

MyONE HEALTH Newsletter

Bi-annual newsletter by MyOHUN emphasizing the connection between human, animals, and ecosystem health

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“National Coordinating Office (NCO) – MyOHUN is committed to achieve excellence in providing its services in One Health activities through a quality management system that is constantly improved upon to satisfy the needs of our customers in accordance with MS ISO 9001:2015”



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Personal protective equipment, distancing, and group size standards in this photo were consistent with local public health guidance and COVID-19 status in the specific country and time it was taken. This may not reflect best practices for all locations where COVID-19 is still spreading.

Refining Master of Injections Matrix with Subject Matters Experts

A start-up activity, Refining Master of Injections Matrix with Subject Matters Experts (SMEs), was held on 30th March 2021. Nineteen SMEs gathered in Le Meridien Hotel, Putrajaya, to determine the best approach to run the Anthrax Disaster Simulation Exercise, including scenario, gamification tool, tabletop exercise, participants, and platform. Relevant first responder, Emergency Response Team (ERT), biomedicine, veterinary medicine, human medicine, armed forces (Police department), policy-makers, and government officials attended the activity to give their input on the preliminary scenario concept for the Master of Injection Matrix (MIM) development. Besides that, the activity provided initial collaboration in a friendly environment for further inter-agency engagement during the simulation exercise. The in-person simulation exercise scheduled to take place in August 2021 was, however, postponed following the Movement Control Order (MCO) imposed by the government.



Shadow Pandemic of Misinformation and Scapegoating Wildlife

In perspective, the human-animal-environment contact preserves the earth's balance. However, only nonhuman living beings are solely to blame when the world is endangered, such as by pandemics. While veterinarians, environmentalists, naturalists, and activists advocate for animals, many misconceptions and rumors still prevail.

Malaysia One Health University Network (MyOHUN), in conjunction with the celebration of One Health Day on 3rd November, felt the need to address this issue by organizing a webinar entitled 'Vilifying Wildlife in the Age of Pandemics: Confronting Fears and Misconceptions.'

Through the spirit of One Health, MyOHUN brings together renowned global wildlife veterinarian/epidemiologist, Dr. Jonathan Epstein of the Science and Outreach EcoHealth Alliance, wildlife conservationist, Prof. Dato' Dr. Mohd Tajuddin Abdullah of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia, and journalist Simone McCarthy of South China Morning Post, to share their insights and research on the ecology of disease emergence, wildlife conservation and the media's role in shaping public perception regarding pandemic emergence, thereby debunking the stereotype that all wildlife carries deadly infectious diseases and can easily infect humans.

According to One Health, human health is intertwined with the health of animals and our shared environment. For example, as the human population grows and expands, more people live in close proximity to wild, livestock, and domestic animals, raising the risk of disease transmission between animals and humans.

The poster is for a webinar titled "Vilifying Wildlife in the Age of Pandemics: Confronting Fears and Misconceptions". It is organized by MyOHUN (Malaysia One Health University Network) and UPM (Universiti Putra Malaysia). The event is scheduled for 3 November 2020, from 9:00 to 11:30am (GMT+8). The poster lists three topics and their respective panelists: Topic 1: "Understanding the Ecology of Disease Emergence" by Dr. Jonathan Epstein; Topic 2: "Confronting Public Fear: Risk Communication 101" by Simone McCarthy; Topic 3: "Wildlife Conservation in the Age of Pandemics" by Prof. Dato' Dr. Mohd Tajuddin Abdullah. A moderator, Prof. Dr. Lutfiah Hassan, is also listed. The poster includes contact information for Eddie at MyOHUN and a logo for One Health Day 2020.

When faced with a pandemic, sensational headlines spread worldwide, triggering mass hysteria when just a handful have taken the high road to raise public awareness. Simone McCarthy of South China Morning Post said, "Creating panic in public is the last thing we want in the media. Deliver the truth while creating awareness is the goal in any media whether printed or online". As dealing with the world's population is not easy, public cooperation and awareness are crucial.

Reaching more than 500 viewers worldwide through multiple platforms, MyOHUN is optimistic that the webinar raised awareness with the message that protecting the health and well-being of all species, including wildlife and the entire ecosystem, is the ultimate way to attain global human health. To quote the famous Alexandre Dumas in his novel The Three Musketeers, "All for one and one for all," which accurately translates the One Health spirit, we must work together, hand in hand, not just to stop the pandemics we are currently facing but also to preserve the balance of the human-animal-environment cycle.

