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INTRODUCTION

The Department of Social and Preventive Medicine (popularly known as SPM) is one of many teaching departments in the Faculty of Medicine, University Malaya. It was formed in 1964, one year after the founding of the Faculty of Medicine in the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. The department is involved in both Undergraduate and Postgraduate teachings.

The Master of Public Health Programme was started in 1973 to cater to the needs of the country. There are now more than 538 Master of Public Health graduates from Malaysia and around the world. They now serve with distinction in the Ministry of Health, universities and various other bodies including the Malaysian Armed Forces; and town and city councils. Being a department with a vision and mission, it is dedicated to the discipline of Public Health and looks forward to the future with vigour and enthusiasm.

Organisation Structure

The Department of Social and Preventive Medicine is one of the 26 academic departments and units of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya. The Department of Social and Preventive Medicine is organised into four units (refer to the organisation chart):

- Health Management Unit
- Epidemiology & Biostatistics Unit
- Family Health Unit
- Occupational and Environmental Health Unit

Each unit is made up of a unit head, lecturers and programme assistants (PA). In addition, the department is also supported by the administrative personnel at the Office of the Head of Department. Since the department offers a number of higher degree programmes, the department’s Postgraduate Secretariat plays a vital role in running these programmes.
Vision

To become the institution of excellence which will provide leadership in activities for the education, training, research, development, spread and provision of service in the domain of Public Health and in all the specialities associated with it.

Mission

The Department views its mission at the undergraduate level as being charged with the responsibility, via the medical undergraduate instructional programme, for the preparation of the potential graduate to take up duties in the running of health programmes for the community in all parts of the nation and to be able to operate from the national health care service system effectively and efficiently (at the level of the medical officer).

The Department views its mission at the post-graduate level as being charged with the responsibility, via its post-graduate public health training programmes, to produce a doctor who may be considered as a professional and a specialist in the general domain of public health as well as in a particular chosen specialty within it.

The Department also considers its mission to share the knowledge and skills gained in its various activities with others who are interested. This is envisaged to be achieved in various ways including the conduct of short courses from time to time.
RELATIONSHIP AND COOPERATION

Strengthening of Public Health programmes

As part of the continuing effort by the Department to strengthen the Public Health teaching and training programmes. The Department made full use of the opportunities available to it in 2007 to meet and discuss with the various stakeholders in the public health field in Malaysia and abroad.

One such opportunity was a meeting with the Director General of the Department of Occupational Safety and Health, Malaysia. Associate Professor S Noor Ghani, Associate Professor Retneswari Masilamani and Dr Victor Hoe paid a courtesy visit to Ir Zainuddin Abdullah on 4 Jan 2007 in his office in Putrajaya. The visit was to discuss Master of Public Health (Occupational Health) candidates’ postings, the upcoming Doctor of Public Health programme and the potential collaboration that will benefit the two institutions and the country.

Another effort made was the meeting in the Department itself on 5 January 2007 between the Department of Community Health, University Putra Malaysia, Department of Community Medicine, University Sains Malaysia (USM) and the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine, University of Malaya. It was organised to discuss the new directions proposed by the Ministry of Health on postgraduate training in the country. In the meeting the SPM Department presented their one-year Master of Public Health and Master of Medical Science in Public Health programmes. The discussion also touched on the upcoming Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) programme.

A/P Dr. Awang and A/P Dr. Retneswari with Prof. Bob Cummings of the University of Sydney

Associate Professors Awang Bulgiba and Retneswari Masilamani had the opportunity to visit SPM’s counterparts in Sydney from 6-11 May 2007. During the visit they went to the School of Public Health, Faculty of Medicine and the National Centre for Classification in Health, Faculty of Health Sciences. The purpose of the visit was to reciprocate the visit in Sept 2006 by the University of Sydney and to explore areas in which the two universities could cooperate and collaborate in teaching and research as well as to maximise the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the two universities. During their stay in Sydney, they also managed to visit the School of Public Health and Community Medicine, University of New South Wales. The department looks forward to greater collaboration and cooperation between the three universities in the area of public health. A number of lessons were learned during the visit particularly with regard to the conduct of the DrPH programme proposed by the SPM Department.
Collaborative Centre

The effort of setting up a formal collaborative centre between the University Medical Centre, Utrecht and Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya began in 2006. It continued with a visit by Professor J. C. Stuof the Dean of the University Medical Centre, Utrecht, Netherlands on 30 March 2007, along with Professor Diedreic Grobbee, Professor Arno Hoes and Professor Yolanda van der Graaf from Julius Centre, University Medical Centre, Utrecht. On the same day, Datuk Rafiah Salim the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Malaya and Prof J. C. Stuof the Dean of the University Medical Center, Utrecht, Netherlands signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for further collaboration in teaching, training and research.

The Dutch visitors also visited the Faculty of Medicine during their trip here. Prof Stuof and Prof Datin Hamimah Hassan (Deputy Dean for Undergraduate and Diploma programmes) also discussed the students exchange programme between the two medical schools for medical students. The outcome of these visits and collaborative efforts was a proposal to bid for funding under the Asia-Link Programme for a formal collaborative project on clinical epidemiology and evidence-based medicine.

The Asia-link Programme proposal; “Asia Europe Clinical Epidemiology and Evidence Based Medicine Programme” was approved by the European Union on 5 April 2007. The partners for the European Union's Asia-link Programme are

Julius Center, University Medical Center, Utrecht, (UMCU) Netherlands
Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine (CEBM), University of Oxford, United Kingdom
Rumah Sakit Cipto Mangunkusumo (RSCM), University of Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia
Department of Social and Preventive Medicine (SPM), Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya.

The Asia Europe Clinical Epidemiology and Evidence-Based Medicine Programme is a programme sponsored by the European Commission under the Asia-Link Programme. It was launched by the Deputy Vice Chancellor (Infrastructure Development) Professor Khaw Lake Tee at the Clinical Auditorium in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya on 19 November 2007.

The website for the programme http://www.asialink-ce.org was also launched during the ceremony. Following the launching there was a press conference and also a meeting between the various
researchers from the University of Malaya and the team from University Medical Center, Utrecht to discuss research collaborations between the two institutions.

Study Tour

During the year the Department hosted two Study Tour Groups from Asian countries. The first was the group from the Directorate General of Health Service (DGHS), Bangladesh from 25 February to 10 March 2007. They were here for the “Study Tour of Advanced School Health Programme”.

The study tour included lectures and seminars on the Malaysian School Health Programmes by the Master of Public Health (Family Health) candidates (Dr Sunita, Dr Nik Nairan, Dr Siti Rohana, Dr Ariza, and Dr Maslinor) and by SPM Department staff; among whom were Dr. Nabilla Abdul Mohsein Al-Sadat, Datin Dr Norlaili Abdul Aziz, Associate Professor Dato’ Dr. Sirajoon Noor Ghani and the Head of SPM Department, Associate Professor Dr. Awang Bulgiba A. Mahmud.

The visitors from DGHS were Dr. Md Nurul Islam Prodhan (Assistant Director, School Health Programme, Dhaka), Dr Md Morshed Uddin (Associate Professor, Department of Physiology, Mymensingh Medical College), Dr Jasminara Begum (Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecologist, MCHTI, Dhaka), Dr Saifuddin Mohammad Tareque (Associate Professor, Eye Department, Chittagong Medical College, Chittagong), Dr Md Jashim Uddin (Assistant Professor, Microbiology Department, Chittagong Medical College, Chittagong), and Dr Md Zinnun Rain (Assistant Professor National Institute of Ophthalmology, Dhaka).

The second group were from Vietnam, who were in Malaysia for their WHO fellowship programme. As part of the visit to the Department, they were briefed on the Undergraduate and Postgraduate Programmes run by the Department. The briefing was carried out by Associate Professor Dato S. Noor Ghani and Dr Victor Hoe. They also visited the SPM Library, SPM Computer Laboratory, Medical Library, Postgraduate lecture halls, and the University of Malaya Medical Centre out-patient department.

The visitors were Vo Thi Nhi Ha (Pharmacist, Ministry of Health), Pham Van Trong (Lecturer and Researcher, ThaiBinh Medical College), and Tran Van Ve (Ministry of Health, Vietnam).
Collaborative Effort

From 10-16 January 2007, Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba A Mahmud was part of a delegation from the Faculty of Medicine who paid an official visit to Sudan. It was a fruitful visit according to him and he was kept busy in Sudan networking with the Federal and Khartoum State Ministry of Health as well as the International University of Africa. The SPM Department has a long history of training public health specialists for Sudan and his visit served to strengthen the growing bond between Sudan and Malaysia. It is expected that this cooperation will continue for many years to come and the development of new specialty programs in public health like the DrPH has aroused a fair bit of interest from the Sudanese Ministries of Health.

A half-day seminar on the “Use of Salivary Biomarkers for Research” was held at the Biotech Laboratory, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya on 22 January 2007. It was organised by the SPM Department and conducted by Professor David Koh, Ms Vivian Ng and Mr Andrew Wee from the Salivary Biomarkers Research Group (SBRG) in the Department of Community, Occupational and Family Medicine of the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore. The seminar was attended by Professors and researchers from various departments in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya.

One of the outcomes from the seminar was the initiation of a collaborative research project on “The relationship of salivary biomarkers to job stress among multinational office workers using Job Content Questionnaire” by Associate Professor Retneswari and Professor David Koh.

Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai visited the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore on 14 Aug 2007. He was there to visit the School of Medicine Gallery to gather inspiration for ideas on a similar gallery to be set up at the newly renovated Clinical Auditorium in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya. He also managed to visit the Community, Occupational and Family Medicine (COFM) Department.

Dr Marilyn Fingerhut from NIOSH USA visited the department on the 21 August 2007. She gave a presentation on occupational health and WHO Collaborating Centre for Occupational Health and the areas of focus for those centres. Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba gave a presentation on the Department followed by a presentation on Occupational Health Training by the Department presented by Associate Professor Retneswari. The presentation was attended by staff of the department and MPH (Occupational Health) candidates.
IPS Open Day

The Institute of Postgraduate Studies (IPS) had two Open Days for postgraduate students during 2007. These were held on 26 January 2007 and 10 August 2007. Various faculties and institutions of the university displayed and promoted their postgraduate programmes.

On both occasions the Faculty of Medicine booth was manned by staff from the SPM Department. Professor Patrick Tan (Deputy Dean for Postgraduate Affairs) was also there managing the booth and fielding questions from prospective postgraduate candidates. There were quite a number of enquiries on the Master of Public Health and Master of Medical Science in Public Health programmes. The Department also distributed the Doctor of Public Health pamphlets, which is likely to be offered from 2009 onwards.

Regional Networking

Dr Moy Foong Ming attended the 5th South East Asian Nutrition Leadership Program (SEA-NLP) in Jakarta from 27 to 31 August 2007. The SEA-NLP was jointly organised by SEAMEO-TROPMED (South-East Asia Ministers of Education Organisation-Tropical Medicine) and the University of Indonesia. It was attended by 24 participants from 10 South East Asian countries who were mostly nutritionists, public health specialists and biochemists.

The main objective of the SEA-NLP is to empower nutritionists with postgraduate degrees working in government bodies, research institutes, academia and other institutions having nutrition programs by providing competencies in effective leadership including team building and communication skills. The SEA-NLP is also aimed at providing a forum for networking among nutritionists in the region.
CONTINUOUS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Department has been active in organising courses, seminars and workshops for students, lecturers and other health care professionals from the Ministry of Health, University of Malaya and other agencies. Besides organising these events, the staff also contributed to courses, seminars and workshops organised by other departments, faculties and agencies.

SPSS Hands-on Workshop for Nurses

The Nursing Research Steering Group with the cooperation of the Medical Statistics Unit of the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine organised the SPSS Hands-on Workshop from 6-8 March 2007 at the Multi-disciplinary Computer Laboratory, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya. The workshop objective was to enable participants to create a data set with SPSS, select an appropriate statistical method based on the research question/hypothesis, study design and level of measurement, answer the research questions /hypothesis using the appropriate statistics test, interpret and report the research findings.

The attendees of the workshop included Bachelor of Nursing students, nursing researchers and academicians from UMMC. Associate Professor Dr Awang Bulgiba, Dr Sanjay Rampal and Ms Moy Foong Ming were the invited speakers while Ms Lee Pek Ling and Mr Mohd Roshidi Ismail acted as facilitators in the workshop.

Hospital Cost Accounting

Dr Ng Chiu Wan from the Management Unit, Department of Social and Preventive Medicine collaborated with Dr Rozita Halina Hussein from the Health Financing and Health Economics Research Division of the Institute for Health Systems Research (IHSR) to successfully organise a Hospital Cost Accounting Workshop at the IHSR for Ministry of Health Malaysia staff on Thursday, 22 March 2007.

Training Programme for Data Collection on Smoking Cessation

The training was held to brief and train research assistants, doctors, nurses and medical assistants from the Quit Smoking Clinics run by the Ministry of Health, Malaysia on 27 June 2007. It was officiated by Dr Salehuddin bin Abu Bakar, the Deputy Director, Department of Health, Wilayah Persekutuan.
The Principal Investigator for this research is Miss Wee Lei Hum. The training was conducted to carry out the prospective study on smoking cessation in five Quit Smoking Clinics located in Tanglin Clinic, Jinjang Clinic, Pantai Clinic, Kampung Pandan Clinic and Putrajaya Hospital.

It included a briefing on the interview schedules and applications of the PRIME Theory by Professor Robert West, Head of Health Behaviour Research Centre, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, University of College London, U.K. via SKYPE.

2nd Asia Pacific Conference on Public Health: Pre-Conference Workshop

Staff from the Department were involved in the pre-conference workshop organised during the 2nd Asia Pacific Conference on Public Health held on 3 July 2008 at the Subang Sheraton Hotel in Petaling Jaya. Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba and Dr Mas Ayu Said ran the Research Methods workshop and Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai and Dr Sanjay Rampal organised the Critical Appraisal of Scientific Papers and Meta Analysis workshop.

UMMC Wellness Programme

The University Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC) Wellness Programme is a worksite wellness research programme. The programme is to look into the improvement of the health of UMMC staff. As part of this programme two health talks were organised on 10 and 12 July 2007. The topics covered general information on the wellness program and an overview on healthy lifestyle as well as major health risk factors associated with unhealthy lifestyles. Healthy lunch packs were provided during the lunch talk.

The second health talk was on 24 and 26 July on the benefits of proper exercise to enhance the quality of lives and how to lose weight in a healthy way. The class provided some ideas of activities in the areas of cardio-respiratory endurance, muscular strength and flexibility, factors that contribute to overweight and obesity and how physical activities help to prevent overweight and obesity. The speakers for both the talks were Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai and Dr Moy Foong Ming.

Scientific Writing for Publication

Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba contributed to a workshop on “Scientific Writing for Publications” organised by the Health Research Development Unit (HerDU) from 23-24 July 2007. The workshop was held in the University of Malaya. Associate Professor Awang taught
participants how to present statistical results in a scientific paper.

There were around 30 participants who attended the workshop and they consisted of postgraduate students and lecturers from the Faculty of Medicine

**Scientific Writing workshop**

Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba also contributed to another workshop on Scientific Writing organised by the Ministry of Health Malaysia in Sibu, Sarawak from 31 July to 3 August 2007. He taught participants how to present statistical results in a scientific paper. The participants came from all over the country.

**Human Capital Deepening: Health and Education**

Dr Ng Chiu Wan was an invited speaker for a plenary session on Human Capital Deepening: Health and Education which was part of the International Conference on “Poverty and Distribution Amidst Diversity: Options and Challenges for Development” organised by the Centre for Poverty and Development Studies of the Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya held on 13-14 August 2007. Her talk was entitled, “Paying for and using health care services in Malaysia - has the poor been treated fairly?” The keynote address was given by Professor Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Earth Institute, University of Columbia who has been appointed as the first holder of the Royal Professor Ungku Aziz Chair

**Workshop in Psychiatric Clinical Trial and Research**

Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba and Dr Mas Ayu contributed to the Workshop in Psychiatric Clinical Trial and Research which was organised by the Psychiatric Department of the University of Malaya Medical Centre. The workshop was held on the 4 November 2007 on the beautiful island of Penang.

