

Research Profile

CENTRE FOR
DRUG AND HERBAL DEVELOPMENT
FACULTY OF PHARMACY

CDHD

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Introduction to Research at UKM

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) has been recognised as one of the five research universities in Malaysia since 2006 based on its excellent record in research for 50 years. The recognition has gained further ground when the Malaysia Genome Institute (MGI) and International Institute of Global Health and United Nations University were set up within the university. The research in UKM is currently focused into eight niche areas: Challenges to Nation Building, Sustainable Territorial Development, Renewable Energy, Health and Medical Technology, Climate Change, Nanotechnology and Advanced Materials, Biological Diversity in Biotechnology Development and ICT: Content Informatics. In 2025, UKM was ranked at position 138 by the QS World University Ranking.



Research at the Faculty of Pharmacy, UKM

The research structure in the Faculty of Pharmacy, UKM consists of three research centres that represent the core areas of research in pharmacy. Our research activities cover fundamental pharmaceutical chemistry, biopharmacy, herbal development, pharmacology, formulation science, pharmaceutical technology, clinical pharmacy and professional pharmacy practice. We have a wide range of research facilities from the latest analytical instruments to a research-based teaching hospital. The faculty has managed to attract more than RM2 million in research grants in 2023 and 2024.

Faculty of Pharmacy research centres:

- Centre for Drug and Herbal Development (CDHD)
- Centre for Drug Delivery Technology and Vaccine (CENTRIC)
- Centre for Quality Management of Medicines (CQMM)

About Us

Research at CDHD involves all aspects of drug discovery and development of bioactive natural products with the aims to aid and advance in the area of drug discovery and development by establishing various approaches to drug discovery. The research interests range from identification of chemical leads from tropical flora and fauna for specific therapeutic efficacy to the development of new drug candidates against complex and challenging drug targets and evaluation of herbs and their products for quality, safety and efficacy as therapeutic agents. A rational approach is applied to conduct high quality, collaborative and interdisciplinary research in drug discovery and development.

KEY RESEARCH AREAS

Various natural product research activities are ongoing at the CDHD laboratories. Among them are extraction and isolation of novel compounds, determination of various bioactivities, establishment of standardisation procedures, structure activity relationship studies, and rational modification and synthesis of active compounds.

- ❖ Drug discovery – phytochemistry, drug design and synthesis
- ❖ Bioassays – pharmaceutical biology, pharmacology, pharmacogenetics, toxicology
- ❖ Herbal analysis – pharmacognosy, development of herbal, nutraceutical and cosmeceutical products
- ❖ Halal pharmaceuticals

Phytochemistry

- Isolation and determination of novel or new compounds from Malaysian plants using various chromatographic and spectroscopic techniques.

Drug Design and Synthesis of Novel Compounds

- Design and synthesis of novel compounds targeting cancer using various molecular modelling software including homology modelling, molecular docking, pharmacophore screening, 2D- & 3D-QSAR and molecular dynamics simulation.

Bioassays

- Extracts and isolated compounds are evaluated for their biological activities using in-house bioassays either *in vitro*, *in vivo* or *ex vivo* as well as to yield a novel mechanistic information that will drive a deeper understanding of biological functions and processes.

Pharmacognosy

- Development of herbal monographic specifications and standardisation of herbal formulation.

Halal Pharmaceuticals

- Quality assurance and quality control of halal pharmaceuticals.

Pharmaceutical and Herbal Analysis

- Quality control of raw materials and finished products containing pharmaceuticals and herbals.
- Fingerprinting analysis using spectroscopic and chromatographic data and chemometrics for adulterants and counterfeit drugs detection in pharmaceutical and herbal products.