Pay it Forward: The unintended yet impactful consequence of the MyOHUN Calls for Volunteers

Volunteerism offers vital assistance to people and communities in need without requesting anything and return and has long been an integral element of health services. It enhances well-being for individuals and societies through the ideals of solidarity and altruism. Unexpectedly, one call for volunteers generated a snowball effect of good deeds in a time of crisis.

As COVID-19 cases surged in Malaysia, the Malaysia One Health University Network (MyOHUN) activated its second call for volunteers in January 2021 to assist the Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre through active collaboration with the Ministry of Malaysia in their efforts to manage the spread of the virus. In addition, MyOHUN established multiple social media and networking platforms reaching universities, public, and private agencies all around the country.

MyOHUN announced the first call for volunteers in March 2020 during the early phase of the pandemic. The call succeeded in enlisting more than 1000 volunteers to help hospitals and health centres under the Ministry of Health with the positive cases and laboratories for COVID-19 screening tests. Despite pandemic-induced

fatigue and other challenges, a second call recorded responses from more than 250 health-related personnel. The call for volunteers immediately captured the attention of the Ericzen Foundation.

The Foundation launched Malaysia's COVID-19 Charity Drive program to help institutions fight COVID-19 in Malaysia. After seeing MyOHUN's call for volunteers, Ms. Chew Meng Li, a representative for the Ericzen Foundation, contacted Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chee Hui Yee from Universiti Putra Malaysia Teaching Hospital (HPUPM) offers sponsorship in the form of medical supplies, small equipment, and consumables. Ericzen Foundation also contributed to COVID-19 screening among refugees registered under the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, which also received support/initial funding from the USAID through the COVID-19 Emergency Tranche Fund.

COVID-19 has impacted the communities more than we can imagine. A single act of kindness may directly cushion the negative impact of the pandemic to a degree, but more importantly, it may generate a snowball effect of good deeds from all directions. So...pay it forward, everyone. MyOHUN did!



Webinar Series on Gender: The Importance of Gender in Disease Management and Outbreak Response

To some people, gender is considered a controversial topic of discussion, bordering on the sensitivity of sex (men and women) and culture. It is not a familiar topic for many in Southeast Asia, and discussing gender roles with others seems strange. However, this may now change, thanks to the advancements in the One Health field, where experts begin to advocate for gender to be considered when assessing risks of emerging zoonotic infections around the globe, particularly among marginalized communities.

This year, with the support from its members, regional and global colleagues of the One Health Workforce - Next Generation Project, the Malaysia One Health University Network (MyOHUN) took one step forward. Marveling at the novelty of the topic, MyOHUN organized two virtual webinars to address the issue of gender in One Health. Prof. Dato' Dr. Abdul Rashid Khan, the project leader from the RCSI & UCD Malaysia Campus, led a passionate team to create awareness and understanding of the importance of gender roles in relation to zoonoses and emerging pandemics.

The "Roles and Challenges of Gender in Infectious Diseases" webinar, the first of the two-part webinar series, was held on 8th April 2021 with 151 attendees worldwide. Prof. Dato' Dr. Abdul Rashid Khan opened the webinar introducing the topic before the issue was extensively elaborated by Dr. Anisah Baharum from University Putra Malaysia (UPM) and Prof. Dr. Ani Amelia Zainuddin from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM). Prof. Dr. Ndola Prata from the University of California, Berkeley then attentively narrowed down the topic to Gender Role in Zoonotic Diseases with the help of Ms. Siti Nur Afiqah Zahari from Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM).

The second webinar, Gender Challenges in Zoonotic Infection, convened on 29th May 2021, with 87

The image is a promotional poster for a live webinar series. At the top, it features logos for USAID, SEA OHUN, MyOHUN, and UPM. The main title is "ROLES AND CHALLENGES OF GENDER IN ZOOBOTIC DISEASES" in large, bold, pink and red letters. Below the title, it says "LIVE WEBINAR SERIES 1" and "8 APRIL 2021 2:30pm - 4:30pm (GMT +8) via Cisco Webex". The poster lists three topics and their speakers: Topic 1: "The conundrum called 'Gender'" by Prof. Dato' Dr. Abdul Rashid Khan; Topic 2: "Applied Gender Concepts" by Dr. Anisah Baharom and Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ani Amelia Zainuddin; Topic 3: "Introduction to Gender Role in Zoonotic Diseases" by Prof. Dr. Ndola Prata and Ms. Siti Nur Afiqah Zahari. There is a QR code and a registration link: "Register at: https://myohun.com/go/gender-webinar or scan QR Code". At the bottom, there are logos for various partners including EcoHealth Alliance, MyOHUN, and others.