**Advanced Diagnostic Research: Theory and Practice**

The first workshop organised under the Asia Europe Clinical Epidemiology and Evidence-Based Medicine Programme, “Advanced Diagnostic Research: Theory and Practice” was held from the 20-22 November 2007 in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya. The workshop was organised jointly by the Julius Centre, University Medical Centre Utrecht (Netherlands) and Department of Social and Preventive Medicine.
The workshop included lectures and statistical computing sessions by distinguished faculty from the Julius Centre, which included Professor Diederick E. Grobbee, Professor Yolanda Van Der Graaf, Professor Arno W Hoes and Prof Karl G. M. Moons.

The workshop consisted of lectures and practical sessions on “Principles and design of a diagnostic study”, “Designing a diagnostic study”, “Recognising heart failure in COPD”, “Basic analysis of a diagnostic study”, “SPSS Workshop”, “Advanced analysis of a diagnostic study” and "Workshop on advanced analysis of diagnostic studies”.

There were seventy five participants from the Ministry of Health and local universities. The participants consisted of professors, lecturers, clinician, dentists, researchers and Masters candidates. There will be more workshops on Clinical Epidemiology and Evidence-Based Medicine which will be organised over the next three years.

Among the lecturers from the Julius Centre, University Medical Centre, Utrecht
CONFERENCES AND PRESENTATION

19th World Conference on Health Promotion and Education

Ms Moy Foong Ming attended the 19th World Conference on Health Promotion and Education in Vancouver, Canada from 10-15 June 2007. She presented a paper entitled “Behavioural change and personal skill development in a workplace health promotion program in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia”. The conference was attended by more than 3000 participants from all over the world. Dr Norintan Ab Murad from the Department of Community Dentistry of University Malaya also attended the conference.

1st UMMC International Nursing Congress

The 1st University of Malaya Medical Centre International Nursing Congress was held from the 28 June to 1 July 2007 at the Shangri-la Hotel in Kuala Lumpur. Associate Professor Retneswari Masilamani and Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai were invited to speak at the Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety Symposium.

Associate Professor Retneswari spoke on the “Ergonomics: The Practical Approach” while Dr Victor Hoe spoke on “Reproductive Health Hazards faced by Nurses”. The other speaker was Associate Professor Dr Jayakumar, the Chairman for the Society of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (SOEM) who spoke on “Work Related Stress”. The sessions were chaired by Dr B. Jagdev Singh, who is the current Honorary Treasure for the Society of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (SOME).

2nd Asia Pacific Conference on Public Health

The 2nd Asia Pacific Conference on Public Health which was organised by the College of Public Health Medicine-Academy of Medicine Malaysia together with the Ministry of Health and University Putra Malaysia from the 3-5 July 2007 at the Subang Sheraton Hotel in Petaling Jaya. The conference was officiated by Dr Shigeru Omi the WHO Western Pacific Regional Director. After the opening he also delivered a paper on “Health and Civilisation”. The Director General of Health, Ministry of Health Malaysia, Tan Sri Datuk Hj Mohd Ismail Merican delivered the keynote address on “Emerging Threats to Public Health”.

During the conference a large number of papers were presented by staff, Masters degree candidates and undergraduate students from the University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur. The abstract of these papers were published in the Malaysian Journal of Public Health Medicine.
Among the papers presented were:

Analysis of Dengue Death Cases in Selangor, Malaysia - 1 January to 1 April 2007 Norli Abdul Jabbar*, Nor Aini Mohd Noor, Sanjay Rampal*

Post Tsunami Lhokseumawe, Aceh: A Situation Analysis. Saimy Ismail*, Sanjay Rampal*, Victor Hoe Chee Wai*

Risk Factors Associated with Drug Dependence in Malaysia Males. Sanjay Rampal*, Azhar Md Zain, GR Lekhraj Rampal


Risk Factors of Pre-term Birth Among Nurses in Tengku Ampuan Rahimah Hospital. Christine Yeow Siew Lin*, Victor Hoe Chee Wai*, Quek Kia Fatt

Risk Factors of Sickness Absenteeism among Health Attendants in Hospital Kuala Lumpur. Ahmad Riaz Mazeli*, Victor Hoe Chee Wai*

Validation of the Malay Initial Questionnaire and Clinical Assessment for Use in Hands-Arm Vibration Syndrome Studies. Anselm Su Ting*, Victor Hoe Chee Wai*

Diagnostic Properties of the Malay Over reactive Bladder (QABV8) for Use in the Malaysian Population. M Paresmeswaran, Sanjay Rampal*, K Shanggar Khaidir, PH Tun, K Siti Hajar, K Norhidayu, MP Hazwani, A Nor Hafizah, A Razak, N Dublin

Prevalence of Sharps Injuries and Associated Factors Among the Staff Nurse in University of Malaya Medical Centre Priya R*, Retneswari Masilamani*, Ganesh B*

Factors Associated with Pap Smear Screening among the Malay Women in a Public University. Lim Ching Hooi*, Calyn Tan Jen Ai*, Tay Sin Yah*, Moy Foong Ming *

* Authors from the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya

Research, Inventions & Innovation Expo

The Research, Inventions & Innovation Expo was held at the Dewan Tunku Canselor, University of Malaya from 26-28 July 2007. Three posters were put up in the Research Gallery from the staff of the SPM Department.
The titles of the posters were:


Pattern of expenditure of undergraduates at the University of Malaya. *Moy Foong Ming, Johari Surin, Ismail Yusoff, Rosli Mahat, Tie Fatt Hee, Wan Mohd Azhar Wan Ibrahim, Noor Azina Ismail - Bronze Medal


* Authors from the Dept of SPM, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya

PhD Research Presentation

Ms Moy Foong Ming presented her research findings of her PhD project entitled “Promoting Healthy Lifestyle at the Worksite” to the faculty on 6 August 2007 at the Biotechnology Laboratory Lecture Hall in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya. The Deputy Dean for Postgraduate, Professor Patrick Tan was the chair for the session. Also present are Professor Atiya Ab Sallam (Ms Moy's PhD supervisor), A/Professor Awang Bulgiba, faculty staff and the staff from SPM were there in full force to support her.

39th Asia Pacific Academic Consortium for Public Health Conference

Dr Nabilla al-Sadat Abdul Mohsein and Dr Moy Foong Ming from the SPM department attended the 39th Asia Pacific Academic Consortium (APACPH) for Public Health in Kagawa Nutrition University, Sakado city, Saitama, Japan from the 23-25 November 2007. Other faculty members who attended the APACPH conference were Professor Ikram Shah Ismail (Dean of the Medical Faculty), Professor Atiya Ab Sallam and Professor Sarinah Low Wah Yun. The conference was attended by 495 participants from 21 Asia Pacific countries.

Both Dr Nabilla and Dr Moy presented their research findings orally in the conference. The topics of their presentations were “Why girls smoked in Malaysia” by Dr Nabilla and “Dietary modification in a workplace health promotion program in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia” by Dr Moy.
DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES

Family Day

The Department of SPM and MPH students successfully organised a Family Day on 21 April 2007. The event was attended by more than 100 participants, which consisted of staff of the SPM Department and the MPH, MMedScPH and MPH speciality students plus their families. Even ex-department staff joined in - Associate Professor Quek Kia Fatt (currently in Monash University Malaysia) and Professor Atiya Ab Sallam. Activities included Futsal, Aerobic Exercise, Telematch, Treasure Hunt, Table Tennis and Carroms.

The Second SPM Department Family Day was held on 8 September 2007. The event was attended by staff of the SPM Department, postgraduate students – MPH, MMedScPH and their families. It was another success as all those present enjoy themselves.

Gotong-Royong

The Department had its first “Gotong-royong” in many years on 11 November 2007. The “Gotong-royong” was to get rid of old junk which had accumulated over the years and to reorganise the various rooms for better functionality. All the staff participated in this activity and it was also a good get-together for the staff.
Farewell Party organised by Sudanese students

The Sudanese MPH and MMedScPH graduating class of 2006/2007 organised a Farewell Celebration at the Department of SPM on 7 May 2007. The ceremony was graced by Mr Abbadi Noureldeen the First Secretary of the Embassy of the Republic of Sudan, Professor Dr Patrick Tan the Deputy Dean for Postgraduates, Dr Sihab the Sudanese Coordinator and the Associate Professor Dato’ S. Noor Ghani the Acting Head of Department of SPM.

Welcoming new postgraduates students

The Department welcomed new postgraduate students who were joining the MPH, MMedScPH and MPH speciality programme on 1 June 2007. An “Ice-Breaking” event among the postgraduate students was held on the 29 June 2007. Forty-nine candidates have registered for the postgraduate programmes, 22 of whom are Malaysian with the rest from Sudan, Nigeria, Libya, Saudi Arabia and Myanmar.

Farewell Party by the MPH (Family Health) Graduates

Dr Mariam Binti Jamaludin and Dr Aizuniza Binti Abdullah who completed their Master of Public Health (Family Health) final examination in November 2007 sponsored lunch for the Department on 14 December 2007.

MPH Entrance Evaluation Test

The Department conducted an Entrance Evaluation for prospective MPH candidates (for the 2008/09 July intake) from the Ministry of Health on 13 December 2007. There were 21 Medical Officers and Medical and Health Officers from all over Malaysia who attempted the evaluation.
STAFF ACHIEVEMENTS

Promotions

Promoted to senior lecturer
  Dr Sanjay Rampal
  Dr Noran Naqiah Mohd Hairi
  Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai Abdullah
  Dr Mas Ayu Said

Promoted to Professor
  Professor Samsina Hussain
  Professor Atiya Ab Sallam

Awards

Service Excellence Awards
  Dr Sanjay Rampal                     Ms Norizan Moez
  Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai Abdullah     Ms Nor Zurina Zainol
  Dr Mas Ayu Said                     En Nordin Mohamed
  Dr Moy Foong Ming                   Mdm Lee Pek Ling

Staff on Overseas Leave for Academic Purposes

  Mr Hazreen Abd Majid, PhD at King’s College, London
  Ms Karina Razali, PhD at University of New South Wales, Sydney
  Dr Farizah Mohd Hairi, PhD at Erasmus University, Rotterdam
  Dr Noran Naqiah Mohd Hairi, PhD at University of Sydney, Australia
Staff currently furthering their studies

Dr Ng Chiu Wan-PhD on a part-time basis in Health Financing in the Faculty Economics and Public Administration, University of Malaya

Dr Maslinor Ismail - Master of Public Health (University of Malaya)

Dr Rafdzah Ahmad Zaki - Master of Public Health (University of Malaya)

Dr. Marzuki Isahak- Master of Public Health (University of Malaya)

Mr Mohd Roshidi Ismail - Master of Medical Science (Public Health) (University of Malaya)

Ms Wee Bee Suan- Master of Health Science (Nutrition) on a part-time basis with Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM)

Ms Shamsina Shamsudin- Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Mathematics on a part-time basis from Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

Ms Nur Fadhлина Othman- Bachelor of Science in Human Resource Development on a part-time basis from Universiti Teknologi Malaysia

Ms Jayasutha Kamarajoo- Diploma in LCCI Secretarial and Business Administration on a part-time basis from Rima College, Kuala Lumpur

Staff who completed further studies

Dr Maznah Dahlui PhD, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia

Dr Moy Foong Ming, PhD, University of Malaya

Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai, Master of Engineering (Safety, Health and Environment) from the Faculty of Engineering, University of Malaya

New staff

Lecturer

Associate Professor Noorjah Mohamed Salleh

Datin Seri Dr Norlaili Abdul Aziz

Dr Claire Choo Wan Yuen

Trainee Lecturer

Dr Marzuki Isahak

Dr Rafdzah Ahmad Zaki
Assistant Science Officer

Ms Nur Zalikha Sazali
Mr Nordin Mohamed

Research Assistant

Ms Charity Yang Yung Yee
Ms Christi Philomena Philips
Ms Emilya Yahya
Ms Siti Nor Azirah Aziman Shah
Ms Eng Jui Yee
Ms Quek She Lin
EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Undergraduate Programme

The Department of Social and Preventive Medicine contributes to the Undergraduate medical and science programmes of the Faculty of Medicine and the University. The programmes are:

- MBBS (Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery)
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing
- Bachelor of Biomedical Science
- Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technology

Together with the other 21 teaching departments in the Faculty of Medicine, the SPM department is involved in the undergraduate medical course (MBBS). There are basically two types of activities which the department undertakes:

Academic courses for undergraduates (MBBS)

- The Management of Self
- Foundations of Epidemiology
- Medical Statistics
- The Management of Resources
- Epidemiology of Specific Diseases
- Family Health
- Health Promotion
- The Management of People
- Environmental Health
- Occupational Health
- International Classification of Diseases
Field programs for undergraduates (MBBS)

The in-house courses conducted by the department serve to provide theoretical basis for the knowledge in the field of Public Health which is to be acquired by the student. However Public Health is a very real subject and involves work in the community. It is not possible to illustrate these practical aspects during classroom teaching although simulations can be attempted. It is felt that there is no better way than for the student to experience the real problems in the community itself.

To supplement and complement its in-house teaching program, the SPM Department conducts three field programs for the students in the undergraduate medical program and assists in one field program conducted by other departments. The programmes conducted by the department are:

- Community Residency Program (CRP)
- Organisation and Management of Health Services (OMHS)

Community Residency Program

The CRP affords an opportunity for the medical student to interact with residents in rural areas and to attempt to understand their life-style and their health beliefs and problems. It also allows them to see various plants and facilities which have been described in the classroom and also makes use of knowledge gained to produce a report concerning rural people.

Clearance is obtained from the Ministry of Health Malaysia to utilise its facilities in the rural areas as bases for the CRP. Every year in the month of November and December, reconnaissance trips are then made by academic staff to secure assistance from the ground staff of the Ministry of Health and also to select villages where the survey will be conducted.

The duration of the CRP is four weeks, which are divided in to three phases:

1. 1st Phase is the Preparatory Phase (1 week)
2. 2nd Phase is the Field Phase (2 weeks)
3. Final phase is the Debriefing Phase (1 week).

The Field Phase includes activities like a rural health survey, conducting thematic projects and field visits. Topics of Thematic Projects conducted during the 2007 CRP session are:

- Women’s Health - Kubang Pasu, Kedah
- Prevalence, Awareness, Treatment and Control of Hypertension and Its Risk Factor - Bota, Perak
- Patterns of Injuries among the Villages in the Districts of Malaysia - Bentong, Pahang
Field visits places of public health interest; e.g.

- Water treatment plants
- Sanitary land fill
- Sewage treatment plants
- Gravity feed water supply systems
- Vector control activitis
- Factories

The poster exhibition for the Community Residency Programme thematic project was held in the foyer in front of the TJ Danaraj Medical Library in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya from 30 July to 3 August 2007.

Organisation and Management of Health Service (OMHS)

OMHS is one of the field programmes conducted by the SPM Department for MBBS undergraduates. The OMHS seeks to afford a period for the potential graduate to interact with the various systems of health care delivery in a district in the country. These systems, ranging from the traditional to the scientific, are present concurrently and patients usually seek assistance from more than one system at the same time. The programme also allows the potential graduate to familiarise himself/herself with his/her future work environment as he/she learns about the functions of the various categories of staff who man the hospitals and health centres.

Thus when posted to a district as a medical officer or a medical and health officer, the graduate is expected to perform his/her duties right from the first day. The OMHS programme supersedes the previous District Health Services Survey programme.

