# Telepharmacy Internship Training to Empower Future Pharmacists and Healthcare Professionals

The Faculty of Pharmacy, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), organised a telepharmacy internship training session on the 16th and 23rd of October 2023. This programme held at the Telepharmacy Laboratory at Level 4, FF3 Building, UiTM Puncak Alam, facilitated by six clinical pharmacy lecturers, offered an unparalleled learning experience for 79 students from both pharmacy and allied health sciences at San Pedro College (SPC), Davao, Philippines.



The internship was enriched with hands-on experiences, allowing students to engage in telepharmacy practices under the guidance and mentorship of seven clinical instructors from SPC. Students actively participated in simulated patient interviews via teleconferencing. They skillfully navigated through taking medical and medication histories, both of which are essential aspects of pharmaceutical care.

The clinical pharmacy lecturers assumed the roles of patients and prescribers during this internship. This simulation provided students with a real-life scenario where they interacted with 'patients' and formulated recommendations for 'prescribers.' Following the history-taking process, the students collaborated within their groups to identify pharmaceutical care issues and propose suitable recommendations for the 'patients.'

The collaborative and interdisciplinary nature of this training not only provided an insight into the intricacies of telepharmacy but also emphasised the importance of teamwork in healthcare. Students had the opportunity to appreciate the challenges posed by telepharmacy, understand its complexities, and recognise the potential benefits it offers in extending healthcare services to a wider population.





The feedback received from the participants resonated with their deep appreciation for the training, emphasising their satisfaction in collaborating with diverse interdisciplinary groups and gaining valuable hands-on experience in telepharmacy. This innovative programme not only expands the aspiring pharmacists and healthcare professionals' knowledge base but also fortifies their grasp on the critical responsibilities they will undertake in their future roles. The impact of this immersive experience is set to shape a new generation of highly skilled and knowledgeable healthcare professionals, ready to navigate the complexities of the modern healthcare landscape. This experience serves as a crucial steppingstone in cultivating a cohort of skilled, knowledgeable, and adaptable healthcare professionals, empowering them to adeptly navigate the intricacies of modern healthcare systems.

This internship has laid the groundwork for future collaborative undertakings. The dedication and passion displayed by both the students and faculty reflect a shared commitment to advancing education and practical experiences in the field of healthcare. With great enthusiasm, we eagerly anticipate the myriad of possibilities that await us and are truly excited about the potential for future collaborations between our esteemed institutions.



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