audiences participated during the live webinar. Dr. Kevin Olival, Vice President for Research at EcoHealth Alliance, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Rohaizat Hassan from UKM, and Prof. Dr. Ndola Prata from the University of California, Berkeley presented to discuss and delve deeper, supported with real-life case studies, to illustrate the importance of injecting the gender aspect when investigating about any One Health issue.

The integration of gender in infectious diseases is imperative to be implemented at every level of the One Health workforce, including planning, policy development, program implementation, and program evaluation. The webinars highlighted gender role definition, attention to equality and equity, and gender mainstreaming. Though the activity was novel in Malaysia, it was a much-needed issue to discuss in this day and age. Furthermore, the fact that the webinars received worldwide participants shows that the topic is relevant in Malaysia and global audiences. MyOHUN is proud that we introduced this novel activity with good responses and feedback and hopes to see the impact on the One Health environment in Malaysia.

MyOHUN World Zoonoses Day 2021 Webinar

On 6th July 1885, Louis Pasteur successfully administered the first vaccine against rabies, a deadly zoonosis, to a 14-year-old boy who recovered from the disease. World Zoonoses Day is celebrated globally every 6th July to commemorate this event. More than 130 years on, preventing zoonoses remains a significant challenge. Ecosystem degradation, deforestation, agricultural intensification to meet the increasing demand for animal protein, urbanization, and rapid transportation around the globe are among factors associated with new and emerging infectious diseases, 75% of which are of animal origin.

We live in the COVID-19 pandemic era, which continues to affect millions of lives and disrupts economies across the globe. Recognizing the need to continue with the conversation about the pandemic and future pandemic threat, preparedness, and prevention, the Malaysian Ministry of Health, in collaboration with MyOHUN, organized a webinar on 6th July 2021.

The webinar entitled Preventing the Next Zoonotic Pandemic convened experts, namely Prof. Dr. Bruce Wilcox, the Director of the Global Health Group International, Prof. Dr. Latiffah Hassan, MyOHUN Coordinator, Teresa Yong Sui Mien from National Institute of Health Malaysia, and Tom Hughes from EcoHealth Alliance, working in various areas of One Health. Together, they shared their perspectives on important aspects to be considered to prevent future pandemics and the latest updates on the current zoonotic threats in Malaysia.

The webinar proved to be a huge success with the combination of hot topics, and experts gathered, with a big turnout of 658 attendees. In addition, audiences actively participated during Q&A sessions with their curiosity about the issue and how they could prevent the next pandemic. MyOHUN hoped that the webinar made an impact in creating a stronger, more resilient, and more prepared health workforce in Malaysia.



Prioritization of Zoonotic Diseases in Preparedness to prevent the Next Pandemic

Latiffah Hassan

Professor in Veterinary Public Health and Epidemiology
Malaysia One Health University Network &
Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, UPM