The students were divided into 8 groups. They were then posted to different districts to look at the health services provided in those areas which consist of rural, semi-urban, urban and metropolitan areas:

- Kuala Lumpur
- Hulu Selangor
- Kuala Selangor
- Petaling
- Sepang
- Raub
- Bentong
- Port Dickson
Students are to report and present the Organisation and Management of Health Services in the districts visited, and the special projects or focus areas adopted by the districts. The focus areas for 2007 were:

- Dengue Control Programme
- Malaria Control Programme amongst the Orang Asli (aboriginal peoples)
- School Health Programme - overcoming stress
- TB Control Programme
- Dr Muda programme
- Health Village Project in Kampong Ulu Yul (orang asli settlement)
- Health Promotion Programme for the Elderly
- Dapur Sihat (Healthy Kitchen)

Dr Ismail Lassa the Medical Officer of Health from the Petaling District and a representative from Sepang District Health Office attended the debriefing sessions.

**Postgraduate Programme**

Since 1974, the Department has been conducting Masters programmes for postgraduate students. The programmes conducted by the Department are:

- Master of Public Health (MPH) - one year programme
- Master of Medical Science (Public Health) - one year programme
- Master of Public Health (Health Service Management)
- Master of Public Health (Epidemiology)
- Master of Public Health (Family Health)
- Master of Public Health (Occupational Health)

Starting from the 2009/10 session, the department will be offering the Doctor of Public Health Programme. Beside the Masters programmes conducted by the Department, the Department also contributes to postgraduate programmes run by other Departments of the Medical Faculty as well as other faculties within the university. These programmes include:

- Master of Science in Nursing
- Master of Community Dentistry
Over the years, the academic staff of the department have also supervised several PhD candidates. Our postgraduate programmes have attracted both local and international students. Due to the large number of international students each year, the department has developed an International Students Handbook to assist international students.

**Master of Public Health Speciality Examination**

The Master of Public Health Speciality examination was conducted from 2-6 April 2007 for the MPH (Epidemiology) and MPH (Occupational Health) specialities and on 23-25 April 2007 for the MPH (Family Health) speciality. The external examiners for the MPH (Epidemiology) examination was Prof Ivan J Perry, for MPH (Occupational Health) was Prof Ken Takahashi and for MPH (Family Health) was Associate Professor Wong Mee Lian. The department hosted a lunch in honour of Professor Ivan Perry and Professor Ken Takahashi at Castell Restaurant in Petaling Jaya on 5 April 2007.

The Department conducted the Part I examinations for MPH (Health Services Management), MPH (Epidemiology), MPH (Family Health) and MPH (Occupational Health) from 9-13 April 2007.

**Master of Public Health and Master of Medical Science in Public Health Examinations**

The Department conducted the examinations for the Master of Public Health and Master of Medical Science in Public Health from 13-27 April 2007. The external examiner for the examination was Professor Harry Campbell from the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. He also gave a talk on ‘Causal Inference in Genetic Association Studies’ to the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya. The Department hosted a lunch for Professor Harry Campbell at the Gems Restaurant at Jalan Gasing, Petaling Jaya.

A Farewell Party was organised by the MPH Speciality graduates on 24 May 2007. The candidates who successfully completed the 4 years Master of Public Health programme were:

- Dr Ahmad Riadz bin Mazali - MPH (Occupational Health)
- Dr Christine Yeow Siew Lin - MPH (Occupational Health)
- Dr. Mohd Aminuddin Mohd Yusof - MPH (Epidemiology)
- Dr Noraliza Binti Noordin Merican - MPH (Family Health)
Dr. Rose Nani Mudin - MPH (Epidemiology)
Dr Priya a/p Ragunath - MPH (Occupational Health)
Dr. Thilaka a/p Chinnayah - MPH (Occupational Health)

Graduating 4 years MPH (specialty) candidates and SPM staff.
Back: Dr. Mohd Amin, Dr. Priya, Dr. Thilaka, Dr. Ahmad Riadz, Dr. Rose, Dr. Moy, Dr. Christine, Ng Geok Bee.
Front: Dr. Victor Hoe, A/P Dato SN Ghani, Prof Awang, A/P Dr. Saimy, Dr. Sanjay
POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH PROJECTS

List of Dissertation/Research Reports 2007

MPH (Speciality)

Environmental Tobacco Smoke Exposure During Pregnancy and Low Birth Weight. Dr. Rose Nani Mudin - MPH (Epidemiology), 2004/2007

Factors Associated with Abortion in Temerloh Hospital. Dr Mariam Binti Jamaludin - MPH (Family Health), 2004/2007


Prevalence & Factors Influencing Sharps injuries Among Staff Nurses in PPUM. Dr Priya a/p Ragunath – MPH (Occupational Health), 2004/2007

Risk Factor of Sickness Absenteeism among Health Attendant in HKL. Dr Ahmad Riadz bin Mazali – MPH (Occupational Health), 2004/2007


Workplace Violence on staff nurses at Selayang Hospital. Dr. Thilaka a/p Chinnayah – MPH (Occupational Health), 2004/2007

MPH (General) Research Protocol

Assessment of Elderly Care, problems and Needs in Khartoum State, Sudan 2007. Dr Ahmed Omer Ahmed Elfahel

Comparison of Incidence od Diabetic Come in Diabetic Pateints Among The General Population in Elfasher Town And The Displaced Person in The North Darfour State ( Sudan ) during June to Dicember 2007. Dr Sheikh Idirs Elsayed Mohameed Ahmed

Compliance to Oral Iron Supplements Use Among Pregnant Women In Petaling Distirct, Malaysia. Dr Asnida Anjang Ab Rahman

Cross-Sectional Study of Knowledge and Skill Assessment of the General Medical Assistants in Managing Malaria in Health Centers in Gedarif and Kassala States, Sudan. Dr Mohamed Eltegani Mohamed Khair
Determinants of Low Routine Immunization Coverage Among Children Less Than One Year of Age in Algeneina Administrative Unit - A Cross –Sectional Study, July 2007 to June 2008. Dr Khalid Mohamed Adam Tahir

Does Diabetic Hospitalization Costs Differ Between Insured and Non-Insured Patients in Sudan? Dr Isam Eldin Elnour Mohamed Baloul

Effects of a Health Promotion Program at the Workplace on Absenteeism In A Commercial Organisation. Dr Suhainizam Muhamad Saliluddin

Effect of Antiretroviral Therapy on Mortality and tuberculosis Incidence Rate Among HIV Patients in Penang State. Dr Rozaini Binti Mat Shah

Effect of Early Childhood Diarrhoeal on Growth Faltering In Matlab a Rural Community in Bangladesh from January 2008 to May 2016. Dr Farzana Amin

Factors associated with Low Measles Vaccine Coverage Among Under Two Years Children in Bahari Locality, Khartoum State, Sudan. Dr Wafaa Hassan Yousif

Factors Affecting Adherence to Anti-retroviral Therapy In HIV /AIDS Patients in AKTH, Kano-Nigeria. Dr Saad Abdulmumin

Factors Affecting Mortality of Malaria Cases in Hositals of Khartoum State, Sudan , Between 2004 to 2006. Dr Aymen Ahmed Mohammed Elgozoli

Home Injuries in Children Ages 0 to 6 Years in Kuala Lumpur From 1 st January to 30 th June 2008 – A prospective case Series Study. Dr Navjeet Kaur

Job Satisfaction Among Medical Assistants Working in Ministry of Health State General Hospital in Malaysia. Dr Mohamed Iqbal Bin Hamzah

Prevalence and Determinants of Retinopathy in Residents of Baghdad with Type Two Diabetes 2008. Dr Aqil Mohammad Daher

Prevalence and Determinants of Hepatitis B Among Health Care Workers In Khartoum Central Hospitals. Dr Elsheikh Kamaleldin Sidahmed


Prevalence of Contraceptive Use among Married Women in Putrajaya In Year 2007. Dr Rozita Bt Ab Rahman

Prevalence of Smoking And Knowledge And Attitude of Smoking Among Imams And Religious Leaders (Ustaz) in Mosques, Kuala Lumpur And Selangor. Dr Kay Khine Nyo

Study on Knowledge and Practise (KAP) of Dengue Fever in Port Sudan Red Sea State -2007. Dr Mutaz Abdallah Abdalhadi

The Pattern of HIV Prevalence Among Injecting Drug Usres in Khartoum State Sudan in the period from July 2007 to September 2007. Dr Abdelgadier Ibrahim Mohammed Jamo
The Prevalence and Risk Factors of Over Weight and Obesity Among Primary Schoolchildren in Seremban, Malaysia. Dr Edrin Nazri Abdul Rasib

The Prevalence of Helicobacter Pylori Infection Among Adults In Shendi Town-North Sudan Nov 2007-April 2008. Dr Hala Mohammed Kheir Abbas

The Prevalence of Iodine Deficiency Disorders in Basic Schools’ Children in El Fashir Town-Sudan. Dr Karam Eldin Ahmed Karam Eldin


Socio-Demographic Characteristics of Population And Risk of Tuberculosis in Kassala State, Sudan 2008. Dr Heitham Mohammed Ibrahim

Vitamin A Status Among Pre-School Children (6 Months-6 Years) in Elshohada-Soba District, Khartoum Locality, Khartoum State, Sudan. Dr Ibrahim Awad Eljack

MMedSc (Public Health) Research Protocol

A Pilot Study on The Practice Of Traditional Malay Post-Partum Massage In Peninsular Malaysia 1990 – Until 2005. Ms Delarina Frimawati Binti Othman Andu

A profile of Under One Year Old Children Who Default DPT 3 Dose in Routine Immunization in Mandella Displaced Camp In Jabal Awlia Locality – Khartoum State – Sudan – 2007. Mr Khalid Mahagoub Abd Alaziz Ahmed

Malnutrition Status of Children Under 5 Years in Internally Displaced People (IDPS) Camps in Mornie, West Darfur State, Sudan During 2007 – Analytic Across Sectional Study. Mr Abdelsalam Mustafa Salih

Prevalence and Complication Among School Children 6 – 15 years, with Meningococcal Meningitis In Jabel Awliya Locality at 2005 Khartoum, Sudan. Mr Mohammed Awad Elgead Ibrahim Mohammed

Prevalence of Diarrheal Disease In Children Under Five Years In Abu Shook Internally Displaced People (IDPs) Camp, North Darfour State Sudan. Mr Osman Adam Osman Ali

The Knowledge, Attitude And Practice of PAP Smear Screening Among Mothers Who Receive Care At the Maternity Unit of University Malaya Medical Centre Kuala Lumpur (UMMC). Ms Suprapti Binti Haji Omar


The Prevalence of Ocular Morbidity in Basic School Children In Wad Abu Salih Locality, Khartoum State, Sudan 2007. Ms Selma Siddig Abdelgarder
PhD Research Projects

Promoting healthy lifestyle at worksite. Ms Moy Foong Ming

Quality of Private Hospitals in Sana’a, Yemen. Dr Ali K. Abbas

Planning Elements of the PRIME Theory in Smoking Cessation Attempts: A Prospective Cohort Study in Malaysia. Ms Wee Lei Hum

Identification of Determinants for Progression to AIDS in HIV Patients Receiving Anti-Retroviral Treatment. Dr Rahayu Lubis

Promoting Postgraduate Programme

The Institute of Postgraduate Studies (IPS) had their Open Day for postgraduate students on the 10 August 2007. It is held twice a year for the various Faculties and Institutes within the University of Malaya to display their postgraduate programmes. The first event was held on 26 January 2007. The Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya participated in the Open Day and the booth was manned by staff from the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine.
UNIT REPORTS

Epidemiology and Biostatistics Unit (EPIDSTATS)

Academic Staff

Associate Professor Nooriah Mohamed Salleh (Head of Unit)
Associate Professor Dr Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud (Head of Department)
Professor Dr Atiya Ab Sallam (retired in March 2007)
Dr Mas Ayu Said
Dr Sanjay Rampal
Dr Claire Choo Wan Yuen
Dr Noran Naqiah Mohd Hairi (on study leave)
Ms Karina Razali (on study leave)
Mr Mohd Roshidi Ismail (on study leave)
Dr Rafdzah Ahmad Zaki (on study leave)

Support Staff

Ms Nor Zurina Zainol (Dietician/Programme Assistant)
Ms Moy Foong Ming (Dietician)
Ms Lee Pek Ling (Assistant IT officer)
Ms Nur Hashimah Kamar Redzawan (Programme Assistant)
Mr Nordin Mohamed (Programme Assistant) (left the department in June 2007)
Ms Nur Zalikha Sazali (Programme Assistant)

The Epidemiology Unit and Medical Statistics Unit were merged in June 2007. The unit was headed by Dr Mas Ayu Said until mid August 2007. Later it was headed by A/P Nooriah Mohamed Salleh when she joined the department.
Unit Activity

Short Courses

A “SPSS Hands-On Workshop” held from the 6th-8th March 2007. This was a conjoint effort between The Nursing Research Steering Group of UMMC with collaboration of the Medical Statistics unit of the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine. The attendees of the workshop included Bachelor of Nursing students, nursing researchers and academicians from UMMC.

Contributed to the workshop entitled “Using SPSS for Medical Research” on 19-21 June 2007 which was organised by HerDU (Health Development and Research Unit)

Contributed in the programme Organised by HerDU - “Scientific Writing for Publications” which was held from 23rd and 24th July 2007

Contributed to the workshop on “Scientific Writing for Publications” organised by the Ministry of Health in Sibu, Sarawak from 31 July to 3 August 2007.

Workshop on “Psychiatric Clinical Trials and Research” for psychiatrists from Northern region from 3-4 November 2007. It was jointly organised with the Psychiatric Department of the University of Malaya Medical Centre, Department of Social and Preventive Medicine and Lundbeck Malaysia.

Professor Omar Hassan Kasule, from the University of Brunei gave a series of lectures on “Essentials of Epidemiology In Public Health” to our MPH students and staff.

Research Activities

Below are the research projects which are undertaken by staff of our unit:

Study on Injuries Among the Elderly in Alor Gajah District (2006-2007) Dr Noran Naqiah Hairi, (FRGS) RM78,500. This study is to describe the prevalence of injuries and patterns of injuries in the elderly. It also will determine the prevalence of falls and risks factors for falls in older people.

Chikungunya infection in Pantai Remis: seroprevalence and risk factors assessment (2006-2007)- Dr Mas Ayu Said (CMB) RM20,000. This is a cross sectional study aiming to better understand the epidemiology of Chikungunya infection patterns at Pantai Remis and to identify potential risk factors for this disease.

Identification of determinants for progression to AIDS in HIV patients receiving anti-retroviral treatment. (2006-2007) - A/P Awang Bulgiba (FRGS) RM145,000.00. Antibodies to R7V have been suggested as a possible therapy as well as a possible strong predictor for progression to AIDS. There are few studies on this but no published study on Malaysian patients. The aim of this study is to determine the predictors of progression to AIDS in HIV patients undergoing follow-up in the UMMC. A cross-sectional study design will be used in this project. Data collection is expected to take 2 years to complete.

Promoting healthy lifestyle in worksite (2003-2007) – A/P Atiya Sallam (CMB) RM35,000. This is a quasi-experimental trial on the effectiveness of a workplace health promotion program targeting
on the promotion of healthy lifestyle. The intervention group received individual and group counselling on diet, physical activity and smoking cessation. The comparison group was given minimal education on the same lifestyle changes through mail and group counselling. In the 2-year follow up, the intervention group showed a significant reduction in their mean total cholesterol with an intervention effect of -0.38 (95% C.I.: -0.63, -0.14) and a reduction of the number of cigarettes smoked. The detailed results are published in the Health Promotion International, 2006, 21(4): 301-310. This project was undertaken by the co-investigator, Ms Moy Foong Ming as her PhD project.

Primary prevention of chronic diseases in a worksite Ms Moy Foong Ming (PJP) RM46,000.00. The study is designed to test the hypothesis that a worksite multiple risk factor intervention program that incorporates a supportive environment for promotion of healthy lifestyle practices would achieve an improvement in the outcome measures such as lipid profile, fasting blood glucose, blood pressure and weight among the participants which will prevent chronic diseases such as diabetes mellitus, coronary heart disease and hypertension in the long term. The participants will be all UM staff aged 40 years and above who consented. This study will at least take two years to complete.