ACTIVITIES



TEACHING & TRAINING

- Bachelor of Pharmacy with Honours
- Master of Science (Pharmaceutical Analysis) by Coursework
- Master of Science by Research
- Doctor of Philosophy by Research
- Short courses in Education and Training
 - Phytochemical Screening and Extraction of Natural Products
 - Methods for Development of Malaysian Herbal Monograph (MHM)
 - Standardisation of Herbal Materials Based on Pharmacopoeial Requirement
 - Standardisation and Quality Control of Herbal Formulations
 - Computer-aided Drug Design
 - Basic Cell Culture Techniques
 - DNA and Protein Analysis
 - Animal Behaviour Tests

SERVICES & FACILITIES

- Pharmacognosy Lab - solvent extraction, phytochemical screening, herbal quality control, bioassay-guided isolation of phytochemical compounds
- Computer-Aided Drug Design (CADD) - molecular modelling software
- Pharmacology - biological assay, *in vitro*, *in vivo* and ex-vivo studies
- Laboratory facilities
 - Facilities for Herbal Quality Control based on the Malaysian Herbal Monograph
 - Soxhlet Extractor
 - High-Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC)
 - High-performance Thin Layer Chromatography (HPTLC)
 - Preparative HPLC
 - Recycling Preparative HPLC
 - Ultraviolet-visible Spectrophotometer (UV-Vis)
 - Attenuated Total Reflectance-Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrometer (ATR-FTIR)
 - Atomic Absorption Spectrometer (AAS)
 - High-Speed Centrifuge & Ultracentrifuge
 - Freeze Dryer
 - ELISA Microplate Reader
 - Liquid Scintillation Counter
 - Cell Culture Suite

OUR TEAM OF RESEARCHERS



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ASSOC. PROF. DR. JURIYATI JALIL

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ASSOC. PROF. DR. KHAIRANA HUSAIN

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KEY PUBLICATIONS

❖ Phytochemistry

- Nor Hidayah Mustafa, **Juriyati Jalil**, Kai En Leong, Jamia Azdina Jamal & Khairana Husain. (2024). Phytochemical Profile and Diverse Pharmacology of *Garcinia celebica* L. **Heliyon** 1-17. [Doi: 10.1016/j.heliyon.2024.e30629](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.heliyon.2024.e30629).
- Liyana Shafiqah Sahul-Hamid, Juriyati Jalil, Syahira Wahab, Norazrina Azmi & **Nor Syafinaz Yaakob** (2023). Comparative Hplc Analysis of 6-Gingerol And 6-Shogaol in Soil-Based And Soilless-Grown Ginger. **Journal of Medicinal Plants and By-Products** 319-328. [Doi: 10.22034/jmpb.2023.362686.1577](https://doi.org/10.22034/jmpb.2023.362686.1577).
- Ida Syazrina Ibrahim, Mazlina Mohd Said, Noraida Mohammad Zainoor & **Jamia Azdina Jamal** (2022). Authentication of *Marantodes pumilum* (Blume) Kuntze: A systematic review. **Frontiers in Pharmacology** 1-16. [Doi: 10.3389/fphar.2022.855384](https://doi.org/10.3389/fphar.2022.855384).
- Tengku Azlan Shah Tengku Mohamad, Farida Islahudin, **Malina Jasamai**, & **Jamia Azdina Jamal** (2022). Traditional practitioner's knowledge of Malay post-partum herbal remedies in Malaysia. *Archives of Pharmacy Practice* 13(2): 11-16. [Doi: 10.51847/ani1usVKCv](https://doi.org/10.51847/ani1usVKCv).

