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FACULTY OF MEDICINE UiTM



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WE CARE KITS

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370 We Care Kits were distributed amongst the healthcare professional

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a significant burden and overutilization of the healthcare facilities in Malaysia. The country saw an exponential rise in the number of daily COVID-19 cases from 360 confirmed new cases on 1st October 2020 to 5728 new cases daily on 30th January 2021. The third wave of the pandemic saw the country clocking about 6000 to more than 24000 new cases daily beginning July 2021. Due to the worsening of the COVID-19 pandemic, CTC UiTM Sg Buloh and Hospital UiTM Puncak Alam are both involved in managing COVID-19 patients and non-COVID-19 patients referred from nearby Ministry of Health hospitals like Hospital Sg Buloh and Hospital Selayang. The workload of the UiTM healthcare professionals increased tremendously compared to the pre-COVID-19 period. The prolonged and endless battle has caused fatigue, stress, and to a certain extent, burnout among them. It could also lead to anxiety and depression.



The Department of Psychiatry Faculty of Medicine UiTM and Hospital UiTM, in collaboration with Life EduCare Foundation, a non-governmental organization for children with special needs, prepared a total of 370 We Care Kits. The kits were then distributed amongst the healthcare professionals of CTC UiTM Sg Buloh, who were directly involved with taking care of COVID-19 patients admitted to the centre. The objectives of these We Care Kits were to provide some comfort, boost morale in daily work, make them feel appreciated, and most importantly, acknowledge their tireless efforts serving as the frontliners of the COVID-19 pandemic in Malaysia.

The We Care Kit consisted of items that members of the department felt would be useful for the healthcare professionals, such as drawstring bag, neck pillow, shower foam, shampoo, hand cream, chocolate bar, mineral water, canned coffee, and a thank you card. The children with special needs from Life EduCare Foundation had also made jars which were filled with thank you notes or gestures for the frontliners in CTC UiTM Sq Buloh.



The kits were distributed in 2 phases. For the first phase, 250 We Care Kits were distributed on the 26th August 2021 to staff in clinics, phlebotomy unit, ward 1 and ward 2, intensive care unit (ICU), and the emergency department. An additional 120 We Care Kits were distributed on 12th October 2021 in conjunction with World Mental Health Day 2021. In line with this year's slogan, "Mental health care for all: let's make it a reality," we extended the distribution of the kits in this phase to include ambulance drivers and auxiliary officers who are also frontliners during this pandemic.

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