Medical Statistics Clinic

The Department offers statistical consultations to academic staff, doctors or allied health practitioners and also students. The clinic provides advice on study design, data management, statistical analysis, interpretation, and presentation of results. The consultation team consists of A/P Dr Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud, A/P Dr Atiya Ab Sallam, A/P Dr Noriah Mohamed Salleh, Dr Sanjay Rampal, Dr Noran Naqiah Hairi, Dr Mas Ayu Said and Ms Moy Foong Ming.

Staff on study leave

Ms Karina Razali is currently pursuing her PhD at the University of New South Wales, Sydney

Dr Noran Naqiah Mohd Hairi is pursuing her PhD at University of Sydney, Australia

Mr Mohd Roshidi Ismail who is a Tutor is currently pursuing the MMedSPH from the University of Malaya

Dr Rafdzah Ahmad Zaki who is under the trainee lecturer scheme is currently pursuing her MPH at the University of Malaya.

Graduate Students and Supervision

Dr. Harishah binti Talib, MPH (Epidemiology) research on “A Systemic Hypertension and Primary Open Glaucoma Patient Among Patient Attending Eye Clinic at UMMC”, supervised by Dr Noran Naqiah and Dr Sanjay Rampal
Dr. Masitah binti Mohamed, MPH(Epidemiology) research on “Prevalence of Major Depression Among Post Acute Coronary Syndrome Patients in UMMC”, supervised by Dr Mas Ayu Said

Dr. Noor Rizawati binti Mahpot, MPH(Epidemiology) research on “Home Environment and Fall at Home Among Elderly”, supervised by Dr Noran Naqiah and Dr Mas Ayu Said

Dr. Norli binti Abdul Jabbar, MPH(Epidemiology) research on “Patient’s Expectations and Outcomes: A Cross Sectional Study Among Cataract Surgery Patients in UMMC”, supervised by Dr Sanjay Rampal

Dr. Misliza Ahmad, MPH(Epidemiology) research on “Risk Factors of Diabetic Foot Ulcer in UMMC,” supervised by Dr Mas Ayu Said

Dr Sharmini Selvarajah, MPH(Epidemiology) research on Glycaemic control as a prognostic factor for the progression of chronic renal failure in Type2 Diabetes Mellitus, supervised by Dr Noran Naqiah and Dr Sanjay Rampal

Dr Rozaini Mat Shah, MPH(Epidemiology) research on “Effect of highly active antiretroviral therapy on AIDS Mortality and AIDS-defining events among AIDS patients in Hospital Sungai Buloh” supervised by Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba
Occupational and Environmental Health Unit (OEH)

Academic Staff

Associate Professor Dr Retneswari Masilamani (Head of Unit)
Dr Htay Moe
Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai
Dr Marzuki Ishak (on study leave)

Support Staff

Ms Ng Geok Bee (Public Health Nurse/Programme Assistant)
Ms Nur Fadhliana Othman (Junior Science Officer)

Unit Activity

The OEH unit has been heavily involved in various talks and seminars during 2007. Below is a list of the activities.

1st International Nurses Congress

Talks entitled ‘Ergonomics: The Practical Approach’ and ‘Reproductive Health Hazards faced by Nurses’ were delivered by Assoc Professor Retneswari and Dr Victor respectively at the 1st International Nurses Congress held at the Renaissance Hotel, Kuala Lumpur from 28th June to 1st July 2007. Associate Professor Retneswari delivered a talk on ‘Managing Stress at the Workplace’ on 11 July 2007 at the Chemistry Department in conjunction with their Safety and Health Week. Another talk entitled “Occupational Hazards and Ergonomics in the Healthcare” was delivered by her at the Healthcare and Clinical Management Update Conference at the Intan Gleneagles Medical Centre on 23 November 2007.

Strengthening of Postgraduate Programme in Occupational Health

The Department; represented by Associate Professor Sirajoon Noor Ghani, Associate Professor Retneswari Masilamani and Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai, paid a courtesy visit to the Director General of the Department of Occupational Safety and Health, IR Zainuddin Abdullah on 4 Jan 2007 at Putrajaya. The main discussion was focused on the Master of Public Health (Occupational Health) candidates’ posting, the upcoming Doctor of Public Health programme and the potential collaboration that would benefit the two institutions and the country.
Collaboration in research activities

A half-day seminar on the Use of Salivary Biomarkers for research was held at the Biotech Laboratory, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya on 22 January 2007. It was conducted by Professor David Koh, Ms Vivian Ng and Mr Andrew Wee from the Salivary Biomarkers Research Group (SBRG) in the Department of Community, Occupational and Family Medicine of the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore.

Professor Ken Takahashi, a Professor and Chair of the Department of Environmental Epidemiology, Institute of Industrial Ecological Sciences, University of Occupational and Environmental Health, Japan (UOEH) was invited to deliver a lecture on “Asbestos Diseases: a global perspective” on 4 April 2007.

Collaboration With Other Centres

Dr Marilyn Fingerhut from NIOSH USA visited the department on 21 August 2007. She gave a presentation on occupational health and WHO Collaborating Centres for Occupational Health and the areas of focus for those centres. Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba gave a presentation on the Department followed by a presentation on Occupational Health Training by the Department presented by Associate Professor Retneswari. The presentation was attended by staff of the department and MPH (Occupational Health) candidates.

Research Activities

UMMC Wellness program (2006-2007) – Dr Victor Hoe Abdullah (FP) RM35,000.00. The Worksite Wellness Program at UMMC is a randomised controlled trial which attempts to promote healthy lifestyle among the UMMC staff. The subjects are staff who have been screened by the Screening Program organised by the UMMC management. Those found to be at high risk (overweight/obese, hyperlipidemia, smoking etc) will be selected, and then randomised into either the intervention or comparison groups. Those in the intervention group would be given health intervention or education in diet, weight reduction, increase physical activities, smoking cessation etc. The comparison group would receive minimal intervention through exhibition, distribution of pamphlets or brochures.

The relationship of Salivary Biomarkers to Job Stress among Teachers In Wilayah Persekutuan using Job Content Questionnaire (2007) - Associate Professor Retneswari Masilamani (PJP) RM56,548.00. Following the talk delivered by Professor David Koh on Salivary Biomarkers in January 2007, a research proposal was submitted for the short term research (PJP) grant. A sum of RM 56,548.00 was approved for this study looking at the prevalence of stress among teachers using a Job Content Questionnaire and Salivary Biomarkers. This study would be the first of its kind using saliva to study stress in Malaysia. The questionnaire was ready by the end of 2007 with ethics approval obtained from the University Malaya Medical Centre Ethics Committee. The
study will have 8 schools randomly sampled within Wilayah Persekutuan to enter the study whereby a total of 300 teachers will participate in this study. Permission to conduct this study was obtained from the Ministry of Education and the Federal Territory Education Department.

Occupational Health Clinic

Associate Professor Retneswari Masilamani and Dr Victor Hoe provide consultancy at this referral clinic twice a week at the UMMC. The services provided include:

- Occupational Diseases Management
- Impairment Assessment
- Medical Surveillance
- Special Medical Examination and
- Walk-through surveys to workplaces whenever needed

Staff on study leave

Dr Marzuki Ishak who is under the trainee lecturer scheme is currently pursuing his MPH at the University of Malaya.

Graduate Students and Supervision

Dr Sujatha a/p Doraimanickam, MPH (Occupational Health) research on “Neurobehavioral Effects Among Paint Solvent Workers in a Paint Factory” supervised by Associate Professor Retneswari Masilamani and Dr Htay Moe

Dr Azlan Darus, MPH (Occupational Health), research on “Return to work following long bone fractures among patients presenting to University Malaya Medical Centre, Kuala Lumpur” supervised by Associate Professor Retneswari Masilamani and Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai

Dr Veronica Lugah, MPH (Occupational Health) research on “Prevalence of Natural Rubber Latex Allergy among Health Care Workers in University Malaya Medical Centre, Kuala Lumpur” supervised by Dr Htay Moe

Dr Rosnawati Binti Muhamad Robat, MPH (Occupational Health) research on “Occupational Stress among nurses in District Hospital and Health Centres of Temerloh, Pahang” supervised by Dr Htay Moe
Dr Ganesh A/L Balasingam, MPH (Occupational Health) research on “Prevalence and Factors causing Work-related Upper Limb Disorders among VDU users in an Administrative Office” supervised by Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai

Dr Husna Maizura bt Ahmad, MPH (Occupational Health) research on “The Prevalence and Risk Factors of Job Strain Among Office Workers At a Multinational Company in K.L.” supervised by Associate Professor Retneswari Masilamani and Dr Htay Moe

Dr Anselm Su Ting, MPH (Occupational Health) research on “A Cross-Sectional Study on Hand-Arm Vibration Syndrome Among Construction Workers in A Construction Site in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia” supervised by Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai
Health Management Unit (MGT)

Academic Staff

Associate Professor Saimy Ismail (Head of Unit)
Associate Professor Dato’ Sirajoon Noor Ghani
Dr Ng Chiu Wan
Dr Maznah Dahlui
Dr Farizah Mohd Hairi (on study leave)

Support Staff

Mr Syahril Sham Abdul Latif (Assistant Scientific Officer/Programme Assistant)

Educational Activities/ Achievements (Teaching/Conferences/Seminars)

Undergraduate:

The subjects for undergraduates were under the Personal and Professional Development series, Organisation of Medical and Health Services, Community Residency programme and lecture topics under the theme ‘People and Health Care’. Most of them were teaching in other programmes such as the undergraduate programme for nursing.

Postgraduate:

Besides the lectures and supervision of students reading for the MMedScPH, MPH and the MPH (speciality) programmes, additional lectures were also given to part-time students reading for the Health Care Economics course at the City campus, University of Malaya. Dr Maznah focused on the module on Training and Communication in Public Health. She also took part in conducting the health economics course.

Dr Ng was appointed an external lecturer at the Graduate School of Business, Faculty of Business and Accountancy, University of Malaya where she taught Health Economics to students in the Masters of Business Administration (Health Management) course.

Dr Saimy conducted one elective course in 2007 called the Public Health Emergencies which had a very popular following among the post-graduate students.
Others

Dr Ng presented a paper entitled, “Paying for and using health care services in Malaysia – has the poor been treated fairly?” in the international conference: Poverty and Distribution amidst Diversity – Options and Challenges for Development, organised by the Centre for Poverty and Development Studies, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya.

Dr Saimy chaired the Department Quality Management System (Sistem Pengurusan Kualiti) committee. He sat on the Malaysian Medical Council Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC). In the Malaysian Medical Association he was a member of the Accident Prevention Committee. He was involved in the Committee for the Relief and Rehabilitation of Aceh as the public health coordinator.

Research and Publications

Some research activities of the staff were involved with supervision of student projects. In the process, one paper involving A/P Dato’ S Noor Ghani was published:

Tan KL, Ghani SN, Effectiveness of 18-hour lactation management course organised by district health office for health staff JUMMEC 2007: 10(1) 21-24

Dato’ Noor Ghani was also involved with an additional publication as a guest editorial: Ghani SN, Public – Private Integration: Enhancing Essential Public Health Functions. MJPHM 2006, Vol 6 (1):2-4

Dr Ng’s participation in the Equity in Asia Pacific Health Care Systems (EQUITAP), resulted in the publications of several papers, 2 of which were published in 2007; one in the Journal of Health Economics and the other in the World Bank Economic Review.

In the latter part of 2007, Dr Ng and researchers from the Ministry of Health, Malaysia, Sri Lanka and the University of Hong Kong started work on a comparative analysis of their countries' health care systems which shared the common features of being mainly tax funded and good performance in terms of health outcomes.

Dr Ng studied the changing causes of death in Malaysia over a 30-year period from 1970 to 2000 which was conducted in collaboration with researchers from the Faculty of Economics and Administration.

Dr Ng and Dr Maznah Dahlui collaborated with clinical colleagues from the Faculty of Medicine to examine the socioeconomic consequences for households affected by the Nipah virus encephalitis. This work was partly funded by an IRPA fund.

Dr Ng again teamed up with researchers from the Faculty of Economics to examine the social impact of enumeration of persons from different ethnic groups in various surveys carried out in Malaysia. The findings of this study were presented at the International Conference of Social Statistics and
Ethnic Diversity organised by the Quebec Inter-university Centre for Social Studies, Canada in December 2007.

Dr Maznah was a co-researcher in the study on the utilization of health specialists by the Ministry of Health. She was also a research member in the working group studying the means in developing health policy, by the United Nation University-International Institute on Global Health. She was one of the research consultants to the working committee assessing the strategies on HIV/AIDS programs by Ministry of Health Malaysia.

Training (staff)

Several lectures (where the unit staff were invited speakers) were given to local and foreign doctors under the following programmes.

Dato' S Noor Ghani was involved with Credentialing of doctors KKM. Topics: ‘Accreditation and Credentialing of Hospitals’ and ‘Public Health Laws and other related laws’ and Epidemiological Intelligence and Management programme undertaken by the Institute for Health Management, Ministry of Health for 15 foreign doctors under The Malaysian Technical Co-operation Programme. Topic: Strategic Management in the Health Sector.

Dr Ng attended several courses in economics and applied statistics conducted by the Faculty of Economics, University of Malaya. She also helped to conduct 2 workshops for the Ministry of Health; the first on the framework of the Malaysia National Health Accounts (MNHA) in February and the second on Hospital Cost Accounting in March 2007.

Dr Maznah participated in the 3rd International Case-mix Conference at Berjaya Times Square (15-17 November 2007), where she was not only a committee member but was also a chairman in one of the symposiums. She presented a paper on ‘Cost-effectiveness analysis of Desferrioxamine Treatment in Transfusion Dependent Thalassaemia Patients at HUKM and HKL’. In September 2007, the Faculty of Medicine had appointed Dr. Maznah to represent the faculty in the Entrepreneurship Technical Committee of University Malaya.

In 2007, Dr Saimy attended a few workshops and seminars. He attended the Second Asia Pacific Conference on Public Health in July in K Lumpur, the conference on Health Sector Reforms and Financing in Holland and the third International Case-Mix Conference in K Lumpur.

Staff on Study Leave

Dr Farizah Mohd Hairi. Pursuing a PhD at the Erasmus University, Rotterdam.
Graduate Students and Supervision

Dr Rafidah Abd Latif, MPH (Health Service Management) research on “Evaluation of Clients’ Charter in Health Centres of Temerloh District Using Nominal Group Technique” supervised by Associate Professor Saimy Ismail

Dr Shahril Azian b Masrom, MPH (Health Service Management) research on “Comparing Ayre’s Spatula and Cervex-Brush in Pap Smear: A Cost Analysis in Muar District Hospital” supervised by Dr Ng Chiu Wan

Dr Rohana bt Johan, MPH(Health Service Management) research on “A Study on the Implementation of TIBIS in FTKL Malaysia” supervised by Associate Professor Dato’ S Noor Ghani
Family Health Unit (FH)

Academic Staff

Dr Nabilla Al-Sadat Abdul Mohsein (Head of Unit)
Datin Dr Noorlaili Abdul Aziz
Mr Hazreen Abdul Majid (on study leave)
Dr Maslinor Ismail (on study leave)

Support Staff

Ms Wee Bee Suan (Nutritionist)
Ms Norizan Moez (Assistant Scientific Officer/Programme Assistant)

Short Courses

Seminar on “Modelling food-borne disease pathogens” by Dr Pradeep Malakar from Institute of Food Research, Norwich. On the 20 November 2007

Dr. Norlaili Abdul Aziz attended the “25th Leeds Course in Clinical Nutrition”, 4-7 September 2007 at Leeds University, United Kingdom.