❖ Drug design and synthesis

- **AKM Moyeenul Huq**, Miah Roney, Amit Dubey, Muhammad Hassan Nasir, Aisha Tufail, Mohd Fadhlizil Fasihi Mohd Aluwi, Wan Maznah Wan Ishak, Md. Rabiul Islam & Saiful Nizam Tajuddin (2024). Phenolic Compounds of *Theobroma cacao* L. show potential against dengue RdRp Protease enzyme inhibition by in silico Docking, DFT study, MD simulation and MMGBSA calculation. **PLoS ONE** 19(3): e0299238. [Doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0299238](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0299238).
- Islam, Rajibul, Mock Phooi Yan, Khor Poh Yen, Nurulfazlina Edayah Rasol, Chan Kok Meng & **Lam Kok Wai** (2023). Synthesis and Biological Evaluation of Chromone Derivatives against Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Cells. **Medicinal Chemistry Research** 32, 884–898. [Doi: 10.1007/s00044-023-03048-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00044-023-03048-4).
- Vincentsia Vienna Vanessa, Soek Sin Teh, **Kok Wai Lam** & Siau Hui Mah (2023). Synthesis of 1-Hydroxy-3-O-Substituted Xanthone Derivatives and Their Structure-Activity Relationship on Acetylcholinesterase Inhibitory Effect. **Natural Product Research** 8492861. [Doi: 10.1080/14786419.2022.2137800](https://doi.org/10.1080/14786419.2022.2137800).
- Faridah Shuaib, **Malina Jasamai** & Kabir Abdu (2022). Molecular modelling studies of some furo[2,3-d] pyrimidines as multiple receptor tyrosine kinase inhibitors. **Journal of Asian Association of Schools of Pharmacy** 11: 6-14. https://www.aaspjournal.org/article_html.php?did=14154&issueno=0.
- Noraziah Nordin, **Juriyati Jalil**, Mohd Faiz Abd Ghani, Adib Afandi Abdullah & Rozana Othman (2022). Molecular modeling simulations and inhibitory effects of naturally derived flavonoids targeting platelet-activating factor receptor (PAFR). **Letters in Drug Design & Discovery** 19: 20-30. [Doi: 10.2174/1570180818666210614170322](https://doi.org/10.2174/1570180818666210614170322).

❖ Immunomodulatory

- Siti Mariam Abdul Wahab, Khairana Husain, Ibrahim Jantan, Laiba Arshad, Md. Areeful Haque, **Norsyahida Mohd Fauzi**, Mohd Azlan Nafiah & Srijit Das (2023). Immunosuppressive Effects of *Annona muricata* L. Leaf Extract on Cellular and Humoral Immune Responses in Male Wistar Rats. **Current Pharmaceutical Biotechnology** 24(11): 1465-1477. Doi: [10.2174/1389201024666221221113020](https://doi.org/10.2174/1389201024666221221113020).
- Mayada Hussain Ali, Izyanti Ibrahim, **Malina Jasamai**, Noor Embi & Hasidah Sidek (2022). Anti-malarial effect of *Momordica charantia* involved modulation of cytokine mediated via GSK3 β inhibition in *Plasmodium berghei*- infected mice. Jordan **Journal of Biological Sciences** 15(3): 523-529. Doi: [10.54319/jjbs/150322](https://doi.org/10.54319/jjbs/150322).

❖ Anti-inflammatory

- Kamal Rullah, Nur Farisya Shamsudin, Andreas Koeberle, Chau Ling Tham, Mohd Fadhlizil Fasihi Mohd Aluwi, Sze-Wei Leong, Ibrahim Jantan & **Kok Wai Lam** (2024). Flavonoid Diversity and Roles in the Lipopolysaccharide-Mediated Inflammatory Response of Monocytes and Macrophages. **Future Medicinal Chemistry** 75-99. Doi: [10.4155/fmc-20230174](https://doi.org/10.4155/fmc-20230174).
- Carla Wulandari Sabandar, **Juriyati Jalil**, Norizan Ahmat, Nor-Ashila Aladdin, Nik Khairunissa Nik Abdullah Zawawi & Idin Sahidin (2022). Anti-inflammatory and antioxidant activity of *Syzygium polyanthum* (Wight) Walp. **Sains Malaysiana** 51(5): 1475-1485. Doi: [10.17576/jsm-2022-5105-17](https://doi.org/10.17576/jsm-2022-5105-17).
- Yu Xian Goh, **Juriyati Jalil**, Kok Wai Lam, Khairana Husain & Chandini Menon Premakumar (2022). Genistein: A review on its anti-inflammatory properties. **Frontiers in Pharmacology** 13:820969. Doi: [10.3389/fphar.2022.820969](https://doi.org/10.3389/fphar.2022.820969).
- Ali Attiq, **Juriyati Jalil**, Khairana Husain, Hazni Falina Mohamad & Abrar Ahmad (2021). Luteolin and apigenin derived glycosides from *Alphonsea elliptica* abrogate LPS-induced inflammatory responses in human plasma. **Journal of Ethnopharmacology** 275: 114120. Doi: [10.1016/j.jep.2021.114120](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jep.2021.114120).
- Sanggavi Nadarajan, **Norazrina Azmi**, **Malina Jasamai** & Endang Kumolosasi (2021). Annexin A1 (ANXA1): A Systematic Review of Its Role in Inflammation. **Sains Malaysiana** 50(1): 207-226. Doi: [10.17576/jsm-2021-5001-2](https://doi.org/10.17576/jsm-2021-5001-2).
- Ali Attiq, **Juriyati Jalil**, Khairana Husain, Jamia Azdina Jamal & Elysha Nur Ismail (2021). A new prenylated benzoquinone from *Cyathocalyx pruniferus* abrogates LPS-induced inflammatory responses associated with PGE2, COX-2 and cytokines biosynthesis in human plasma. **Inflammopharmacology** 29:841–854. Doi: [10.1007/s10787-021-00807-w](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10787-021-00807-w).

