heart failure. These topics are part of the syllabus for the final year pharmacy students in their applied therapeutics course for cardiovascular and pulmonary disorders. By having the experts deliver these topics, students might be able to relate to the real-case scenarios and apply the knowledge during their upcoming clinical clerkship and in future practices. In addition, heart failure is a globally known disease that accounts for approximately 64 million cases. Therefore, fostering knowledge of its management is important among healthcare practitioners and future pharmacists to provide optimum care to patients.

Throughout the programme, students actively engaged with the speakers, expressing their curiosity through insightful questions. The interactive nature of this programme is anticipated to significantly benefit the students and other participants by elevating their learning and understanding regarding heart failure management.

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