Research Activities

Health beliefs – Pap Smear and Breast Self Examination – Poster presentation at UMMC


The unit is also involve with the “Malaysian Health Intervention and Cost Outcome studies (MHICO)” (2006-) along with the Associate Professor Dr Raja Latifah Jallaludin from the Department of Community Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, University of Malaya - RM50,000

Staff on Study Leave

Mr Hazreen Abdul Majid is currently pursuing his PhD at King’s College, London

Dr Maslinor Ismail who is under the trainee lecturer scheme is currently pursuing his MPH (Family Health) at the University of Malaya
Graduate Students and Supervision

Dr Noraliza Noordin Merican, MPH (Family Health) research on “Rate of Maternal Weight Gain, Maternal Characteristics and Infant Birth Weight Relationship in Low Risk Pregnant Malays in the District of Kulim, Kedah” supervised by Associate Professor Dato’ S Noor Ghani

Dr Aizuniza Binti Abdullah, MPH (Family Health) research on “Pregnancy Induced Hypertension and Other Risk Factors of Low Birth Weight at Hospital Klang 2006” supervised by Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud

Dr Mariam Binti Jamaludin, MPH (Family Health) research on “Factors Associated with Abortion in the Districts of West and Central Pahang, Malaysia” supervised by Dr Nabilla Al-Sadat Abdul Mohsein

Dr Kawselyah Juval, MPH (Family Health) research on “Sexual behaviour among First Year and Third year Undergraduates in Faculty of Medicine and Faculty of Build Environment, University of Malaya” supervised by Associate Professor Saimy Ismail

Dr Nazatul Shima Binti Mokhtar, MPH (Family Health) research on “Prevalence of Sleep Disturbance Among Nurses Working Shift in Melaka Hospital” supervised by Associate Professor Saimy Ismail

Dr Tan Kok Leong, MPH (Family Health) research on “Bedsharing Practice among mother-infant pair in a rural district in Peninsular Malaysia and its relation to breastfeeding” supervised by Associate Professor Dato’ S Noor Ghani

Dr Zaini Binti Ishak, MPH (Family Health) research on “Risk factors for premature delivery among women in Hospital Tuanku Ja’afar, Seremban” supervised by Associate Professor Dato’ S Noor Ghani

Dr Ariza Zainudin, MPH (Family Health) research on “Physical Activity Among Overweight And Normal weight Secondary School students In Bentong” supervised by Dr Htay Moe

Dr Maslinor binti Ismail, MPH (Family Health) research on “Prognostic Factors of Successful Intrauterine Insemination (IUI) treatment for infertility couples treated at LPPKN” supervised by Associate Professor Saimy Ismail

Dr Nik Nairan binti Abdullah, MPH (Family Health) research on “Predictors of mammography utilization among University Malaya Medical Centre Employees” supervised by Associate Professor Dato’ S Noor Ghani

Dr Siti Rohana bt Saad MPH (Family Health) research on “Risks Factors of Gestational Diabetes Mellitus in Gombak District, Selangor” supervised by Dr Sanjay Rampal

Dr Sunita bt Abdul Rahman research on “Health risk behaviour among secondary school children in Kuala Muda District, Kedah” supervised by Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai
Dr Awang Bulgiba is an associate professor and head of the department. Armed with an MBBS, MPH, MAppStats and PhD, he is a versatile and multi-skilled man. Dr Awang teaches mainly medical statistics, health informatics and research methodology to both undergraduates (MBBS, BSc Nursing, Diploma of Medical Lab Technology) and postgraduates (MPH, Master of Medical Physics, Master of Clinical Oncology). He conducts medical statistics clinic whenever there is time, which was not often in 2007 given his busy schedule as head of department. He is also an external lecturer for the Graduate School of Business, Faculty of Business and accountancy, University of Malaya as well as the Cyberjaya University College for Medical Sciences.

Dr Awang had a busy research year in 2007. Having been awarded a 2-year grant under the Fundamental Research Grant Scheme, Dr Awang began research on determining the predictors for progression to AIDS. This was not the only research grant that he obtained. Dr Awang and his PhD candidate (Wee Lei Hum) secured a large 3-year grant from the Ministry of Health to study the factors which predict successful quitters among smokers. Dr Awang was also among the co-researchers for 3 other grants awarded in 2007, bringing the total amount of research grants where he was a part of the team to be quite considerable in terms of amount.

All academics are expected to write and publish their papers in referred journals and the same is expected of Dr Awang, notwithstanding his responsibilities as department head. In 2007, Dr Awang had a fairly busy year with publications, managing to co-author a total of 7 journal papers. Two of the papers were published in 2007, three were accepted for publication and two are still pending review.

Dr Awang managed a little bit of travelling in 2007. In January he was part of a delegation from the Faculty of Medicine who paid an official visit to Sudan. It was a fruitful visit according to him and he was kept busy in Sudan networking with the Federal and Khartoum State Ministry of Health as well as the International University of Africa. The SPM Department has a long history of training public health specialists for Sudan and his visit served to strengthen the growing bond between Sudan and Malaysia. It is expected that this cooperation will continue for many years to come and the development of new specialty programs in public health like the DrPH has aroused a fair bit of interest from the Sudanese Ministry of Health. In May, Dr Awang and Dr Retneswari paid a visit to Sydney to find out more about the DrPH program at the School of Public Health, University of Sydney. Again it was a fruitful visit and much knowledge was gained from the visit. Not only did they visit the School of Public Health, but they also visited the National Centre for Classification of Health and also
managed to squeeze a visit to the School of Public Health, University of New South Wales. In July, Dr Awang attended an HIVTRI (HIV Training and Research Initiative) course in St Catherine's College, Oxford, UK. The course entitled “Novel drugs-new resistance pathways” enabled him to gain a better understanding of the current issues in the treatment of HIV and AIDS. This has opened up new research possibilities for him.

Postgraduate supervision is something Dr Awang enjoys. As was expected of him, Dr Awang supervised a number of Masters students in 2007. Seven of them were MPH (1-year program) students; one was a final year MPH (Family Health) student. All of these students graduated without problems. He still has one MPH (Epidemiology) student and one MSc (Nutrition) student under his supervision. Both are expected to complete their studies in the next 2 years. The year 2007 marked the beginning of another era in Dr Awang’s career as this was the year when he started supervising PhD candidates. His first PhD candidate is Wee Lei Hum (Malaysian working in the Ministry of Health) who commenced her studies in January 2007 and is currently researching the Prime Theory in smoking cessation. His second PhD candidate is Rahayu Lubis from Indonesia who is currently researching determinants of AIDS progression in HIV patients. Amnah Abdulrahman Bindakheel from Saudi Arabia (registered as a PhD candidate in the Science Faculty) became his third PhD candidate when Dr Awang was appointed as her co-supervisor in the same year. At the end of 2007 another PhD candidate (Umar Yagoub Mohammed from Sudan) became the fourth candidate under Dr Awang’s supervision. Dr Awang also successfully secured 2 PhD scholarships from the Economic Planning Unit for Sudanese nationals in 2007, one of whom (Umar Yagoub Mohammed) is currently being supervised by him. The diversity of his students’ backgrounds and research topics attest to his growing ability to manage and supervise research candidates.

Consultancies are also a part of every academic’s life and Dr Awang is no exception. He was requested to assist with the statistical part of the Adjusted Clinical Groups research project, which was initiated by the Primary Care Unit in the Ministry of Health. He was also requested to consult for the Malaysian AIDS Council and the Economic Planning Unit, both projects dealing with HIV/AIDS. Both these consultancies are expected to continue well into 2008.

Continuing education is expected of every academic and Dr Awang is no exception. In 2007, Dr Awang attended a few workshops and seminars as part of efforts to keep himself updated. He attended a leadership workshop in April, the HIVTRI course in Oxford, UK in July and a symposium organised by the University of Sydney in Kuala Lumpur in August. This was rounded off by the Good Clinical Practice (GCP) course in December which he passed to qualify for the GCP certificate.

Dr Awang contributed to a number of courses and workshops in 2007. In March and June, Dr Awang lent his expertise to SPSS workshops in the Faculty of Medicine. Dr Awang also contributed his expertise in statistics to a Smoking Cessation training workshop in June, helping his PhD candidate train her research assistants. In July, he co-ran a Research Methods Pre-Conference Workshop with Dr Mas Ayu during the 2nd Asia Pacific Conference on Public Health. He also contributed his expertise in scientific writing and research methods to a Scientific Writing Workshop in the Faculty of Medicine in the same month. He flew to Sibu, Sarawak at the end of July to contribute the same expertise in
another Scientific Writing Workshop, this time organised by the Ministry of Health. In August, Dr Awang attended an ACG (Adjusted Clinical Group) workshop organised by the Ministry of Health and presented his findings on modelling primary care data using the ACG system. In November he contributed his expertise again at workshop on Psychiatric Clinical Trials & Research in Penang and in the same month also presented a paper entitled “Analysis of Healthcare Outcomes” at the 13th Malaysian SPSS Users Group Conference.

Dr Awang was required to sit on a number of committees in the university as part of his responsibilities as department head. There were of course some committees where he was asked to be part of because of his expertise and potential contribution. Thus, he was also a member of the university Science Fund vetting committee for ICT, the university High Performance Computing Technical Committee, the UMMC Clinical Quality Assurance Committee, the UMMC Medical Advisory Committee, the Scientific Committee for the 2nd Asia Pacific Conference on Public Health and numerous other committees. Dr Awang also continues to be a reviewer for the Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health, Medical Journal of Malaysia, Malaysian Orthopaedic Journal and the Journal of the University of Malaya Medical Centre. In 2007, Dr Awang was appointed to the Malaysian Health Promotion Board.

In retrospect, Dr Awang realises that 2007 has been a rather full year and hopes that 2008 will turn out to be another productive year.

Publications


Research activities

Identification of determinants for progression to AIDS in HIV patients receiving anti-retroviral treatment (2005-2008)

Conferences and Seminar attended in 2007

1st ASEAN Primary Care Regional Conference, Parkroyal Hotel, KL
2nd Asia-Pacific Conference on Public Health, Sheraton, Subang
Educational Activities/ Achievements (Teaching/Conferences/Seminars)

Undergraduate:

The usual lectures for undergraduates under the Personal and Professional Development series, Organisation of Medical and Health Services were given. Other lectures were in Community Residency programme, Introduction to Public Health (Phase III A) and Holistic Medicine (Phase I).

Postgraduate:

Besides the lectures and supervision of students reading for the MMedScPH, MPH and the MPH (speciality) programmes, additional lectures were also given to part-time students reading for the Health Care Economics course at the City campus, University of Malaya; ‘Market for Health Services’

Research and Publications

Research activities were mainly confined to student projects being supervised. Currently five students are undertaking projects. Two students have received small grants from the faculty. One paper has been published from one of the research projects.

Publication

Tan KL, Ghani SN, Effectiveness of 18-hour lactation management course organised by district health office for health staff JUMMEC 2007: 10(1) 21-24


Training (staff)

Towards staff training, several lectures, as invited speaker, were given to local and foreign doctors under the following programmes:

Credentialing of doctors for Ministry of Health Malaysia

‘Accreditation and Credentialing of hospitals’
‘Public Health Laws and other related laws’

Epidemiological Intelligence and Management programme undertaken by the Institute for Health Management, Ministry of Health for 15 foreign doctors under The Malaysian Technical Co-operation Programme; ‘Strategic Management in the Health Sector’

Others

Co-coordinator of postgraduate programmes for the department
Dr Saimy Ismail is an Associate Professor and Head of the Health Services Management Unit. He has an MBBS degree from the University of Malaya and MPH from the University of California, Berkeley.

He brings with him more than 25 years of field experience at all levels while with the Ministry of Health.

Dr Saimy teaches in both undergraduate (MBBS, BSc Nursing) and postgraduate (MPH, MPH Oral Health and MMedScPH) programmes. He teaches undergraduates subjects related to Personal & Professional Development (PPD) in Phase I to Phase III A of the curriculum. He lectures postgraduates on management concepts, processes and applications including the Malaysian health care system. He is also an external lecturer on Health Care Economics for the City Campus of the University of Malaya.

Dr Saimy supervised a number of Masters students in 2007. Nine of them were MPH / MMedScPH (1-year program) students; two were third year MPH (HSM & Family Health) and another two final year MPH (Family Health).

In 2007, Dr Saimy attended a few workshops and seminars. He attended the Second Asia Pacific Conference on Public Health in July in K Lumpur. In August he attended the conference on Health Sector Reforms and Financing in the Netherlands. In November he attended the third International Case-Mix Conference in K Lumpur.

Dr Saimy conducted one elective course in 2007 called the Public Health Emergencies which had a very popular following among the students.

Dr Saimy sits on some committees in the faculty and department. He chairs the Faculty of Medicine National Health Care Financing Committee. He sits on the committee for the upgrading of the Clinical Auditorium Gallery. He also chairs the Department Quality Management System (Sistem Pengurusan Kualiti) committee. He sits on the Malaysian Medical Council Preliminary Investigation Committee (PIC). In the Malaysian Medical Association he is a member of the Accident Prevention Committee. He was involved with the Relief and Rehabilitation of Aceh Committee as the Public Health coordinator. He represented the University of Malaya in golf for the past 6 years.

He hopes that 2008 will turn out to be another productive year where he will need to focus to some areas which he was not able to do in 2007.
Dr Retneswari Masilamani is an associate professor and head of the Occupational and Environmental Health Unit in the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine. Dr Retneswari is an occupational physician with an MBBS and Master of Medicine postgraduate degree in Occupational Medicine. She coordinates the MPH programme for students who specialise in Occupational Health (OH). Dr Retneswari teaches mainly the Year 2-4 MPH students specialising on Occupational Health. The programme requires her to pay visits to some of the field attachments sites of these students as part of her supervisory duties. She is also the coordinator and lecturer for the Safety and Industrial Health Module for the Maters of Engineering course conducted by the Faculty of Engineering, University of Malaya.

Dr Retneswari puts her acquired knowledge into practice at the Occupational Health Clinic biweekly by providing consultative services to patients and uses this venue to enhance the clinical skills of postgraduate students. The patients’ conditions require her to make ad hoc visits to factories for diagnostic, rehabilitative, compensation and return to work purposes.

Dr Retneswari was invited by some organizations like the Chemistry Department to give talks on stress during their Occupational Safety and Health Week. She also gave a talk on Occupational Dermatoses to participants in an Occupational Health Course organised by the of Public Health Institute, Ministry of Health. in 2007 Dr Retneswari also contributed a chapter on ‘Work-related Musculoskeletal Disorders in a book entitled ‘Occupational Health for Developing Countries’ and another chapter on Occupational Cancers in a book on ‘Guidelines for the Diagnosis of Occupational Diseases’ published by the Social Security Organisation (SOCSO).

A paper on ‘Occupational Hazards and Ergonomics’ was presented at the JCI, RCA Health Care and Clinical Management Conference held at the Gleneagles Intan Medical Centre, Kuala Lumpur on 23 November where Dr Retneswari was voted as having delivered one of the top 5 best topics.

Dr Retneswari accompanied the Head of Department Dr Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud to Sydney in May 2007. The aim of this visit was to explore the DrPH Programme run by the School of Public Health, University of Sydney which added insight into the Department’s future plans to offer this programme. They also optimised this opportunity by paying a visit to the National Centre for Classification of Health, the School of Public Health and School of Safety Science, at the University of New South Wales. This was to ascertain if Dr Retneswari could establish collaborative partnership with Environmental Health Specialists from the School of Safety Science.
Dr Retneswari supervised three general MPH postgraduate students who successfully completed their postgraduate degree in May 2007 and one postgraduate student in the MPH (OH) Programme who also completed her four year degree programme in May 2007. There are still five other postgraduate MPH (OH) students under her supervision who are expected to complete their degree programme in the next three years. There is one PhD student from the Department of Geography who Dr Retneswari co-supervises, this being her first experience in doing so.