❖ Antiallergic

- Muhammad Abdurrahman Munir, Fitria Rahmawati, **Jamia Azdina Jamal**, Sofian Ibrahim, Mazlina Mohd Said & Mohamad Syahrizal Ahmad (2023). Inspecting Histamine Isolated From Fish Through A Highly Selective Molecularly Imprinted Electrochemical Sensor Approach. **Acs Omega** 13352-13361. Doi: [10.1021/acsomega.3c00768](https://doi.org/10.1021/acsomega.3c00768).
- Nur Zahirah Abd Rani, Kok Wai Lam, Juriyati Jalil, Hazni Falina Mohamad, Mohd Shukri Mat Ali & **Khairana Husain** (2021). Mechanistic Studies of the Antiallergic Activity of *Phyllanthus amarus* Schum. & Thonn. and Its Compounds. **Molecules** 26(3): 695. Doi: [10.3390/molecules26030695](https://doi.org/10.3390/molecules26030695).

❖ Cardiovascular

- Jiah Ning Tan, Khairana Husain, Zakiah Jubri, Kok Meng Chan, Azizah Ugusman, Ibrahim Jantan & **Norsyahida Mohd Fauzi** (2024). Anti-Atherogenic Mechanism of Ethanol Extract of *Christia vespertilionis* (L.F.) Bakh. F. Leaves In Vitro. *International Immunopharmacology* 1-10. Doi: [10.1016/j.intimp.2024.112148](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.intimp.2024.112148).
- Satirah Zainalabidin, Nurelya Farhana Aziz & **Mohd Kaisan Mahadi** (2023). SALLYlcysteine limits cardiac structural changes via antioxidant status in ovariectomized rats with induced myocardial injury. *European Heart Journal Supp* 1:44 (135). Doi: [10.1093/eurheartj/ehac779.135](https://doi.org/10.1093/eurheartj/ehac779.135).
- Muhamad Adib Abdul Ghani, Munirah Majed Alkharji, Wan Nur Izzah Shazana Wan Naw, Ahmad Syafi Ahmad Rushdan, Jalifah Latip, Azizah Ugusman, **Mohd Kaisan Mahadi** & Satirah Zainalabidin (2023). Carvacrol Ameliorates the Cardiac Fibrosis and Hypertrophy in Doxorubicin-Induced Cardiotoxicity Rat Model. *British Journal of Pharmacology* 19-20.
- Jiah Ning Tan, Khairana Husain, Zakiah Jubri, Kok Meng Chan, Ibrahim Jantan & **Norsyahida Mohd Fauzi** (2022). *Gynura procumbens* (Lour.) Merr. extract attenuates monocyte adherence to endothelial cell through suppression of the NF-κB signaling pathway. *Journal of Ethnopharmacology* 294:11539 (1-9). Doi: [10.1016/j.jep.2022.115391](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jep.2022.115391).
- Vivisana Sothivelr, Mohammad Yusuf Hasan, Mohd Shamin Saffian, Satirah Zainalabidin, Azizah Ugusman & **Mohd Kaisan Mahadi** (2022). Revisiting miRNA-21 as a Therapeutic Strategy for Myocardial Infarction: A Systematic Review. *Journal of Cardiovascular Pharmacology* 8:3 (393-406). Doi: [10.1097/FJC.0000000000001305](https://doi.org/10.1097/FJC.0000000000001305).
- Endang Kumolosasi, Mandy Cheong Li Ching, Nuraina Athira Ahmad Salwanizam, Nur Shamizah Ainna Muhammad Esham, Qistina Alyani Ayob, Ramavisithira Ramasamy, Harishankari Govindan, Adyani Md Redzuan & **Malina Jasamai** (2022). Drug-Herb Interactions: Selected Antihypertensive Drugs with *Moringa oleifera* Leaves Extract. *Sains Malaysiana* 51(4): 1143-1154. Doi: [10.17576/jsm-2022-5104-16](https://doi.org/10.17576/jsm-2022-5104-16).