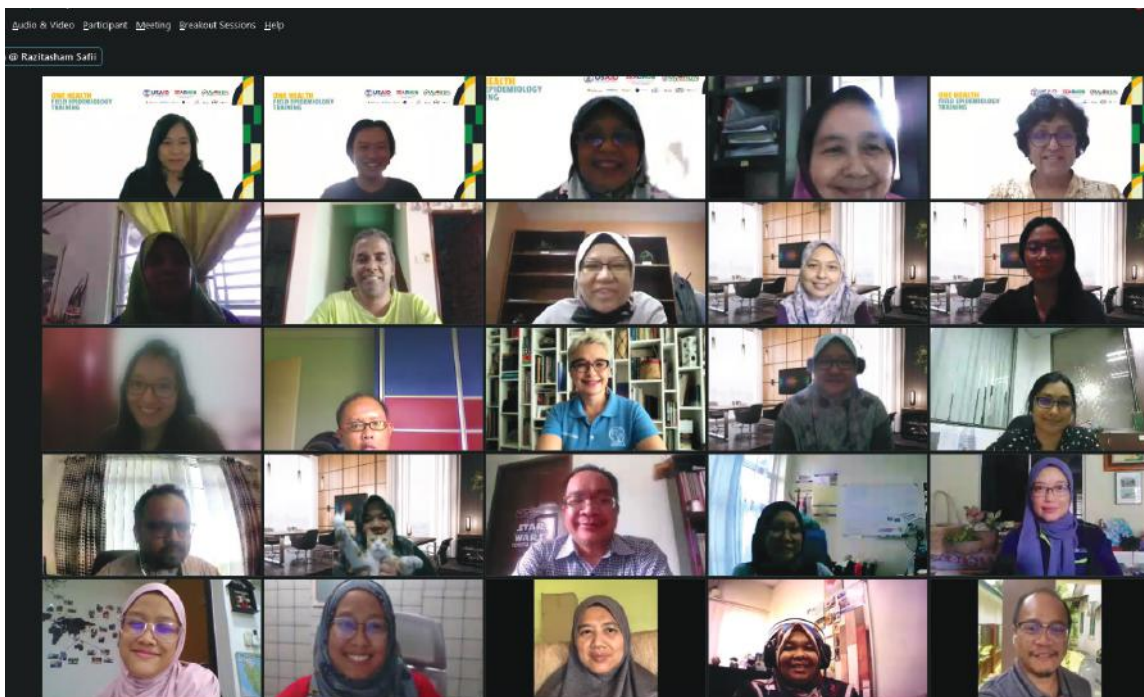
World Zoonoses Day 2021: Preventing the next zoonotic pandemic
6 July 2021



+526

Virtual One Health Field Epidemiology Training

Since the training was first introduced as a MyOHUN activity in 2016, the Field Epidemiology Training was executed virtually through the Webex platform for the first time this year. Combining officers and academicians from various disciplines, the training was held from 8th to 10th September 2021. 38 participants attended this 3-day training in applying One Health competencies to respond efficiently when managing an infectious disease outbreak. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic still lingering, this training empowered the future and current One Health workforce with the set of competency skills required and prepared to deliver tasks when needed. Congratulations to the Project Leader, Prof. Dr. Razitasham Safi from Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), and her team for successfully conducting the training virtually.



Safety Awareness Training on the Importance of COVID-19 Disease Among e-hailing and p-hailing Services Community

The e-hailing and p-hailing industries are currently on the rise. Since mobile applications for such services allows to be accessible by customers by just one click away, the demand and purchases during the COVID-19 pandemic have increased. The e-hailing service is focused on rental cars/taxis to pick up passengers and the p-hailing for the food delivery industry or buying goods online. We can witness their commitment to meet the demands from consumers, day-in and day-out, every single day. Since the riders/drivers offering the services are always on-the-go with in-person contacts with their customers, it is vital to ensure they are equipped with the necessary knowledge that will enable them to practice safe and preventive measures in their daily work

From 27th to 30th September 2021, a training on Safety Awareness on the Importance of COVID-19 among e-hailing and p-hailing Services Community was held to increase awareness about infectious disease transmission to the communities of e-hailing

p-hailing services. The training has been given special permission by the National Security Council of Malaysia.

176 e-hailing and p-hailing participants from various companies completed the training on safety awareness on the importance of COVID-19. Participants were exposed to steps to be taken should they be exposed or have to handle clients/customers with different COVID-19 infection status or contact statuses, including those tested positive for COVID-19 and those placed under investigation/surveillance. They were also taught the different types of disinfectants and how to properly disinfect their vehicles and on proper ways of wearing personal protective equipment.

The training was a success, with a few other e-hailing and p-hailing companies expressing interest in further discussing collaborating with UPM to organize similar events in the future. MyOHUN hopes this program can benefit every party to break the COVID-19 chain.



Training on the Use of WHONET for AMR Data Management in Animal Health

WHONET is a Windows-based database application for managing and analyzing microbiology laboratory data of antimicrobial susceptibility test results. Developed and supported by the World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Centre for Surveillance of Antimicrobial Resistance; WHONET is available in 28 languages, supports local, national, regional, and global surveillance efforts in over 2,300 hospitals, public health, animal health and food laboratories in over 130 countries worldwide.

