

Drug of Abuse Talk and Sharing Session

By: Mdm. Saliha Azlan

The Drug of Abuse Talk and Sharing Session, organised collaboratively by students of the Drug of Abuse (PHC665) course and the Society of Pharmacy Students (SOPHYS) at Universiti Teknologi MARA, took place on 5th June 2024 at Dewan Kuliah 7, FF4, Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM Puncak Alam Campus. This academic initiative was designed to provide participants, primarily students enrolled in PHC665 (Drug of Abuse), with an immersive exploration into the complexities of addiction, emphasizing both theoretical knowledge and practical insights into recovery methodologies.

The programme was developed with the overarching goal of enhancing understanding among students regarding addiction's multifaceted nature, its profound impact on individuals and communities, and the therapeutic strategies employed in rehabilitation processes. Through interactive sessions and shared experiences, attendees gained a comprehensive view of addiction's biological, psychological, and social dimensions.



Central to the event were presentations by esteemed speakers from Narcotic Addiction Rehabilitation Center/"Pusat Pemulihan Penagihan Narkotik" (PUSPEN) Sg. Besi, including experienced counselors, Yang Mulia Raja Shahrul Hatta bin Raja Abdullah, Head of Rehabilitation Unit, and a rehabilitated ex-client who subsequently became a peer support at PUSPEN for the past 25 years, Mr. Azizi bin Mizan. Mr. Azizi courageously shared his personal journeys of addiction and recovery. Their narratives not only shed light on the challenges faced by those grappling with substance abuse but also underscored the transformative power of empathy and support networks in fostering recovery.

The session spanned two hours, during which participants engaged in meaningful discussions and dialogues aimed at deepening their empathy and understanding. The involvement of faculty members and pharmacy students further enriched the discourse, facilitating an exchange of perspectives and insights that transcended academic boundaries.

With an attendance of approximately 80 participants, comprising students and faculty members from the Faculty of Pharmacy, the programme successfully achieved its educational objectives while reinforcing the importance of community engagement in addressing societal issues such as addiction. The positive feedback received from the participants highlighted the programme's efficacy in broadening perspectives and equipping students with practical knowledge applicable to their future professional roles.



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