❖ Gout

- Eldiza Puji Rahmi, Endang Kumolosasi, Juriyati Jalil, Fhataheya Buang & **Jamia Azdina Jamal** (2022). Extracts of *Andrographis paniculata* (Burm.F.) Nees Leaves Exert Anti-Gout Effects by Lowering Uric Acid Levels and Reducing Monosodium Urate Crystal-Induced Inflammation. *Frontiers in Pharmacology* 1-12. Doi: [10.3389/fphar.2021.787125](https://doi.org/10.3389/fphar.2021.787125).

❖ Osteoporosis

- **Mohamad, Nur-Vaizura**, Soelaiman, Ima-Nirwana & Chin, Kok-Yong. (2023). Effects of Annatto Tocotrienol with a Self-Emulsifying Drug Delivery System on Lumbar Microstructure and Biomechanical Strength in a Rat Model of Postmenopausal Osteoporosis. *Medicine and Health*. 18(2) (Suppl): 01-93. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.17576/MH.2023.s1802>.

❖ Neuropharmacology

- Mohd Khairulanwar Bunaim, Hanafi Ahmad Damanhuri, Hui-Yin Yow, Nor Syafinaz Yaakob, Mohd Makmor-Bakry & **Norazrina Azmi** (2024). Understanding Methiopropamine, A New Psychoactive Substance: An In-Depth Review on Its Chemistry, Pharmacology and Implications to Human Health. *International Journal of Legal Medicine* 1-12. [Doi: 10.1007/s00414-024-03201-7](https://doi.org/10.1007/s00414-024-03201-7).
- Intan Salsabila Putria, Nur Farisya Shamsudinb, Maryam Aisyah Abdullah, Mochamad Nurcholis, Syahrul Imran, Chai Xin Yu, Chau Ling Tham, Mohd Fadhlizil Fasihi Mohd Aluwi, Sze-Wei Leong, Sentot Joko Raharjo, Zalikha Ibrahim, Deri Islami, **Akm Moyeenul Huq**, Muhammad Taher & Kamal Rullah. (2024). Theoretical investigation of selective inhibitory activity of chromone-based compounds against monoamine oxidase (MAO)-A and -B. *Journal of Biomolecular Structure and Dynamics*. [Doi: 10.1080/07391102.2024.2436553](https://doi.org/10.1080/07391102.2024.2436553).
- Nor Syafinaz Yaakob, Mohamed Ali Seyed, Manali Haniti Mohd-Zahid, Heng-Hui Tee, ShuYun Yap, Sek-Wen Ho, Yusof Kamisah & **Norazrina Azmi** (2023). Neuroprotective Effects of Ocimum basilicum L. var. thrysiflora on Scopolamine-Induced Non-Spatial Memory Deficits in Rats. *Sains Malaysiana* 837-850. [Doi: 10.17576/jsm-2023-5203-12](https://doi.org/10.17576/jsm-2023-5203-12).
- Mohammad Yusuf Hasan, Rosfaiizah Siran & **Mohd Kaisan Mahadi** (2023). The Effects of Vagus Nerve Stimulation on Animal Models of Stroke-Induced Injury: A Systematic Review. *Biology* 12:4 [Doi: 10.3390/biology12040555](https://doi.org/10.3390/biology12040555).
- Raajeswari Satiamurthy, **Nor Syafinaz Yaakob**, Noraida Mohamed Shah, Norazrina Azmi, & Marhanis Salihah Omar (2023). Potential Roles of 5-HT₃ Receptor Antagonists in Reducing Chemotherapy-induced Peripheral Neuropathy (CIPN). *Current Molecular Medicine* 23(4), 341–349. [Doi:10.2174/1566524022666220512122525](https://doi.org/10.2174/1566524022666220512122525).