Since WHONET is being used widely all around the globe, the Department of Veterinary Services sees this as an opportunity to train officers to apply data management in animal health to standardize the laboratory configurations. As a result, the data

captured can be analyzed more uniformly and thus reflect a more accurate resistance pattern. 36 officers and laboratory technicians attended the 3-day training virtually through the Webex platform from 29th September to 1st October 2021. The training covers Laboratory Configuration, Data Entry and Data Analysis of WHONET, introduction, and revision on Baclink program. Following this training, all participants will be able to increase the efficiency of the departments and agencies where they work in collecting, organising, analysing, and reporting data and findings from the animal health sector in Malaysia in the effort to better understand the current status of AMR in the country in a One Health approach.

The screenshot shows a Webex meeting interface with a Slido poll. The poll title is "SENARAIKAN DATA ANALYSIS SELECTION YANG BOLEH DIBUAT MENGGUNAKAN WHONET." The poll content lists various data analysis options, including "RIS% analysis", "Quick analysis", "Risk analysis", "Comparison Analysis", "Temporal Analysis", "Species specific", "RIS % analysis , quick analysis, value analysis, result interpretation", "MDR, resistance profile, cluster detection, isolate listings", "Isolate listing , etc", "Table RIS", "Cluster detection", "Antibiotic specific", "1.Quick analysis", "bac track, sactterplot, histogram, line listing, profiles %RIS, cluster alerts", "isolates, jenis data yang dikehendaki, r.i.s data", "Byk2", "Data files, marcos", "RIS", "Risk analysis", "Summary of entry", "Trend AMR", "Ris...summary..", "Resistance and susceptibleantibiotics", and "Resistance and susceptible antibiotics". A QR code is visible on the left side of the poll, and the text "Join at slido.com #WHONET2021" is displayed below it. The meeting interface also shows a video feed of a participant named "EpiS (Cohort)" and a "Layout" button in the top right corner.

MyOHUN COVID-19 Emergency Fund

The MyOHUN COVID-19 Emergency Fund was provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and supported by the South East Asia One Health University Network (SEAOHUN). 23 projects received funding under the MyOHUN COVID-19 Emergency Fund and were placed under two technical areas, namely:

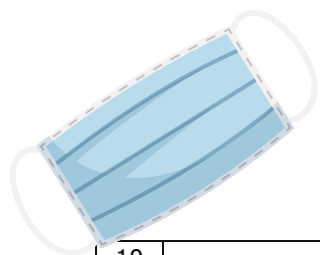
1. Risk Communication to Protect Public Health
2. Diagnostic Testing and Surveillance

Upon completing the projects, a webinar was held to showcase the results, outputs, and products from the projects presented by the respective Principal Investigators. On 29th September 2021, projects under Risk Communication to Protect Public Health were presented, and on 30th September 2021, projects under Diagnostic Testing and Surveillance were presented.

The recipients of the MyOHUN COVID-19 Emergency Fund are as follows:

No	University	Title	Project Investigator
1	Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia	The Development and Evaluation of Hand Hygiene Educational Box	Assoc.Prof. Dr. Nurul Azmawati
2		COVID-19 Online Educational Program for Youngster	Dr. Zatul-Iffah Abu Hassan
3		COVID-19 Medical Edutainment Video Series Project	Dr Hana Maizuliana Solehan
4		A Risk Communication Programme to Enhance the Awareness and Practice on COVID-19 Prevention among Indigenous Orang Asli Communities in Malaysia	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Dzulkhairi Mohd Rani
5		Hand Washing Technique and Proper Mask Wearing and Removal	Dr. Ummu Aiman Faisal
6	International Islamic University Malaysia	Training for Community Risk Manager In Kuantan, Pahang	Asst. Prof. Dr. Mohammad Farhan Rusli
7	Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia	Speak the Risk Language	Dr. Yap Wei Boon
8		Comprehensive Artificial Reality Simulation & Field Training for COVID-19 Pandemic among Health Care Workers (CARS-FT)	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Mohd Rohaizat Hassan
9	Universiti Malaysia Sabah	COVID-Shields@University: Development of Digital Application, Manual for Preparedness and Surveillance, and Diagnostic and Surveillance of COVID-19 at the University Level	Prof. Dr. Mohammad Saffree Jeffree

