

## Design and evaluation of the pharmacovigilance course at a Malaysian pharmacy (Kulliyyah) school

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**Background:** 3 hours face-to-face lectures and 2 hours tutorial base classes have been integrated in a required 3 credited hour course. The course designed to provide an overview of concept of pharmacovigilance, clinical classification of Adverse drug reactions (ADR), pharmacist role in ADR reporting, Malaysian guideline for ADRs reporting, vaccination and pharmacovigilance and training on completing ADRs form. An assessment approach using pre and post course evaluations, in class quizzes and case study take home message has been made.

**Objectives:** To describe the development and evaluate of new pharmacovigilance course for undergraduate pharmacy program in Malaysia and students' evaluation of the course.

**Method:** A cross-sectional survey was conducted utilizing a self-completed questionnaire with closed questions. One hundred and four self completion questionnaires were administered at the end of the semester. 91 completed questionnaires were returned (response rate: 87.6%).

**Results:** About two-thirds of the respondents were female (n=67, 73.6%), the mean age of students was  $21.9 \pm 0.43$ . The overall perception of the students regarding the course was positive. All of the respondents believed that the knowledge gained from the course would be required in their future practice of pharmacy (n=91, 100%). The vast majority of the students (n=83, 91.2%) felt they had benefited from the pharmacovigilance course and were glad that such a course was offered to them.

**Conclusion:** A pharmacovigilance course was successfully designed and implemented in the BPharm curriculum. With regard to the students' opinions about the course: additional and procedural amendments to the course content should be done. Involvement of the pharmacovigilance relevant regulatory bodies in delivering of the course will contribute significantly to successful implementation of the course.

**Key Words:** Pharmacovigilance, Pharmacy, Vaccination, Malaysia

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