❖ Cancer pharmacology

- Mock Phooi Yan, Chua Eng Wee, Khor Poh Yen, Aaron Stevens & **Lam Kok Wai** (2023). G-Quadruplex Ligands as Therapeutic Agents Against Cancer, Neurological Disorders and Viral Infections. *Future Medicinal Chemistry* 1987-2009. [Doi: 10.4155/fmc-2023-0202](https://doi.org/10.4155/fmc-2023-0202).
- Muhammad Luqman Nordin, Ahmad Khusairi Azemi, Abu Hassan Nordin, Walid Nabgan, **Pei Yuen Ng**, Khatijah Yusoff, Nadiah Abu, Kue Peng Lim, Zainul Amiruddin Zakaria, Noraznawati Ismail & Fazren Azmi (2023). Peptide-Based Vaccine Against Breast Cancer: Recent Advances and Prospects. *Pharmaceuticals* 1-26. [Doi:10.3390/ph16070923](https://doi.org/10.3390/ph16070923).
- Masyitah Hasan, Endang Kumolosasi, Ibrahim Jantan, **Malina Jasamai** & Norlaili Nazarudi (2022). Knockdown of Annexin A1 induces apoptosis, causing G2/M arrest and facilitating phagocytosis activity in human leukaemia cell lines. *Acta Pharmaceutica* 72:109–122. [Doi:10.2478/acph-2022-0005](https://doi.org/10.2478/acph-2022-0005).
- Amnani Aminuddin, **Pei Yuen Ng** & Eng Wee Chua (2022). Mitochondrial Dna Sequences and Transcriptomic Profiles for Elucidating the Genetic Underpinnings of Cisplatin Responsiveness in Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma. *BMC Genomic Data* 1-4. [Doi:10.1186/s12863-022-01062-w](https://doi.org/10.1186/s12863-022-01062-w).
- Lok Mun Law, Norazrina Azmi, Ian Charles Paterson & **Pei Yuen Ng** (2022). P2y Purinergic Receptor Signaling in Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma Cell Lines and Its Role in Proliferation and Cisplatin-Mediated Apoptosis. *Sains Malaysiana* 175-186. [Doi:10.17576/jsm-2022-5101-14](https://doi.org/10.17576/jsm-2022-5101-14).

❖ Antimicrobial

- Nurliyana A. M. Sidek, Khairana Husain, Fhataheya Buang & **Mazlina Mohd Said** (2023). Antiperspirant and Antibacterial Activities of Curcuma xanthorrhiza Extract as a Potential Alternative Treatment for Hyperhidrosis. *Separations* 10: 324 (1-14). Doi: [org/10.3390/separations10060324](https://doi.org/10.3390/separations10060324).

❖ Wound healing

- Shihab Uddin Ahmad, Nor-Ashila Binti Aladdin, **Jamia Azdina Jamal**, Ahmad Nazrun Shuid & Isa Naina Mohamed (2021). Evaluation of wound-healing and antioxidant effects of Marantodes pumilum (Blume) Kuntze in an excision wound model. *Molecules* 26:1-21. Doi: [org/10.3390/molecules26010228](https://doi.org/10.3390/molecules26010228).
- Wong PK, Cheah FC, Syafruddin SE, Mohtar MA, Azmi N, Ng PY & **Chua EW** (2021). CRISPR gene-editing models geared toward therapy for hereditary and developmental neurological disorders. *Frontiers in Pediatrics* 9:592571. Doi: [10.3389/fped.2021.592571](https://doi.org/10.3389/fped.2021.592571).

❖ Pharmacogenomics

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❖ Microplastics

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*For details please refer to <https://ukmsarjana.ukm.my/> for further information.



CONTACT US

GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

The CDHD Faculty of Pharmacy is located at the heart of Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The nearest airport for Kuala Lumpur is Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA & KLIA2). The KLIA Express or Transit trains will bring you directly from the airport to the city centre (KL Sentral Station) within 30-40 minutes. From this central station you can easily access other public transport systems (the LRT and monorel) to get to the campus (Station Chow Kit).

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