

## A Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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Greetings and welcome to the inaugural issue of Health and the Environment Journal.

The inaugural edition of Health and the Environment Journal has been published by the School of Health Sciences at Universiti Sains Malaysia. It is an online refereed journal which is devoted to the publication of original investigations, observations, and reviews in the various branches of health sciences. These include biomedicine, forensic science, sports science, dietetics, nutrition, medical radiation, radiography, audiology, speech pathology, nursing, environmental and occupational health, and psychology. Similar submission dealing with health-oriented aspects of social science is also welcome.

The journal aims to provide a platform for disseminating observations, findings, and views from various branches of health sciences and health-oriented aspects of the social sciences. It establishes and maintains a review of the literature of research and practice in health and the environment related areas. It also serves a means for critical reflection and analysis of different approaches used in community-based studies and engagement. Recent trends of academic paper writing and publication reflect the fusion of ideas from diversified disciplines and research approached. This is indeed refreshing and helps creative endeavours as the development of novel ideas depends largely on such multidisciplinary contribution with new way of looking at the same things.

In this inaugural edition there is article focusing on health impact by endocrine disruptor compounds; a review of residues at clandestine methamphetamine laboratories and their health effects; a study investigating the actual and estimated degree of risk to crime being faced by Malaysians in their environment; a report on fluoride levels in drinking water from nine study sites in Peninsular Malaysia

and Sabah; and a case study on Coprostanol as sewage Indicator.

Other articles focus on the development of user friendly lip balm; a study on knowledge, attitude and dietary and lifestyle practices on bone health status among undergraduate university students; an evaluation on immune status in preterm babies and occurrence of sepsis; a review on human rights to environment in Malaysia and a paper on skull based identification using computer aided superimposition device.

We are happy to accept and publish traditional academic articles in written form at the beginning stage of this journal; we also specifically invite and encourage submissions on the Web. We are looking for submitters who want to participate fully in our journal as reviewers who can help review, critique, and comment on other article submitted by your peers.

Most importantly, we hope to continuously improve the core publishing process of the journal to meet international journal publication standard in near future. With active participation and contribution from all submitters and reviewers, this is achievable within a short space of time.

Editor-in-Chief

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