

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**STUDY OF UITM FACULTY OF PHARMACY
STUDENTS PERFORMANCE IN THE
COMMUNITY PHARMACY ATTACHMENT
PROGRAM AND COMPARISON BETWEEN
TWO BATCHES**

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ABSTRACT

The four weeks Community Pharmacy Attachment Program for the third year undergraduate students of Bachelor of Pharmacy (Hons.) was organized to provide an early exposure for the students to acquire related technical and relevant pharmacy skills for the practice of community pharmacy. The objectives of this study were to 1) evaluate the students overall performance in this Community Pharmacy Attachment program, 2) determine the association between the three main attributes, 3) compare their performance scores with the earlier batch of students in year 2012, and 4) evaluate the perception of different races of preceptors towards UiTM students. The Performance Assessment Guide form contains fifteen major attributes for the students to be assessed by the pharmacist-in-charge in their respective training locations. The responses were scored from 1 to 5 (1 = poor, 2 = fair, 3 = good, 4 = very good, 5 = excellent). On average, the students were overall considered to be very good with the mean score of 4.00 in the majority of the criteria assessed. The association between the three main attributes; skill and knowledge, professionalism, work performance and attitude also showed that there were significance association between each of the attributes ($p < 0.05$). The average scores were also increased by 5% in 2013 compared with 2012. The perceptions of different races of preceptors also showed that most of them considered the pharmacy students from UiTM to be very good as most of them evaluate UiTM at level of very good.

Keywords: community pharmacy attachment program, performance, association, races, attributes.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 OVERVIEW

1.1.1 Community Pharmacy

Community pharmacy is one of the fields of pharmacy that defines all of those establishments that are privately owned and whose function is to serve societies need for both drug products and the pharmaceutical services. The community pharmacy not only sells prescription and over-the-counter (OTC) drugs, it also sells health supplements, home health care supplies, cosmetics, personal care stuffs such as toiletries and durable medical equipments (Saini & Rai, 2012).

The pharmacist working in the community pharmacy also known as Apothecaries, Druggist, Chemists, Pharmaceutical Chemists, Retail Pharmacist, Community pharmacist, and Street Pharmacist. World Health Organization (WHO) defines community pharmacist as health professionals who are most accessible to the public and supplies medicines in accordance with a prescription or without prescription when legally permitted (WHO, 2013).