

# **REPORT ON GLOBAL INDIGENOUS HEALTH INITIATIVES**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

Universiti Kuala Lumpur Royal College of Medicine has been continuously active in pursuing initiatives for the indigenous health in the country. During the APACPH conference in Colombo, Wuhan, Kuala Lumpur and Bandung, the indigenous health collaborative center have been given an opportunity to organize the symposium on indigenous health. However, due to economic constraint the university has not allocated a budget for the running of the symposium in the last and the upcoming conference. Our activities are limited to a research and community engagement programs summarized as follows:

### **A. Research areas**

The current ongoing project on indigenous population is

1. Activity of phytochemicals against resistant staphylococcus from aborigine and urban poor populations. The study is granted by Short term grant of the university (STRG). The result of the study will be presented in the International Conference of Tropical Medicine and Infectious Diseases (ICTMID) titled Antibiotic resistance of Staphylococcus Aureus from indigenous and urban poor in Malaysia.

The completed project is an intestinal and ecto-parasitic infestations and its association with physical growth among the Orang Asli children granted by MARA. Two papers will be presented in ICTMID titled;

1. Nutritional Status of Orang Asli school children in selected villages of Perak.
2. Prevalence of soil transmitted helminth infections among Negrito populations in Malaysia

### **B. Community engagement programs on health of indigenous population.**

RCMP continues its mission to provide health promotion and medical services to this isolated population from time to time through the Rural Medical Mobile Mission (RM3). Students from different faculties in RCMP collaborated with other government and NGO agencies to engage with this community. Since June 2016, several programs were successfully conducted, as follows;

1. Community engagement with indigenous people of Kuala Mu.

RM3 still committed to serve this community which takes more 3.5 hours through the logging track in Northern Perak. Medical students has been volunteered to learn and provide medical service to this remote community in Dec 2016.

2. Gua Musang service learning and voluntary service during fasting month (Ramadhan) in Pos Brooke, Mendrop and Toel.

Volunteers from the RCMP and other agencies involved in this yearly event to celebrate Ramadhan (June 2017) with this remote community. The cooperation from both parties were excellent and the mission was considered very successful.

3. Community engagement and research work at Kg Lalang and Pos Raya, Simpang Pulai Perak.

**C. International Conference of Tropical Medicine and Infectious Diseases.**

The conference is going to be held in August. It has drawn 150 participants from local and international. Various papers on indigenous health will be given here that include:

1. Antibiotic resistance of Staphylococcus Aureus from indigenous and urban poor in Malaysia.
2. Toxoplasmosis among orang Asli population in Selangor-Malaysia: sero-prevalence, clinical presentations and associated risk factors
3. Prevalence of ecto-parasitic infestations: head lice and scabies among Orang Asli school children in Perak.
4. Intestinal parasitic infections among Orang Asli children in relation with selected socio-demographic factors.
5. Nutritional Status of Orang Asli school children in selected villages of Perak.
6. Prevalence of soil transmitted helminth infections among Negrito populations in Malaysia.
7. Prevalence and Burden of *Ascaris lumbricoides* among Orang Asli in Kampung Kachau Luar, Ulu Semenyih Selangor.
8. Prevalence of hookworm in stools of Negrito Orang Asli in Malaysia.

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