Pharmacogenomics in Action: Learning from the UK, Looking Towards Malaysia

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The Faculty of Pharmacy, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), through PHOENIX, successfully organised an insightful session on pharmacogenomics and the advancement of personalised medicine on 6th October 2026.

The session, entitled "Implementation of Pharmacogenomics: A UK Perspective", featured Mrs Sadaf Qureshi, a PhD candidate from the PhD Programme for Primary Care Clinicians, Centre for Academic Primary Care, School of Medicine, University of Nottingham. The session was held at the Postgraduate Lounge, Level 4, FF2, Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM, and was also made accessible to a wider audience through live streaming on the Faculty's YouTube channel and Facebook page. Approximately 60 participants attended the session through both physical and online participation, reflecting the growing interest in pharmacogenomics and personalised medicine.



Mrs Qureshi shared valuable insights from her mixed-methods study exploring patient and professional perspectives on implementing pharmacogenomic testing in UK primary care, as well as the cost-effectiveness of service delivery. Her presentation highlighted the opportunities and challenges involved in integrating pharmacogenomic testing into primary care, including patient acceptance, professional readiness, implementation barriers and the economic considerations of introducing such services.

Status of pharmacogenomics (PGx) in Malaysia

Following Mrs Qureshi's presentation, Professor Teh continued the session with an overview of the current status of pharmacogenomics (PGx) in Malaysia. The discussion provided an interesting comparison between the UK and Malaysian healthcare settings, highlighting the importance of developing local evidence, strengthening professional capacity and identifying appropriate strategies for future PGx implementation. Professor Teh also highlighted that PGx testing has already been implemented in selected hospitals in Malaysia, providing a foundation for broader adoption. However, achieving nationwide integration of PGx into healthcare services will require strong public–private partnerships, bringing together government healthcare institutions, private hospitals, diagnostic laboratories, industry and academic institutions. Such collaboration is essential to accelerate implementation, expand access to PGx testing, and translate scientific advances into meaningful clinical benefits, ultimately contributing to better treatment outcomes and a healthier nation. The session provided participants with a broader understanding of how pharmacogenomics could contribute to safer, more effective and personalised use of medicines, while encouraging meaningful discussion on the future development of pharmacogenomic services in Malaysia.

The Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM, extends its appreciation to Mrs Sadaf Qureshi, Professor Teh and all participants for making the session an engaging and valuable learning experience.



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