

EXCLUSIVELY FOR ALPRO VIP MEMBER | MAY - JUNE 2021

VOL 18

When you have children yourself, you begin to understand what you owe your parents.

Love your parents and treat them with loving care...



THE WONDERWALL TIMES

The wall of Community Happiness from Alpro Foundation.

Welcome to the 2nd issue of The Wonderwall Times. It has been quite an adventurous 4 months since the 1st issue and this time we will be sharing about a recee trip to the depths of the jungle to visit an Orang Asli settlement, the launch of our Limited edition "Dream and Shine Bright" T-shirts.

THE FIRST RECCE TRIP TO "KAMPUNG ORANG ASLI":

It was an early Saturday morning where we set out from Petaling Jaya with Volunteers from The Centre for Orang Asli Concerns (COAC) together with Dr Colin (Founder of COAC) and Chang from Vitapak Team to visit an Orang Asli settlement located in Perak, South of Gerik.



-she among

It has always been one of the goals of Alpro Foundation to visit an Orang Asli settlement and bring vitamins and gifts to the children.

The whole journey from PJ to the entry point of the jungle track took 5 hours, at first we thought it would be an easy ride, but somehow things took a turn when the ride



- a pactore with the resident

became a bumpy one that threw us off our expectations. The journey off road was bumpy, rocky and muddy, we even got stuck in a deep pothole by the slope. Luckily we have a Landrover along the journey to save the day.

Upon reaching there, it was a different experience where children ran after our vehicles and welcomed us with flowers and fruits as welcome gifts. They sang us songs and greeted us with smiles and happiness, something that is hard to find these days.

We stayed for 2 days with them and distributed vitamins, gummies, and water bottles to the children. (Thank you Champs and M-zole for the Sponsorship of the Vitamins and Deworm) It was a very short trip and most of the time was spent on travelling, we will be going for another trip sometime in September this year, provided that the covid situation improves further.



The children From Olong Ash Kompung in Gore

METABOLIC BASIC SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM



As of today there are 79 patients taken care of under this program. Right now, we are supporting these families and accumulated an estimated savings of RM110,600 every month.

An average patient on tube feeding may incur monthly expenses of up to RM1500 - RM2000, for a regular income family, not everyone can sustain their loved ones. Many families resorted to using other alternatives and yet affordable milk formulas but are not meant for sustaining an adult. In the end, most tube-feeding patients end up having severe weight loss due to under nourishment from the alternative products they have purchased.

If you happen to know anyone or person in need of such assistance with household income of less than RM3000, please come forward to any Alpro Pharmacy outlets and approach our friendly staff who will help you apply.



- Motabalic Basic - Mr Plantactor (PS, Rosca)



This award is given to members of the public and Alproeans who have gone the distance to help and serve the community.

The Northern Stars Recipients:



~Aunty Chooi Li

Who have volunteered to deliver Metabolic Basic supplies to patients on behalf of Alpro Foundation throughout the past 1 year. She is a very committed lady who has been showering the community with care and love.



-Mr. James Lau

A very sincere gentleman who has been going to schools and identifying students in need of financial support, he helped to enrol students into The Growing Stars Project ever since he knew Alpro Foundation, he is also a huge supporter of our Charity Water.



~Ng Jing Si, Health Advisor A very passionate and driven lady from Alpro Pharmacy Pesta, Muar Johor for selling more than 300 bottles of Charity Water!

80 HOUSES WERE SUCCESSFULLY DISINFECTED













November In 2020. Seremban was hit with flash floods, resulting in numerous housing areas affected. Alpro Foundawith volunteers formed a team and went to Kampung Batu 3 Mambau to provide 2 - in 1 (Disinfectant + Anti Mosquito) fogging services for the residents. Working together with the local community, Village Adam and his fellow committee members guided the team around and helped coordinate the effort, within a span of 3 hours, 80 houses were successfully disinfected.

DREAM & SHINE BRIGHT T-SHIRTS

This year, Alpro Foundation aims to sponsor 100 students and to do so, an estimated RM120,000 is needed to do so. Fortunately with the commitment and dedication from a group of Intern students from IMU & INTI, they have helped make it possible!