Following the talk by Professor David Koh from the National university of Singapore, on ‘Salivary Biomarkers in Occupational Health Research’, Dr Retneswari embarked on a research looking at stress among teachers in the Federal Territory using self-administered questionnaires and salivary biomarkers. The fund for this study was granted through the UM short-term (PJP) fund. This study, the first of its kind, is expected to be completed in December 2008. Dr Retneswari has successfully managed to procure a considerable amount of grant through the PJP funds to conduct this study. Despite leaving the MOH, Dr Retneswari sustains partnership with them through her research collaboration on a project looking at ‘Patient Safety among Post-operative Patients’. Both the above studies will continue into 2008. Dr Retneswari has periodically reviewed journal articles for the Medical Journal of Malaysia.

Despite her busy teaching and supervising schedule, Dr Retneswari has managed to conduct 2 studies and collaborated in two other studies, the write-ups of which are awaiting review and publication by the respective journals.

Dr Retneswari updated her knowledge in certain areas by attending a few courses namely on occupational lung diseases, two Continuing Medical Education (CME) series and Annual Seminars conducted by the Society of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, (MMA). Another seminar on Drug Prevention at the Workplace organised by the National Council for Occupational Safety and Health, Malaysia was attended by Dr Retneswari.

Dr Retneswari has been an advisor to the Occupational Health and Safety Committee of the University of Malaya Medical Centre since 2005 and has contributed constructively in all their health and safety programmes. Dr Retneswari’s interest in the field of Occupational Medicine has seen her ascend from a committee member to become the vice-chairman of the Society of Occupational and Environmental Medicine MMA through which she has conducted several seminars in the area of occupational health for health care professionals. Dr Retneswari was elected as a member of the Board of Directors of NIOSH in Jun 2007, inducted into the Academy of Medicine, Malaysia (AMM) and also become a life member of the Academy of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Malaysia (AOEMM) which was established in January 2007. Dr Retneswari contributes substantially as a member in the Social Security Organisation Committee under the MMA and the Subcommittee for the Prevention of Substance Abuse at the Workplace under the National Council for Occupational Safety and Health, Malaysia.

Dr Retneswari commenced her sabbatical leave from 1st August 2007 till December 2007 embarking on a book Entitled ‘Occupational Health for Health Care professionals – Caring for the Carers’. The
book has kept her extremely busy in authoring a few chapters and editing the book in addition to attracting more authors. This has increased the number of contributors to the book from fifteen to twenty-two. The Book has prominent Occupational Medicine Specialists from several countries like United States of America, United Kingdom, Africa, Australia, India, Singapore and Brunei including the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, U.S A. to contribute in this book. The book is expected to be published in March 2008.

Research Grant

Associate Professor Retneswari received a grant of RM56,548.00 in 2007 from the University of Malaya’s Short Term Research Grant (PJP) for the research on “The relationship of salivary biomarkers to job stress among multinational office workers using Job Content Questionnaire”.

Conferences and Seminar attended in 2007


Dr Nooriah Mohamed Salleh joined the department in August 2007 and is now heading the Epidemiology and Statistics Unit. She graduated with the MBBS degree from University Malaya and pursued her postgraduate studies (MPH and DrPH) at Tulane University, majoring in epidemiology.

She is currently actively involved in teaching at both the undergraduate and postgraduate levels and supervising students undertaking research for their Masters and Doctoral studies. She sits on a number of academic committees at the department and faculty levels.

During the short duration since she has been here, she has attended the following conferences, courses and workshops:

- National Conference on Clinical Research
- Evidence Based Medicine – Advanced Diagnostic Research: Theory and Practice
- Good Clinical Practice
- Multivariate Analysis – Logistic Regression
- Survival Analysis

She also delivered lectures for the HerDu’s Professional Development Series (Research Method’s Course) to clinicians who are pursuing their postgraduate programmes.

**Publication in 2007**


**Conferences and Seminar attended in 2007**

National Conference on Clinical Research, Kuala Lumpur
Dr Nabilla Al-Sadat Bt Abdul Mohsein is a Senior Lecturer and Public Health specialist. She is currently the head of the family health unit in the department. Armed with an MBBS, MSc Health Planning and Financing and an MPH, she is a versatile and multi-skilled woman. Dr Nabilla teaches mainly women’s health, adolescent health, nutrition, medical sociology and health promotion to both undergraduates (MBBS, BSc Nursing, Diploma of Medical Lab Technology) and postgraduates (MPH, MMedSc PH and Master of Psychological Medicine).

Her research activities are mostly on adolescent health issues looking at risk behaviour among adolescents especially smoking. She is also actively involved in tobacco economics studies and the regional tobacco control alliance. She is currently a research member in the Scoliosis Screening Program in the MOH and Adolescent Research Group with the Faculty of Dentistry. She was appointed a committee member on the resolution of the “International Conference on Primary Health Care in Malaysia” which will be conducted 14-18th April 2008.

Dr Nabilla had written various papers of which two were published in 2007. Being just back from study leave in August 2007, Dr Nabilla had been actively pursuing her research activities and is now developing proposals to secure funding. Dr Nabilla had also participated actively by orally presenting her research paper at the 39th APACH Conference of in Kawagoe, Japan in November. She was also instrumental in developing networks with the Indonesian universities while participating in the conference.

Teaching has always been Dr Nabilla’s passion. She had received positive comments on her teaching methods both from the undergraduates and the postgraduates. Postgraduate supervision is something Dr Nabilla enjoys. She was instrumental in aiding and supervising 1 MPH Year 4 (who has since graduated with a distinction in her thesis), 2 MPH Year 2 students and 6 MPH Year One students in 2007.

Continuing education is expected of every academic and Dr Nabilla is no exception. In 2007, other than the APACPH conference in November, she attended various workshops on improving teaching techniques like using e-learning modules and other motivational courses.

Dr Nabilla was required to sit on a number of committees in the department as part of her responsibilities as unit head. She was also a member of the postgraduate committee and helped in the development of the MPH modular system as well as the DrPH program. Dr Nabilla is also a reviewer for the International Journal of Science, Medicine and Education (IEJSME) and Malaysian Public Health.
Journal. She continues to participate actively in various organizations like Malaysian Medical Association, Public Health Specialists Association of Malaysia, South East Asia Tobacco Control Alliance, World Tobacco or Health Global Fellow, Islamic Medical Association of Malaysia and MERCY.

In retrospect, Dr Nabilla realises that 2007 has been a rather full year and hopes that 2008 will turn out to be another productive year.

Publication in 2007


Dr Htay Moe is one of the most senior Lecturers of the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine. Qualified with MBBS (Rgn), MPH (Mal), and FRIPH (UK), he is a talented and multi-skilled man. Dr Htay teaches environmental health, occupational health and epidemiology to both undergraduates (MBBS) and postgraduates (MPH, MMedSc PH, and MPH OH) in the University of Malaya.

Dr Htay Moe had a busy teaching and research year in 2007. Dr Htay Moe and his MPH candidates (Husna Maizura, Ariza Zainudin, Rosnawati, Veronica and Sujatha) secured total grants of RM 20,130 in 2007. He was also a co-researcher in the research projects with those postgraduates who were under his supervision of MPH specialities from Year two to four candidates in 2007.

All academics are expected to write and publish their papers in referred journals and the same is expected of Dr Htay Moe, notwithstanding his responsibilities as a senior lecturer. In 2007, Dr Htay Moe published one paper in the Journal of University Malaya Medical Centre (JUMMEC), with three papers pending review for publication.

Dr Htay was lecturer in-charge of two groups of undergraduate students in 2007. One group was the 34 students of MBBS Phase IIIA, who were posted to the district of Bentong in the state of Pahang State for their Community Residency Programme. He organised the field trips and community survey during his two weeks stay in Bentong. Another group of 20 was the MBBS Phase IIIB students who were posted to the Kuala Selangor district of the state of Selangor State for their Organisation and Management of Health Services (OMHS) Programme.

Dr Htay enjoys supervising postgraduates. As expected of him, Dr Htay supervised a number of Masters students in 2007. Five of them were MPH and MMedSc PH (1-year program); two were second year MPH (Occupational Health); two were third year (Family Health and Occupational Health) and three were final year MPH (Occupational Health) students making a total of 12 candidates. The diversity of his students' backgrounds and research topics attest to his growing ability to manage and supervise those candidates.

Dr Htay Moe is a coordinator of the postgraduate environmental health programme. He teaches Environmental Health subject to the entire undergraduate to postgraduate medical and allied science students. In the one-year MPH programme, there were field visits in between the lectures and he himself and the students visited the environmental health related places such as Puncak Niaga water treatment plant, Indah Water sewage treatment plant, Department of Chemistry etc. These are considered as SPM outings and all the students enjoyed them very much.
Continuing medical education is expected of every academic and Dr Htay is no exception. In 2007, Dr Htay Moe attended a few workshops and seminars as part of efforts to keep himself updated. He attended “A Date With Occupational Lung Diseases” seminar organised by the Society of Occupational and Environmental Medicine in April, “Child Injury Initiatives : European Injury Surveillance” seminar at Institute of Health Management, Ministry of Health Malaysia in July, “Problem-Based Learning” seminar organised by the Academic Development Centre (ADEC), University of Malaya in November, “Advanced Diagnostic Research : Theory and Practice” course conducted under Asia Europe Clinical Epidemiology And Evidence-Based Medicine Programme in University of Malaya in November and, “Tropical Coastal Recreational Waters : Quality & Impact on health” at the Institute for Medical Research (IMR), Ministry of Health Malaysia in December 2007.

Dr Htay required to sit on a number of committees in the university as part of his responsibilities as a senior lecturer. Thus, he is a member of the injury research group in Faculty of Medicine and also representative of the department in all injuries related research activities. He is the member of the Royal Institute of Public Health in London, Malaysian Medical Association, Society of Occupational and Environmental Medicine and also Malaysian Society of Health. Apart from all those societies, he is also the Department librarian and coordinator of the Occupational and Environmental Health annual elective seminars. In other social activities, he is also a committee member of the Menara Jaya Resident Association, life member of the Buddhist Missionary Society of Malaysia and Subang Jaya Buddhist Association. He also contributed as a reviewer for the Asia-Pacific Journal of Public health in 2007.

In retrospect, Dr Htay realises that 2007 has been a rather meaningful and responsible year and hopes that 2008 will turn out to be a more productive year.
Datin Dr Norlaili Abdul Aziz

Dr Norlaili was appointed as a Senior Lecturer of the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine in January 2007. She qualified with MBBS (Mal), MPH (Mal) and she has a Certificate in Food Safety & Hygiene from the University of West of England, Bristol and a Post-Graduate Diploma in Reproductive Medicine from Universiti Putra Malaysia. She has a wealth of experience in public health having worked in the Ministry of Health and two local authorities. Dr Norlaili teaches Family Health for both undergraduates (MBBS) and postgraduates (MPH, MMedSc PH and MPH (FH)) in the University of Malaya as well as a module in Food Safety for MPH, UKM.

Her first field experience as a lecturer was in supervising 33 MBBS Phase 3A students in 2007, in the Community Residency Programme at Kubang Pasu District, Kedah. Field trips and community survey were conducted during the two-week programme in Kubang Pasu.

Dr Norlaili supervised 8 postgraduate candidates in year 2007 comprising 6 MPH/MMedSc candidates and 2 MPH (Family Health) candidates.

Dr Norlaili attended a few workshops and seminars as part of efforts to keep herself updated. She attended courses and workshop on:

- National Family Health Meeting organised by Family Health Development Division, MOH on 13 – 16 August 2007 at Crystal Crown Hotel, PJ
- The 25th Leeds Course in Clinical Nutrition organised by the University of Leeds on 4 – 7 September;
- Second Asia Pacific Conference on Public Health – Emerging Threats in Public Health organised by MOH, ACM and UPM on 3 – 5 July 2007 at Sheraton, Subang;
- Fourth Malaysian Conference and Exhibition on Anti-Aging and Aesthetic Medicine organised by Society for An Anti-Aging and Aesthetic Medicine Malaysia on 29 April – 1 May 2007 at The Shangri-La Kuala Lumpur;
- Emotional Freedom Technique a 20-hour Workshop (January 2007) organised by Centre for Teaching and Learning (CTL) Instead, IIUM.
- Modelling of Foodborne Disease Pathogen by Dr Pradeep Malakar of Institute Food Research Norwich, UK on 20 November 2007.

She is a life member of the following associations:

Public Health Doctors Association,
Academy of Family Medicine,
Muslim Medical Association,
Malaysian Medical Association (MMA),
Society of Anti-Aging and Aesthetic Medicine.

As a new academician Dr Norlaili has learnt a lot for the first year and looks forward to carrying out research activities from 2008 onwards.
Dr Victor Hoe is a Senior Lecturer and Occupational Health Physician. His occupational health practice is situated within the University of Malaya Medical Centre where he conducts referral clinics every Wednesday and Friday.

He obtained his Master of Public Health specialising in Occupational Health from the University of Malaya in 2001. Besides that he is also a registered Chemical Health Risk Assessor and Occupational Health Doctor with the Department of Occupational Safety and Health, Ministry of Human Resource, Malaysia. Dr Victor Hoe is also a Certified Medical Impairment Assessor and holds the International Diving Medical Officer certificate.

During 2007, he supervised 15 Masters candidates pursuing the MPH, MMedScPH, MPH (Family Health) and MPH (Occupational Health) degrees. He also supervised undergraduate medical students.

Dr Victor Hoe teaches Occupational Health and Public Health for MBBS, Bachelor in Nursing, Diploma in Nursing, MPH, MMedScPH, Master of Public Health (Occupational Health) and Master of Engineering (Safety, Health and Environment). He also conducts small group teaching for epidemiology tutorials and problem-based learning sessions for the MBBS students.

Besides teaching, his other responsibilities in the faculty and department are the Department coordinator for the MBBS Phase IIIA, coordinator for the Community Residency Programme, advisor to the University of Malaya Medical Centre’s Safety and Health Committee, and webmaster for the Department website (http://spm.ummc.edu.my). He has been in charge of designing, maintaining and updating of the website since 2005. He also coordinated the development of the Asia Europe Clinical Epidemiology and Evidence-Based Medicine website (http://www.asialink-ce.org) which is the website for 4-way collaboration between the SPM Department, University Medical Center Utrecht (UMCU), Centre for Evidence-Based Medicine University of Oxford (CEBM) and Rumah Sakit Cipto Mangunkusumo, Jakarta (RSCM). He was involved in the coordination of the launch of the Asia-Link Programme in Malaysia.

Dr Victor Hoe is also active in the Society of Occupational and Environmental Medicine-Malaysian Medical Association where he has been a Committee Member since 2006. He is also a committee member for the Third Regional Conference on Occupational Health, member of the sub-committee in the National Advisory Council on Occupational Health and Safety and Founding member of the Asia Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine Association. He was involved in the consultation project with Hospital Kuala Lumpur where he conducted Chemical Health Risk Assessment for one of the laboratories.
Dr Victor Hoe also contributed to various national and international seminars, courses and workshops. His contribution includes organising the International Course on Advanced Diagnostic Research - Theory and Practice. He was invited as the Chairperson at the National Hygiene Conference and speakers at the International Nursing Conference.

He is also involved in research, where he is the Principal Investigator for the UMMC Wellness Programme and co-investigator in other research. He had more than RM50,000 of research funding in 2007. His research interests include worksite wellness programmes, evidence-based medicine, vibration effects on health and office ergonomics.

Dr Victor Hoe has managed to co-author five articles and abstracts which were published in peer reviewed journals. He also managed to present the topic “Post Tsunami Lhokseumawe, Aceh: A Situational Analysis” during the Second Asia Pacific Conference on Public Health.

Dr Victor Hoe extensive work and contribution towards the development of the university has lead him to received the Excellence in Service Award for the year 2006 and Certificate for Excellent in Service for the year 2005 from University of Malaya.

Publication


Ahmad Riadz, Hoe VCW. Risk Factors of Sickness Absentism among Health Attendants in Hospital Kuala Lumpur (submitted)

Anselm Su Ting, Hoe VCW. Validation of the Malay Initial Questionnaire and Clinical Assessment for Use in Hand-Arm Vibration Syndrome Studies (submitted)

Conferences and Seminars


Dr Mas Ayu Said is a Senior Lecturer and Public Health specialist. She graduated with the MBBS degree from University Malaya and obtained her Master of Public Health specialising in Epidemiology from the University of Malaya in 2004.

