

19TH WORKSHOP ON LABORATORY RODENTS (RATS AND MICE) CARE AND USE 2024

By: Dr Nursakinah Latifi & Dr. Gurmeet Kaur Surindar Singh

On June 11 and 12, 2024, the Laboratory Animal Facility and Management (LAFAM), Faculty of Pharmacy, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Puncak Alam hosted the biannual Laboratory Rodents Care and Use Workshop. This workshop featured blended lectures and hands-on practical sessions conducted by well-known experts in the fields of rodent husbandry, management, behaviour, anaesthesia, and postmortem procedures. The workshop was officiated by Dr. John Shia Kwong Siew, the coordinator of LAFAM. Notable speakers at the event included Dr. John Shia Kwong Siew, Associate Professor Dr. Hanish Singh Jayasingh Chellamal, Professor Dr. Mizaton Hazizul Hasan and Dr. Gurmeet Kaur Surindar Singh from the Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM. The workshop benefited from the continuous presence of the LAFAM Workshop and Income Generation team, ensuring the seamless execution of the event. Additionally, the facilitation role was expertly fulfilled by the LAFAM Assistant Veterinary Officers, led by Dr. Nursakinah Latifi, the Veterinary Officer, contributing to the overall success of the workshop.



The primary aim of this workshop was to emphasise the importance of the care and use of laboratory rodents in scientific research. It sought to equip participants with essential skills for performing fundamental procedures on rodents, including handling and restraint, oral gavage, bleeding techniques, anaesthesia, and euthanasia.

In addition, this workshop also aimed to enhance researchers' understanding of the quality of their research while offering a guide on animal ethics and welfare in scientific research.

A total of 22 participants, including postgraduates and staff from UiTM, as well as individuals from various academic institutions and organisations, participated in the workshop. The attendees were from the Health and Wellness cluster of UiTM, namely the Faculty of Pharmacy, the Faculty of Applied Science, the Faculty of Dentistry, the Faculty of Medicine, and Kompleks Makmal Sains & Agroteknologi UiTM Sabah Campus. Additionally, participants from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Universiti Malaya (UM), Sunway University, Prima Nexus Sdn. Bhd. and Wan Care Scientific Sdn. Bhd. were also part of the workshop.

The workshop was a success, receiving positive feedback from the attendees. During the closing ceremony, certificates, along with the assessment sheets containing marks and comments, were presented to the participants. Furthermore, specific accolades were awarded to noteworthy participants that were able to successfully withdraw a certain volume of blood from various locations, in addition to recognising the overall best participant. Participate in our upcoming October second installment of the workshop series to discover the latest advancements and best practices in animal care and research. Engage with knowledgeable speakers and practical sessions for a comprehensive learning experience.



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