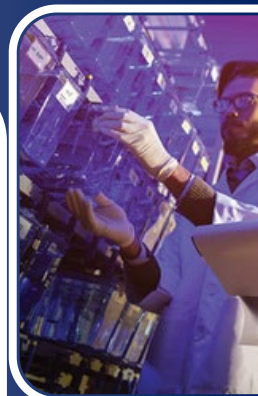


1st EDITION UiTM GLOBAL PENANG Newsletter

GLOBAL INSIGHTS: NAVIGATING UNIVERSALITY WITH UiTM PULAU PINANG



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UiTM Global @ Office of International Affairs,
Academic Affairs Division,
Universiti Teknologi MARA, Pulau Pinang Branch,
Pulau Pinang,
Malaysia.

Epidemiology Summer Course 2023 “Vaccine-Preventable Diseases: from Paediatric to Adult Targets” 22-24 November 2023

*Muhammad Radhi Rahimi Abu Bakar, and Wan Ismahanisa Ismail



Engaging discussion during the course through virtual and in-person platforms

On November 22, 2023, the **International Epidemiology Summer Course 2023, "Vaccine-Preventable Diseases: From Paediatric to Adult Targets,"** took place at **Fakultas Kesehatan Masyarakat, Universitas Airlangga (UNAIR), Surabaya, Indonesia**, in partnership with the Faculty of Health Science, **Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Pulau Pinang Branch, Malaysia**. Fakultas Kesehatan Masyarakat, **Universitas Airlangga**, supports this course with an amount of Rp 30.000.000 (Thirty Million Rupiah), equivalent to RM9000. We invited about 12 staff and students to this summer course, which ran for 3 days from the 22 to the 24 November 2023. Other than student outbound programs, the primary objective is to achieve involvement in community and international conferences. This course facilitated an open and constructive dialogue between academia and diverse sectors of public health. The objectives of this course are to learn about vaccine-preventable diseases with epidemiological approaches and to share **Vaccine Preventable Disease (VPD)** preventive measures in Indonesia and other countries.

Newly emerging and re-emerging infectious viral diseases pose significant threats and challenges to the health sector today. **Emerging Infectious Diseases (EIDs)** are a particular concern for human health and global stability. Among these, vaccine-preventable diseases (VPDs) are caused by viruses or bacteria and can lead to infections that necessitate hospitalisation and, in some cases, result in fatal consequences. The best protection against **VPDs** is vaccination. Vaccines are one of the safest and most cost-effective health interventions available, offering numerous social and economic benefits. Moreover, vaccines can significantly reduce the incidence of **VPDs**, and in certain cases, help eliminate these health threats altogether. It is important to note that vaccines are not solely intended for children; adults also receive various types of vaccines to prevent specific diseases.



Group photo following the course's small group discussions



Recognising the gravity of this issue, both Malaysia and Indonesia have expressed deep concern. In a collaborative effort to address and mitigate these challenges, Fakultas Kesehatan Masyarakat, **Universitas Airlangga (UNAIR)** has organised a summer course. This initiative provides an opportunity for domestic and international students, practitioners, and researchers in the field of public health to gain valuable learning experiences and interact with colleagues from various scientific backgrounds. Furthermore, the courses will be delivered in a hybrid format and facilitated by instructors with extensive research experience.



Engaging small group discussions drive collaboration on immunization challenges



Bridging knowledge and innovation—an exciting collaboration between **UiTM Pulau Pinang Branch** and **Universitas Airlangga (UNAIR)**

The participants come from various backgrounds in health sciences, led by Muhammad Radhi Rahimi Abu Bakar, alongside team members Nurdiana Zainuddin, Zakaria Ismail, Siti Munirah Abdul Wahab, Muhammad Azwan Azri, Muhammad Azwan Bin Azri, Qarem Mohamed Mustafa, Mohamad Azwan Zai Zainul Abidin, Nur Ainul Shuhada Mokhtar, Nadin Nadhirah Shukri, Darul Farah Yaacob, Anis Nadia Zulkifli, and Fathen Aklima Ahmad Misnun.



Heading to the summer course, ready to learn, explore, and create lasting memories

The course specifically addressed critical issues across a few dedicated sessions:

- Topic 1: Best Practices Expanded Program of Immunization in Eastern Mediterranean (Robin Nandi, MD, MBBS, PhD, Representative **UNICEF Teheran**)
- Topic 2: Best Practices Expanded Program Immunization in Malaysia (Assoc. Prof. Malina Osman, **Universiti Putra Malaysia**)
- Topic 3: Best Practices Expanded Program Immunization in Indonesia (Armunanto, **UNICEF** Representative)
- Topic 4: Epidemiology of Vaccine-Preventable Disease (Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis) (Dr. Kurnia D Artanti, **Universitas Airlangga Indonesia**)
- Topic 5: Epidemiology of Pneumococcal (Assoc. Prof. Mohd. Nasir bin Mohd Desa, **Universiti Putra Malaysia**)
- Topic 6: Epidemiology Vaccine Preventable Disease (Measles) (Assoc. Prof. Dr. Taufic Hidayat Hasan, **International Islamic University Malaysia**)
- Topic 7: How to optimize the vaccine Measles-Rubella (Nor Hafeeda Binti Rosdan, **Universiti Teknologi MARA**)

Moreover, small group discussion sessions were conducted on topics related to epidemiology and rapid surveys to support the data validity of the respective population. Each group comprised participants and facilitators from **UiTM** and **Universitas Airlangga (UNAIR)**. Through this collaborative effort, **UiTM Pulau Pinang Branch** and **UNAIR** aim to foster greater synergy in public health, strengthening their partnership through the existing Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). It is hoped that this summer course will deepen ties between **UNAIR** and **UiTM** and further enhance research and educational cooperation between the two institutions.

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eISSN: 3083-8355



Printed by: UiTM Printing Centre

Publication Date of the First Newsletter: 15 November 2024

Published by:

UiTM Global @ Office of International Affairs,
Academic Affairs Division,
Universiti Teknologi MARA, Pulau Pinang Branch,
Malaysia

Website

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