

A UCSI pharmacy student measuring a member of the public's blood pressure.

Community service

UCSI University's recent Public Health Campaign (PHC) has won praise from Selangor Health Department director Dr Balachandran Satiamurti.

Attending the campaign as the guest of honour, Dr Balachandran thanked the university for promoting public awareness in the fight against diabetes, a metabolic condition that affects 15.2% of Malaysian adults.

"The Health Ministry is doing its best to drive early awareness campaigns and UCSI's efforts clearly support our initiatives.

"I congratulate UCSI for taking the lead with their efforts."

He added that he was encouraged to see UCSI's future pharmacists going "out of their comfort zone" to impact the community. UCSI vice-chancellor and president, Senior Professor Datuk Dr Khalid Yusoff said, "The PHC passes as a good training ground for our Pharmacy students to address the needs of the community.

"University education must encompass efforts beyond classroom activities and efforts like the PHC equip our students with the know-how and confidence to hit the ground running when they start working."

UCSI Group founder and chairman Datuk Peter Ng and UCSI Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences dean, Assoc Prof Dr Yeong Siew Wei also attended the event, which was sponsored by Giant.

A community-focused initiative, the PHC is held across Malaysia. To date, it has impacted communities in Selangor, Malacca, Johor, Pahang and Perak.