Her research activities are mostly on mental health and Chikungunya infection. The main areas of interest for mental health are co-morbidity and depression, elderly and depression, addiction and drug abuse. Together with Dr Noran Naqiah, she conducted a population-based study to assess depression among the elderly in Alor Gajah, Melaka. In the recent outbreak of Chikungunya infection in Pantai Remis, Perak, Dr Mas Ayu also conducted an epidemiological study in the area.

In 2007, she supervised 9 Masters candidates - 2 MPH, 2 MMedScPH and 3 MPH (Epidemiology) candidates. She consults for the medical statistics clinic and gives advice on research methodology and statistical analysis to other Masters and PhD students. She also supervised undergraduate medical students for their elective projects.

Dr Mas Ayu teaches Epidemiology in the MBBS, Bachelor of Nursing Science, Diploma in Nursing, MPH, MMedScPH and MPH (Epidemiology) programmes. She also conducts small group teaching (epidemiology and statistics tutorials) and is a writer for PBL cases as well as PBL tutor for MBBS students.

Dr Mas Ayu has attended various National and International seminars, courses and workshops. She attended Survivals Skills for Young Academics Course and the course gave tips for career development. She also updated herself on the SAS statistical software course. In conjunction with the Asia-link Programme, she attended the International Course on Advanced Diagnostic Research in Oxford. She attended the International Schizophrenia Expert Meeting in Istanbul, Turkey to explore and identify potential research areas for her PhD. In order to fulfil the criteria as co-researcher with the Ministry of Health, she attended and passed the Good Clinical Practice (GCP) course.

Dr Mas Ayu was involved in some courses and workshops in 2007. In July, a Research Methods Pre-Conference Workshop was conducted together with A/P Awang Bulgiba during the 2nd Asia Pacific Conference on Public Health. In September, Dr Mas Ayu was invited as a panel for debate session in Credentialing for Medical Officer of Health Course. In November, in collaboration with the Department of Psychological Medicine and Lundbeck Malaysia, she contributed her expertise with A/P Awang Bulgiba at a workshop on Psychiatric Clinical Trials & Research in Penang. Dr Mas Ayu is a reviewer for the Medical Journal of Public Health, Medical Journal of Malaysia and the Journal of the University of Malaya Medical Centre.
In overall 2007 was a busy year for Dr Mas Ayu and she hopes that 2008 will turn out to be another productive year.

Publication

I Tajunisah, S C Reddy, Mas Ayu S. A study of the indication and changing trends of enucleation and evisceration in West Malaysia, 2007; 7(1): 27-30,

Mohd Aminudin, Mas Ayu S. Factors associated with relapse of drugs addiction among males in Selangor, Malaysian Journal of Public Health Medicine, 2007; 7(2): 29,


Research activity

Chikungunya infection in Pantai Remis, Perak (2006-2007)

Conferences and Seminar attended in 2007


Ekspo Penyelidikan, Rekabentuk & Innovasi, UM. Paper presented: Does severity of visual impairment predict depression in elderly Malaysian?
Dr Sanjay Rampal

Publication in 2007


Dr Ng Chiu Wan

The year 2007 has been an exciting year for Dr Ng. It marked her first full year as a lecturer in the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine (SPM) having joined the department only in the latter half of 2006. As a member of the Health Services Management Unit, and having developed a long standing interest in Health Economics, specifically the financing of health care, she has been made responsible for the Health Economics teaching modules at the post-graduate level as well as contributing to the teaching of other management subjects at the under-graduate and post-graduate levels. She also supervised several Masters students. During the year, Dr Ng was also appointed an external lecturer at the Graduate School of Business, Faculty of Business and Accountancy, University of Malaya where she taught Health Economics to students in the Masters of Business Administration (Health Management) course.

In addition to her teaching duties, Dr Ng has also been actively involved in research. A major part of her research efforts has been devoted into an evaluation, from the perspectives of equity, of the private out-of-pocket expenditures for health care in Malaysia. This research was partly funded...
through a Short Term Research Grant awarded to Dr Ng in 2007. Dr Ng was invited to present her findings at an international conference “Poverty and Distribution amidst Diversity – Options and Challenges for Development” organised by the Centre for Poverty and Development Studies, Faculty of Economics and Administration, University of Malaya and which was held in Kuala Lumpur in August. Her paper entitled, “Paying for and using health care services in Malaysia – has the poor been treated fairly?” generated considerable interest and was received warmly.

Well aware of the synergy and benefits of collaborating with researchers of similar interests, Dr Ng has not confined her research activities to colleagues within the university but has also joined in international research projects. Her past participation in the Equity in Asia Pacific Health Care Systems (EQUITAP), which included researchers from 14 Asia Pacific countries and several European countries, resulted in the publications of several papers, 2 of which were published in 2007; one in the Journal of Health Economics and the other in the World Bank Economic Review. In the latter part of 2007, Dr Ng and researchers from the Ministry of Health, Malaysia as well as from the Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka and the School of Public Health, University of Hong Kong started work on a comparative analysis of their countries’ health care systems which shared the common features of being mainly tax funded and good performance in terms of health outcomes.

In addition to looking at equity in health financing, Dr Ng was also involved in several other research projects. The first studied the changing causes of death in Malaysia over a 30-year period from 1970 to 2000. Findings from this study, which was conducted in collaboration with researchers from the Faculty of Economics and Administration, were presented at the Expo on Research, Inventions and Innovation organised by the University of Malaya in July 2007 where the paper was awarded a Gold Medal. Dr Ng also collaborated with clinical colleagues from the Faculty of Medicine to examine the socio-economic consequences for households affected by the Nipah virus encephalitis. This work was partly funded by an IRPA fund. Dr Ng again teamed up with researchers from the Faculty of Economics to examine the social impact of enumeration of persons from different ethnic groups in various surveys carried out in Malaysia. The findings of this study were presented at the International Conference of Social Statistics and Ethnic Diversity organised by the Quebec Inter-university Centre for Social Studies, Canada in December 2007.

During the year, Dr Ng was also involved in several continuing educational activities, both as a participant as well as a contributor. Dr Ng attended several courses in economics and applied statistics conducted by the Faculty of Economics, University of Malaya. She also helped to conduct 2 workshops for the Ministry of Health; the first on the framework of the Malaysia National Health Accounts (MNHA) in February and the second on Hospital Cost Accounting in March 2007. The workshops were conducted as part of her contribution to the work on the National Health Accounts maintained by the Ministry of Health. Continuing her long-standing association with MNHA, she was also appointed a member of the MNHA Working Committee in January 2007.

Dr Ng has had a busy 2007 and will continue to improve her performance in 2008.
Publication


Research Grant

Dr Ng was awarded a research grant of RM 6,500.00 from the University of Malaya’s Short Term Research Grant (PJP) for the research “Equity implications of household out-of-pocket payment for health care in Malaysia, 1993-2004” in 2007

Conferences and Seminar attended in 2007

The International Conference on Poverty Distribution amidst Diversity: options, Kuala Lumpur. Paper presented: Paying for and using health care services in Malaysia – has the poor been treated fairly?


The International Conference Social Statistics and Ethnic Diversity: Should we count, how should we count and why? Montreal, Canada. Paper presented: Counting and integration: The experience of Malaysia
Dr Maznah Dahlui

Dr. Maznah Dahlui joined the Social and Preventive Medicine department in June 2007 after completing her study leave at Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. She obtained her Medical Degree at University Sains Malaysia in 1989 and Master of Public Health from University of Malaya in 1996. She is currently reading for her PhD and is conducting a cost effectiveness study for her thesis.

Dr. Maznah worked in several organisations after her housemanship and medical officer posting at the Penang General Hospital, and as school health officer in the district of Seberang Prai Selatan, Penang. She worked as the Principal Assistant Director at the Food Quality Control Unit, Department of Public Health and as a Senior Health officer at the Management Training Division, Public Health Institute, (both are part of Ministry Of Health, Malaysia) from 1993 to 1998. She then practiced as a general practitioner before working as a Child Health Officer at the Newcastle City Council, United Kingdom from 2000 to 2003.

In her first 6 months working as a lecturer in the Health Service Management Unit, she was given the task to develop the module and deliver the course on Training and Communication in Public Health. She had also taken part in conducting the health economics course besides lecturing the undergraduates on the Professional and Personal Development module.

Dr. Maznah had 6 post graduate students whom she supervised; 4 students from the 1st year Master of Public Health and 2 students from the Master of Medical Science programs, supervising them on journal critique and on developing research proposals. She also supervised 3 medical undergraduate groups for their elective posting and supervised the field survey for the Community and Residency Program of the 3rd year medical undergraduates program, besides an academic supervisor to one of the 1st year medical undergraduate groups.

During her 6 months at the department, Dr. Maznah had also been involved in research; she was a co researcher in the UMMC research group evaluating the socio-economic impact on Nipah Virus Epidemic victims, a co researcher in the study on the utilization of health specialist by Ministry of Health, a research member in the working group studying the means in developing health policy, by the United Nation University-International Institute on Global Health, and one of the research consultants to the working committee assessing the strategies on HIV/AIDs programs by Ministry of Health Malaysia.

Dr. Maznah had actively participated in the 3rd International Case-mix Conference at Berjaya Times Square (15-17th November 2007), where she was not only a committee member but was also a
chairman in one of the symposium and had presented a paper on ‘Cost-effectiveness analysis of Desferrioxamine Treatment in Transfusion Dependent Thalassaemia Patients at HUKM and HKL’.

In September 2007, the Faculty of Medicine had appointed Dr. Maznah to represent the faculty in the Entrepreneurship Technical Committee of University Malaya.

Conferences and Seminar attended

The 14th National Public Health Colloquium, Summit Hotel, Subang Jaya

The 3rd International case-mix Conference Malaysia 2007, Berjaya Hotel, K.Lumpur
Claire is a new addition to the Epidemiology and Biostatistics Unit in the department. She graduated with BSc, MMedScPH, and PhD. Currently, Claire teaches mainly biostatistics and research methods to both undergraduates and postgraduates.

In the first few years of her short research career, she gained experience in a number of areas, including studies of reproductive and sexual health (specifically sexual dysfunction), general practitioners’ management of sexual health problems, child growth and school performance among young school children, burden and care arrangement among caregivers, and environmental health issues. Most recently, she has focused her considerable energy on violence research. Her research interests include the international public health burden of violence; the linkages between violence against children/adolescents and mental health; the development and evaluation of interventions to address violence and research; research focusing on vulnerable populations such as impact of HIV/AIDS on children and their families; and application of mixed methodology in public health research.

She was involved in an international multi-country survey focusing on improving screening tool for international research into child abuse (ICAST-R) under the United Nations Secretary-General’s Study on Violence Against Children and International Society on Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (IPSCAN) in 2005-2007 (http://www.ispcan.org/questionnaires.htm). She was also a co-researcher in a recent study assessing the impact of HIV/AIDS on children and their families, together with researchers from University Putra Malaysia, Malaysian Ministry of Health and UNICEF Malaysia. Recently graduated from her PhD, her work focused on exploring a range of personal, familial and social factors associated with the experience of physical abuse, sexual abuse, emotional abuse and neglect and its possible health consequences among schoolchildren.

Her current projects include exploring the perception of service providers and public on child abuse and neglect, impact of HIV/AIDS on children and their families, socioeconomic impact of the Nipah Virus Encephalitis 1999-2000 outbreak, and examining prescribing skills among medical students and graduates.

During the weekend, she likes to spend her time doing yoga to keep herself healthy and sitting at the coffee house reading her favourite books (including day-dreaming!). She also loves travelling and dancing.
Dr Moy Foong Ming has a basic degree in Dietetics with Honours from UKM, MSc (Nutrition) from UKM, MMedScPH from UM and PhD from UM. She joined the Department of Social & Preventive Medicine in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya as a Dietitian in 1991. She pursued her Master of Science in Nutrition from UKM on a part-time basis while working in the department. After graduating with an MSc (Nutrition), she proceeded to do Master of Medical Science in Public Health which was offered by the SPM department on a full time basis. She then pursued PhD on a part-time basis in Health Promotion from UM. Her research topics from her MSc(Nutrition) was on KAP among type 2 diabetes patients, while her MMedScPH research project was on insights of obesity in Kampung Awal and her PhD project was on worksite wellness with emphasis on dietary approach. Besides the above, she has also taken part in research projects within the department as well as in collaboration with the Students’ Affair Unit of the university studying the University Malaya undergraduates’ accommodation and nutritional practices.

She has been actively supervising the MBBS undergraduates’ elective projects on topics on healthy lifestyle, school health, health seeking behaviours using Health Belief Model, etc. She has also been teaching Nutrition to the MBBS Phase II students, Statistical Computing to the MPH, MMedScPH, MBBS, BBMS, BSc Nursing and Diploma MLT students. She also gives statistical consultations to the Clinical Masters students from the clinical departments of the Medical Faculty who seek help with the department’s Medical Statistics Clinic.

Upon completion of her PhD in 2007, Dr Moy was appointed as Senior Lecturer in January 2008. Her areas of teaching are Health Promotion, Nutrition and Biostatistics for both the undergraduates and post-graduates of the Medical Faculty, University Malaya. She also acts as academic supervisors for both the undergraduates and post-graduates.

Her research areas are Worksite Wellness, Health Promotion and School Health. She has been actively publishing and presenting her research findings in peer reviewed journals and conferences in both local and international settings. She also reviewed papers in journals such as the Malaysian Journal of Nutrition, Malaysian Journal of Public Health Medicine, Asia Pacific Journal of Clinical Nutrition and Patient Education & Counselling.

In the year of 2007, Dr Moy presented her research findings in two international and two local conferences. She presented orally in the 19th International Conference of Health Promotion and Health Education in Vancouver, Canada as well as the 39th Asia Pacific Academic Consortium of Public Health Conference in Saitama, Japan. She also obtained a Bronze Medal in her poster presented in the Ekspo Penyelidikan, Rekacipta dan Innovasi Universiti Malaya. She was also invited by the Nutrition
Society of Malaysia (NSM) to be one of the panel judges for the posters presented in the 22nd NSM conference held in Kuala Lumpur.

In the same year, Dr Moy was selected and awarded a scholarship by the organizers to attend the 5th South East Asia Nutrition Leadership Program (SEA-NLP) held in Jakarta, Indonesia. The SEA-NLP was jointly organised by SEAMEO-TROPMED and the University of Indonesia. The main objective of the SEA-NLP was to empower nutritionists, with post graduate qualifications, working in government bodies, research institutes, academia and other institutions having nutrition program, competencies in effective leadership including team building and communication skills. The program emphasized on leadership, team work, communication and networking among participants. It also aimed to provide a forum for networking for nutritionists in the region.

Dr Moy has also attended several other courses in the same year. One of them was the Good Clinical Practice Course (GCP). It was an important course for researchers conducting studies involving humans where all researchers need to abide by the rules of the GCP. She also attended the following courses in the same year:

- SAS Enterprise Guide – ANOVA, Regression & Logistic Regression
- Seminar on Health Promotion – Capacity Building

The year of 2007 was a fulfilling year for Dr Moy as she has had plenty of exposure and experience from both the local and international scenes.

Research Grant

Dr Moy was awarded a research grant of RM46 thousand from the University of Malaya's Short Term Research Grant (PJP) for the research “Primary prevention of chronic diseases in a worksite” for 2007.

Conferences and Seminar attended

The 5th South East Asia Nutrition Leadership Program, Jakarta, Indonesia

Seminar on Health Promotion – Capacity Building, Awana Hotel, Genting
Appendix 1: Journal Papers published in 2007


Moe H. 2007. Road Traffic Injuries among patients who attended the Accident and Emergency Unit of the University Malaya Medical Centre, Kuala Lumpur. (accepted by JUMMEC).