MyOHUN COVID-19 Emergency Fund



10	Universiti Putra Malaysia	Risk Communication and Risk Engagement: The University Veterinary Hospital, UPM Approach	Dr. Rozaihan Mansor
11		Risk Communication to Protect Public Health	Prof. Dr. Azmawani Abd Rahman
12		COVID-19 RT-PCR Screening for Refugees Registered under UNHCR	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Chee Hui Yee
13		COVILaM (COVID-19 Laboratory Module): A Training Module for the Laboratory Testing and the Interpretation of the Results for Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)	Prof. Dr. Syafinaz Amin Nordin
14		Biosurveillance and Infection Transmission Risk Assessment and SARS-CoV2 in Cats, and Evaluation of Knowledge, Attitude and Practices towards COVID-19 among Pet Owners	Dr. Farina Mustaffa Kamal
15	Universiti Sains Malaysia	Training the Frontliners and University Postgraduate Students on Risk Communication to Protect Public Health in COVID-19 Pandemic	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Aziah Daud
16		Preventive Measures, Safety Practices and Chronic Patients' Care during COVID-19 Pandemic in Outpatients' Clinic, Hospital Universiti Sains Malaysia	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Rosediani Muhammad
17		Screening for Respiratory Pathogens in SARS-CoV2 PCR Negative Symptomatic Patients during COVID-19 Pandemic	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Azian Harun
18	Universiti Malaya	Enhancing MyOHUN One Health Workforce Capability in Laboratory Detection of SARS-CoV2 (COVID-19)	Prof. Dr. Sazaly Abu Bakar
19	Universiti Malaysia Sarawak	SARS-CoV2 Detection at UNIMAS COVID-19 Laboratory	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Ashley Edward Roy Soosay
20		Multi-sectoral Training in COVID-19 Diagnostic Testing with Safe and Ergonomic Environment	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Tan Cheng Siang
21		Improving Respiratory Protection via Respirator Training and Fit Testing	
22	Universiti Teknologi MARA	Seroprevalence on SARS-CoV2 among Blood Donors in Klang Valley, Malaysia	Prof. Dr. Ariza Adnan
23	Department of Veterinary Services	Establish of COVID-19 Diagnostic Test using RT-PCR in Four DVS Diagnostic Laboratories in Malaysia	Dr. Maswati Mat Amin

The MyOHUN COVID-19 Emergency Fund projects produced a number of products, including modules, training manuals, and applications, with a range of useability. MyOHUN is currently assisting the researchers in finalising these products. MyOHUN is proud of the work and commitment from all principal investigators and their team members in achieving the objectives of their projects.



MyOHUN Provide Long-term Communication Guidelines for Higher Learning Institution During Disasters

COVID-19 pandemic has created a crisis of unimaginable magnitude in all aspects of life. The education sector is certainly not prepared for the impact of the global pandemic on teaching and learning activities. Furthermore, confusion and uncertainties about the pandemic cause inaccurate, misinformation to educators and learners, therefore calling to action the need to enhance risk and crisis communication management.

Failure to establish effective risk and crisis communication can deter team coordination, magnify a crisis, and tarnish corporate reputation. Considering the impact of COVID-19 on Higher Learning Institution (HLI), a team from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) led by Prof. Dr. Azmawani Abd Rahman has developed a risk communication module that can be used as a risk management tool throughout the stages of crisis for a wide range of institutions in the Malaysian context entitled "Guidelines Module for Higher Learning Institution: Risk and Crisis Communication for Public Health and Institutional Resilience."

Focusing on the importance of communication during disasters and communication barriers and challenges, this module highlights an action plan or risk communication strategies. In addition, it offers best practices and suggestions for HLIs throughout the preparedness, response, and recovery stages when faced with disaster.

The team engaged with 41 selected experts on risk management, workplace occupational safety and health, corporate communications, and the university's top management to successfully develop the module. At the same time, the technical approach was designed and coordinated by researchers from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) in collaboration with the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE). In addition, 449 local and international students from 19 public and private universities, polytechnic, and community colleges were also involved in data collection.



On 30th September 2021, a Launching Ceremony and Webinar were held to introduce the module. The ceremony was officiated by YBhg. Datuk Seri Dr. Noraini Ahmad, Minister of Higher Education. After the launching ceremony, an online webinar entitled Risk and Crisis Communication for Public Health and Institutional Resilience was held with the collaboration of MyOHUN and MoHE as strategic partners. The launching of this module was well covered in the local news media such as News Straits Times and Berita Harian.

