



# EcoPharma@UCS 2024:

*A Community-Driven Initiative for Safe Medication Disposal and Environmental Stewardship*

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As part of our continuous commitment to environmental safety and community well-being, the Safe Medication Disposal (SAFE-MEDd) team once again set out on a vital mission to address the frequently disregarded problem of appropriate and safe drug disposal. This year, we renamed our programme as 'EcoPharma@UCS 2024' as it involves participation from various bodies in the UiTM Cawangan Selangor (UCS) particularly the Puncak Alam Campus.

The event was held on October 19th 2024, at Masjid Puncak Alam, Bandar Puncak Alam, which was officiated by Prof. Dr. Ahmad Taufek Abdul Rahman, the Rector of UiTM Cawangan Selangor. This event successfully draws more than 800 participants including those from Puncak Alam community as well as UiTM members. This time around, we were privileged to collaborate again with Alpro Pharmacy, alongside esteemed collaborators including the Quality Use of Medicines Subdivision - Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH), Masjid Puncak Alam, and



Persatuan Permuafakatan Penduduk Puncak Alam. We are also grateful for the generous sponsorship from Pfizer Malaysia Sdn. Bhd., Stesen Minyak SIS Indah Sdn. Bhd., Olive House, Institute of Continuing Education & Professional Studies (iCEPS) UiTM, along with other individual contributions.

The event's primary goal was to raise awareness among the Puncak Alam community about proper medication consumption and disposal to prevent environmental harm. Hence, the key highlights included booths by Alpro Pharmacy and MOH offering on-site medication disposal services and sharing sessions on drug management and environmental conservation.

The sharing sessions led by esteemed experts namely Mdm. Munira Mohammad (Deputy Director, Quality Use of Medicine Subdivision, MOH), Mdm. Sabiha Md Husin (Lecturer, Faculty of Pharmacy, UiTM), Ms. Siti Farhanah (Alpro Pharmacy) and Mr. Hj. Mansor Abd Ghani (Friends of River Malaysia) further delved into topics such as good medication management, proper use of antibiotics to combat resistance, safe medication disposal as well as the environmental impact of improper disposal.

The event also included vital health services such as blood donation from National Blood Centre of Malaysia, dental check-ups provided by the Dental Unit of UiTM Shah Alam, medical screenings conducted by Klinik Kesihatan Bukit Cherakah as well as home medication review conducted by the Faculty of Pharmacy's UiTM team. We were also joined by various teams from UiTM Cawangan Selangor (UCS), including exhibitor from College of Creative Arts, Faculty of Pharmacy's soap-making team, the COMBI (dengue) squad, ADAS Apothecary, MakerLab, and several research groups such as the Marine Pharmaceutical Research Group (MaREG), OASES (Group for Affinity, Safety And Efficacy Studies), I-MeRGe (Integrated Mosquito Research Group), and OHSeRM (Occupational Health and Safety Risk Management). For young visitors, a colouring contest was conducted by Persatuan Sahabat Sains Malaysia (PERSASMA), and fun-with-pharmacist activities were conducted by the undergraduate students of Faculty of Pharmacy, which further enriched the experience.

The success of the event demonstrates a shared commitment to health and environmental stewardship. Together, we are not just addressing the urgent issue of safe medication disposal; we are forging a path toward a healthier, more sustainable future for our community. Let us continue to unite our efforts, inspire change, and safeguard the well-being of generations to come.

#TogetherWeSupportSafeMedicationDisposal