Appendix 2 : Presentation

Analysis of healthcare outcomes presented by Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud at the SPSS 13th Annual Users’ Conference organised by the SPSS Users Group on 15 November at Eastin Hotel, Penang

Counting and integration: The experience of Malaysia presented by Dr Ng Chiu Wan at The International Conference Social Statistics and Ethnic Diversity: Should we count, how should we count and why? organised by Quebec Inter-University Centre for Social Statistics and the Institut national d’études démographiques (INED, Paris) on the 6-8 December in Montreal, Canada

Dealing with statistics presented by Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud at the Scientific writing workshop organised by Ministry of Health Malaysia on 31 July at Kingwood Inn, Sibu

Descriptive and inferential statistics presented by Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud at the Psychiatric clinical trials workshop organised by the Psychiatric Association on 3-4 November in G Hotel, Penang

Does severity of visual impairment predict depression in elderly Malaysian? poster presentation by Noran Naqiah Hairi, MMG. Izunna, Awang Bulgiba, Z. Mimiwati, Mas Ayu Said at the Ekspo Penyelidikan, Rekabentuk & Innovasi (Expo on Research, Design and Inovation) , University of Malaya on the 26-28 July at University of Malaya.

Ergonomics - Manual handling at hospitals presented by Associate Professor Retneswari Masilamani at the Occupational Health for Health Care Professionals organised by Society of Occupational and Environmental medicine, MMA on 27 February, 9 July and 7 September at various location in Malaysia.

Ergonomics – The Practical Approach presented by Associate Professor Retneswari Masilamani at the 1st International Nursing Congress 2007 organised by the University of Malaya Medical Centre on the 30 June at Shangrila Hotel, Kuala Lumpur.

Factors Associated with Relapse of Drug Addiction among Males in Selangor DE presented by Dr Mas Ayu Said at the 2nd Asia Pacific Conference on Public Health organised by the Academy of Medicine from 3-5 July at Sheraton, Subang Jaya, Selangor DE

How to prepare a research proposal presented by Dr Mas Ayu Said at the Workshop in Psychiatric Clinical Trial and Research organised by the Psychiatric Association on 3-4 November in G Hotel, Penang

Issues related to mortality and violence among Indian women presented by Dr Ng Chiu Wan at the Caucus of Malaysian Indian Women Leaders NUR (Wanita India Kini), part of the National Council of Women Organisations from 24-25 in Seremban, Negri Sembilan

Managing Stress at Workplace presented by Associate Professor Retneswari Masilamani at the Occupational Safety and Health Week organised by Jabatan Kimia (Chemistry Department) Malaysia on the 11 July at Jabatan Kimia Malaysia office in Petaling Jaya, Selangor DE
Measuring chemical exposure and the effects on employees by Dr Victor Hoe at the Health and Safety Forum – OHS in Hazardous Environments Marcus Evans, 05 – 06 Mac 2007 Prince Hotel & Residence, Kuala Lumpur

Multiple logistic regression presented by Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud at the SPSS workshop organised by the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya from the 20-21 June at the Faculty of Medicine

Oh! My back aches - occupational hazards and ergonomics presented by Associate Professor Retneswari Masilamani at the JCI, RCA, Healthcare and Clinical Management Updates Conference 2007 Gleneagles Intan medical Centre on 23 November at the Gleneagles Intan Medical Centre, Kuala Lumpur

Post Tsunami Lhokseumawe, Aceh: A Situational Analysis presented by Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai at the 2nd Asia Pacific Conference on Public Health organised by the Academy of Medicine from 3-5 July at Sheraton, Subang Jaya, Selangor DE

Paying for and using health care services in Malaysia – has the poor been treated fairly? presented by Dr Ng Chiu Wan at the International Conference on Poverty Distribution amidst Diversity: options and challenges for development organised by the Centre for Poverty and Development Studies, University of Malaya from 13-14 Aug in Kuala Lumpur.

Predictive modelling using ACG presented by Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud at the ACG workshop organised by Ministry of Health Malaysia on 27 August at the Putrajaya Health Office

Presenting statistical results presented by Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud at the Scientific writing workshop organised by the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya on the 24 July in Faculty of Medicine.

Producing effective tables and illustrations presented by Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud at the Scientific writing workshop organised by the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya on the 24 July in Faculty of Medicine.

Reproductive Health Hazards affecting Nurses presented by Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai at the 1st International Nursing Congress 2007 organised by the University of Malaya Medical Centre on the 30th June at Shangrila Hotel, Kuala Lumpur

Research Method presented by Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud and Dr Mas Ayu Said at the 2nd Asia-Pacific Conference on Public Health pre-conference workshop organised by the Academy of Medicine on the 2 July at Sheraton, Subang, Selangor DE

Scientific writing presented by Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud at the Psychiatric clinical trials workshop organised by the Psychiatric Association on the 4 November at G Hotel, Penang

Survival analysis presented by Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud at the SPSS workshop organised by the Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya from the 20-21 June in Faculty of Medicine
Appendix 3: Research Grant

Associated Prof. Retneswari Masilamani was awarded the University of Malaya’s Short Term Research Grant (PJP) of RM56,548.00 for the research “The relationship of salivary biomarkers to job stress among multinational office workers using Job Content Questionnaire” in 2007.

Dr Moy Foong Ming was awarded the University of Malaya’s Short Term Research Grant (PJP) of RM46,000.00 for the research “Primary prevention of chronic diseases in a worksite” in 2007.

Dr Ng Chiu Wan was awarded the University of Malaya’s Short Term Research Grant (PJP) of RM6,500.00 for the research “Equity implications of household out-of-pocket payment for health care in Malaysia, 1993-2004” in 2007.

Dr Nazatul Shima bt Mokhtar supervised by Associated Professor Saimy Ismail was awarded the University of Malaya’s Postgraduate Research Grant of RM500.00 for the research “Prevalence of sleep disturbance among nurses working on shift duty in Melaka hospital” in 2007.

Dr Siti Rohana binti Saad supervised by Dr Sanjay Rampal was awarded the University of Malaya’s Postgraduate Research Grant of RM500.00 for research “Is race associated with gestational diabetes mellitus (GDM)?” in 2007.

Dr Anselm Su Ting supervised by Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai was awarded the University of Malaya’s Postgraduate Research Grant of RM4,500.00 for research “A Cross-Sectional Study on Hand-Arm Vibration Syndrome Among Construction Workers in A Construction Site in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia” in 2007.

Dr Husna Maizura binti Ahmad Mahir supervised by Dr Htay Moe was awarded the University of Malaya’s Postgraduate Research Grant of RM4,000.00 for research “Prevalence and risk factors of job strain among office workers in a multinational company in Kuala Lumpur” in 2007.

Dr Rohana Johan supervised by Associate Professor Dato’ S Noor Ghani was awarded the University of Malaya’s Postgraduate Research Grant of RM6,000.00 for research “A study on the implementation of national tuberculosis information system (TBIS) in Malaysia” in 2007.

Dr. Ariza Binti Zainudin supervised by Dr Htay Moe was awarded the University of Malaya’s Postgraduate Research Grant of RM500.00 for research “Physical Activity, Energy Expenditure and Dietary Intake among over weight and normal weight Secondary School Students in Bentong” in 2007.

Dr Masitah Mohamed supervised by Dr Mas Ayu was awarded the University of Malaya’s Postgraduate Research Grant of RM500.00 for research “Factors associated depression among acute coronary syndrome patient in UMMC” in 2007.

Dr Noran Naqiah Hairi received the Fundamental Grant of RM63,500.00 for “Study on Injuries among the elderly in Alor Gajah, Malacca” in 2006.

Dr Mas Ayu Said received the Chinese Medical Board Grant of RM20,000.00 for research “Chikungunya infection in Pantai Remis: seroprevalence and risk factors assessment” in 2006.
Dr Victor Hoe Chee Wai Abdullah was awarded the Fundamental Grant of RM35,000.00 for research “UMMC Wellness program” in 2006

Associate Professor Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud the Fundamental Grant of RM145,000.00 for research “Identification of determinants for progression to AIDS in HIV patients receiving anti-retroviral treatment” in 2006
Appendix 4 Visiting Academic Staff

Visiting Professors

Professor Omar Kasule
Institute of Medicine
University of Brunei

Professor David Koh
Head of Department of Community, Occupational and Family Medicine
Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine,
National University of Singapore

Adjunct Professors

Dr Maimunah A Hamid
Director Institute of Health System Research
Ministry of Health Malaysia

Part-Time Lecturers

Epidemiology and Biostatistics

Dr. Ahmad Faudzi Hj. Yusoff, Institute of Public Health, Ministry of Health
Dr. Amal Nasir bin Mustaffa, Institute of Medical Research, Ministry of Health Malaysia
Dr. Che Azlan Shah bin Shahari, Klang District Health Office, Selangor
Dato’ Dr. Hasan Abdul Rahman, Ministry of Health Malaysia
Dr. Huda Zainuddin, Kuala Langat District Health Office, Selangor
Dr. Junainah Sabirin, Sepang District Health Office, Selangor
Dr. Ling He May, Manjung District Health Office, Perak
Dr. Noraini binti Baba, Malacca District Health Office, Malacca
Dr. Norhayati Rusli, KLIA Health Office, Selangor
Dr. Noor Azah Daud, Ministry of Health Malaysia
Dr. Noorliza binti Nordin, Institute of Health Management, Ministry of Health Malaysia
Dr. Paramjit Singh A/L Pakar Singh, Port Klang District Health Office, Selangor
Dr. Rahimah Mohd Ariffin, Selangor Health Department
Dr. Rashid bin Kasri, Ministry of Health Malaysia
Datin Dr. Rugayah Bakri, Ministry of Health Malaysia
Dr. Zainal Ariffin, Ministry of Health Malaysia
Dr. Hj. Zainudin Abd. Wahab, Ministry of Health Malaysia

Family Health

Dr Che Azlan Shah bin Shahari, Klang District Health Office, Selangor
Dr Fauziah Zainal Ehsan, Division of Family Health Development, Ministry of Health
Dr Ghazali Othman, Malacca Health Department, Malacca
Dr Haliza Abdul Manaf, Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur Health Department
Professor Hematram Yadav, International Medical University
Dr Ismail Lasa, Petaling District Health Office, Selangor
Dr Koh Choo Nea, Seremban District Health Office, Negeri Sembilan
Dr Mymoon Alias, Division of Family Health Development, Ministry of Health
Dr Noorizah Mokhtar, Negeri Sembilan State Health Department, Negeri Sembilan
Dr Noridah Mohd Saleh, Division of Family Health Development, Ministry of Health
Dr Othman Warijo, Division of Family Health Development, Ministry of Health
Dr Rohani Ismail, Kuala Muda District Health Office, Kedah
Dr Rokiah binti Mohd, Pulau Pinang State Health Department, Pulau Pinang
Dr Hj Rosli Ismail, Bentong District Health Office, Pahang
Dr Saidatul Nurbaya bt Buang, Division of Family Health Development, Ministry of Health
Dr Salehudin Abu Bakar, Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur Health Department
Dr Sharifah Rohani Syed Abu Bakar, Gombak District Health Office, Selangor
Dr Siti Halimah Syed Shaikh, Alor Gajah Health Office, Melaka
Dr Tee E Siong, President, Nutrition Society of Malaysia
Dr Thavamalar Ganason, Selangor State Health Department, Selangor
Dr Umi Kalsom Hj Hashim, Kuala Muda District Health Office, Kedah
Ms Wee Lei Hum, Health Education Officer, Telehealth Division, Ministry of Health Malaysia

Management

Associate Professor Dr Ramy Bulan, Law Faculty, University of Malaya
Mr Abdul Samad, Senior lecturer, Law Faculty, University of Malaya
Professor Madya Norbani bt Mohamed Nazeri, Law Faculty, University of Malaya
Datin Dr Rugayah Bakri, Health Technology Assessment, Ministry of Health Malaysia
Dr Asmayani Khalib, Health Technology Assessment, Ministry of Health Malaysia
Dr. Sheamini a/p Sivasampu, Health Technology Assessment, Ministry of Health Malaysia
Dr. Mohd. Azhar Mohammad Nawi, Kuala Selangor Health District Office.

Occupational and Environmental Health

Dr Abu Hasan Samad, Exxon Mobil Exploration and Production Malaysia
Dr. Faridah binti Amin, Department of Occupational Safety and Health, Putrajaya
Dr Hanizah binti Mohd Yusoff, Occupational Health Unit, Ministry of Health Malaysia
Dr. Kuldip Kaur, Assistant Director (Medical), Hospital Kuala Lumpur
Dr. Mohammed Azman bin Aziz Mohamed, Social Security Organisation (SOCSO), Kuala Lumpur
Dr. N. Guharajan, Occupational Health Advisor, Kelang Multi Terminal Sdn. Bhd (Westport), Kelang
Ir Nimi binti Ahmad, Senior Industrial Hygienist, ExxonMobil Exploration and Production Malaysia

Mr. Ridzwan Hj Hussain, RHM Consultant Sdn Bhd.
Dr. Saini Jeffery Freddy Abdullah, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya
Dr Sharfudin bin Noordin, Selangor State Health Department
Dr. Sirajudin Hashim, Ministry of Health Malaysia
Dr Zaharah binti Zainuddin, Selangor State Health Department
Dr Zakira bt Taib, Federal Territory Health Department
Appendix 5: Visitors to the Department

Prof Jayant Deshpande, visiting professor to Faculty of Economics & Administration, University of Malaya - 03 December 2007

Prof Diederick E. Grobbee, Chair Julius Center Professor of Clinical Epidemiology - 19-23 November 2007

Prof Yolanda van der Graaf, Professor of Clinical Epidemiology - 19-23 November 2007

Prof Arno W. Hoes, Professor of Clinical Epidemiology and General Practice - 19-23 November 2007

Prof Karel G.M. Moons, Professor of Clinical Epidemiology - 19-23 November 2007

Dr Helena M (Lenny) Verkooijen - 19 - 23 November 2007

Dr Helena M (Lenny) Verkooijen - 06 and 07 September 2007

Dr Marilyn Fingerhut from NIOSH USA - 21 August 2007

Vo Thi Nhi Ha, Pham Van Trong and Tran Van Ve from Vietnam as part of the WHO fellowship programme - 18 July 2007

Ravindra P. Rannan-Eliya, Director, Institute for Health Policy Colombo, Sri Lanka - June 2007

Mr Abbadi Noureldeen the First Secretary of the Embassy of the Republic of Sudan - 07 May 2007

Professor Harry Campbell from the College of Medicine and Vet Medicine, University of Edinburgh gave a lecture on “Causal Inference in Genetic Association Studies” - 20 April 2007

Professor Ken Takahashi, Professor and Chair of the Department of Environmental Epidemiology, Institute of Industrial Ecological Sciences, University of Occupational and Environmental Health Japan (UOEH) gave a lecture on “Asbestos Diseases: a global perspective” - 04 April 2007

Prof J.C. Stoof the Dean of the University Medical Center, Utrecht, Netherlands visits - 30 March 2007

Study Tour of Advanced School Health Programme for Bangladesh Visitor from the Directorate of Health Service (DGHS), Bangladesh - 26 February 2007 - 10 March 2007

Prof Monika Bullinger from University Hospital Hamburg gave a talk on childhood obesity in Bilik Fakulti on 26 Jan 2007

Faculty from the National University of Singapore conducting the “Seminar on the Use of Salivary Biomarkers for Research” - 22 January 2007

A meeting was held between the Department of Community Health, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Department of Community Medicine, Universiti Sains Malaysia and the Department of Social and Preventive Medicine, University of Malaya - 05 Jan 2007
This report was prepared and compiled by Dr Mas Ayu Said and Dr Victor Hoe Abdullah. Further editing was done by Prof. Dr. Awang Bulgiba, A/P Dato S.N. Ghani and Dr. Azlan Darus.

Updated information about our department can be found at our website http://spm.um.edu.my

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Thank you!