This module addresses One Health technical competency of risk communication during a disease crisis, highlighting critical aspects of working together through effective communication to improve information flow and management at higher learning institutes in Malaysia. MyOHUN envisions this module to be useful for all higher learning institutions in Malaysia and can be adapted and tailored to suit the needs of any local institution.

Training of Community Risk Managers in Kuantan, Pahang

The COVID-19 pandemic that began in late 2019 demonstrated how ill the world was prepared to deal with a pandemic. The early scientific evidence reported during the pandemic was conflicting, and many were confused about the true nature of the disease.

Marginalized communities, particularly migrants and undocumented communities, were among the last to be informed when a pandemic strikes. With that in mind, Dr. Mohammad Farhan Rusli from the International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM) and his team developed a comprehensive training manual and videos for Risk Management of COVID-19 in the Rohingya Community. The manual and videos were developed with the aim

to train community risk managers to spread knowledge and awareness about COVID-19 to the industrial workers and Rohingya community.

The manual was specifically developed for the risk managers and trainers. To increase the attention and comprehension among the target viewers, the videos accompanying the manual were produced in multiple languages (English, Malay, Burmese, and native Rohingya spoken language). This will also allow risk managers to efficiently present, communicate, and adapt the manual for other communicable diseases/outbreaks. Both manual and video are in the final production phases and will soon be published.



COVILaM: Enhancing the Awareness of Healthcare Workers on COVID-19 Testing



COVID-19 Laboratory Module, or COVILaM, is an online training module for laboratory testing and interpretation of the results for coronavirus disease (COVID-19). In containing COVID-19, the World Health Organization (WHO) has called for all countries to test as many citizens as possible. Unfortunately, while this is a great strategy, our healthcare workforce does not have the commodity to uphold such a great strategy while handling superfluous COVID-19 cases in Malaysia.

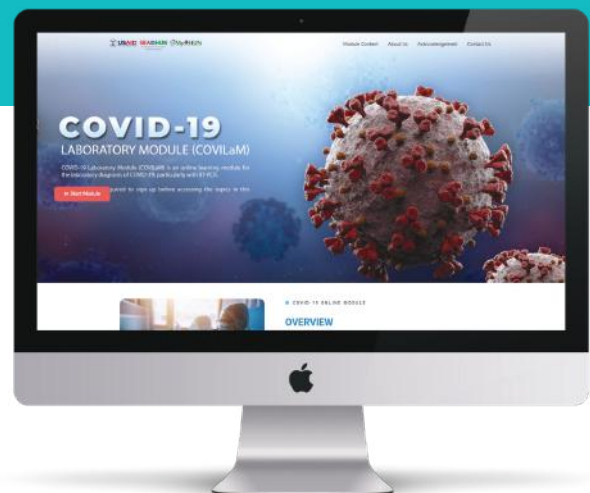
On account of this situation, Prof. Dr. Syafnaz Amin Nordin from Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM) and her team from other universities under the Malaysia One Health University Network (MyOHUN), developed a COVID-19 Laboratory Module or COVILaM. Funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through the COVID-19 Tranche Fund project under MyOHUN, COVILaM was developed with the intention to enrich the understanding of the laboratory diagnostic of COVID-19 among the healthcare workers and train more healthcare workforce in laboratory diagnostic procedures of COVID-19, which contributes to the appropriate management, surveillance, and control of the disease.

COVILaM is a training module for laboratory testing and result interpretation for COVID-19. This module provides knowledge transfer to laboratory personnel and health care workers alike on good practices of laboratory testing for COVID-19 through topics consisting of an overview of the disease and preventive measures, bio-risk assessment, demonstration on applying the personal protective equipment (PPE), and performing molecular testing, as well as results interpretation.

This e-training module is accompanied by self-assessed (pre and post) test questions, slide shows, infographics, video demonstrations, and lectures to ensure the knowledge acquired through this online module is sufficient for a healthcare worker to perform basic COVID-19 laboratory testing. On this note, the module also demonstrates how RT-PCR is performed through multiple videos. With more than 1400 audiences and 36 people registered for the training module to date, COVILaM has demographically changed how training can also be done through an online platform.



scan to go to
Covilam Website





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