The Dream & Shine Bright T-shirt concept is the brainchild of these 4 interns, Lynette Liew, Kelly Chin, Adrian Lai, and Phylis Sum, and together with the support from the staffs of Alpro Pharmacy, 8000 T-shirts were successfully sold and more than RM80,000 was raised to fund The Growing Stars Project. Each T-shirt is selling at RM29.90.

From sourcing to logistical arrangements and creating videos for the campaign, these 4 interns took up the challenge and did it anyway. Thank you interns, now we can really support 100 students this year!

"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."

- William Butler Years











The journey will be continue towards healthy and vibrant community...



Winnie Hsiung Szu Yuan

Branding, Promotion & Trade Marketing Manager

Alpro Pharmacy

CHIEF EDITOR:

PUBLISHED AND PRODUCED BY Alpro Pharmacy Sdn. Bhd. cell Unit VI-A. Lot 45880, Jalan Technolic

Welcome to the 18th edition of Alpro Pharmacy Health Matters, the May edition for the year of 2021.

Welcome to a new year, one that is filled with hope and new beginnings! At Alpro Pharmacy, I am glad that we had the opportunity to creatively transform and expand our community service that have overcome many challenges presented in 2020 and have shown resilience and dedication to helping our customers.

I realize the number of underprivileged student case is increasing, their parents' financing problem is the biggest factors especially after the pandemic in year 2020. In Alpro, we strongly believe that EVERY child has the right to further basic education. This February, we have successfully raised a fund by selling over 8,000 "Dream & Shine Bright T-shirt" to support over 100 students in their studies.

I also notice that some of our customers with long-term (chronic) diseases such as heart disease and diabetes has been encouraged to use "Easy-Peasy Plate" in their daily eating diet. The concept was adopted by suku-suku-separuh, is a good way to practise healthy eating habits, to ensure a balanced variety in food items

Moving forward, Parents' Day is around the corner, it is a great opportunity to look after parents' physical activity and mental health. Sometime, taking care of a loved one with health condition can be challenging. In Alpro Pharmacy, we provide a specialized prepacked medication PILCube, multi-dose dispensing pack that enable to remind elderly take medication properly. Always contact us and don't forget our special privilege for 60 years and above on every 18th of the month!

On behalf of all Alproeans,

I hope you enjoy our first issue of 2021 and would love to hear from you about topics you'd like to see us cover in future issues. Please do follow our Facebook Page @alpropharmacy and visit alprooneclick.com for more information update. We look forward to being on this journey with you.

Let us hold our hands together and to move towards a

Healthy And Vibrant World

STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY

Terima Kasih, Xie Xie Ni

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The wall of Community Happiness from

alpro foundation

SILVER CARE



One stop Solution for Elderly Care and Post-Discharge Care

from the aspects of medication, nutritions, physiotherapy, rehabilitation equipment and many innovative services.

Feeling TIRED? NUMBNES is hands and feet? Could it be VITAMIN B12 deficiency?

PROMOTION

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I am Stronger!

Rest Well, for better RECOVERY!

CICADAE: The new REVOLUTION for eye care supplement

Ladies' monthly issues: Struggling with PREMENSTRUAL SYNDROME (PMS) everytime!

Caffeine & Sugar NO LONGER the CHOICE for BOOSTING ENERGY throughout your day! ADAPTOGENS: Caffeine alternatives for natural energy



Even when you're old, I'll take care of you.

Even when your hair turns grey, I'll support you. Even when you behave as a child, I'll respect you. Even when you can't mobilise, I'll provide comfort to you. Without you, I'm not here. I'll thank and love you forever... HAPPY PARENT'S

36

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My grandpa is 89 years old, but I am the Alpro Silvercare member.

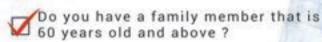
> I am 60 years old. and I am an Alpro Silvercare member. *

SILVERCARE MEMBER





Are you 60 years old and above ?





To Bring Home Exclusive Member Perks For Your Family. ENJOY SPECIAL DEALS EVERY 18th OF THE MONTH



FREE Cash Vouchers *For every RM 200 spent.



Stand A Chance To Win Lucky Draw Prize

RSP RM300

*Tune In To Our Silvercare Facebook LIVE



Register Now MONTHLY GATHERING

Contact Our Alpro Staff



MEDICHECK To identify drug interaction & side effects within 30 minutes!





COMPLEMENTARY HEALTH & NUTRITION PACK

* T&Cs apply.



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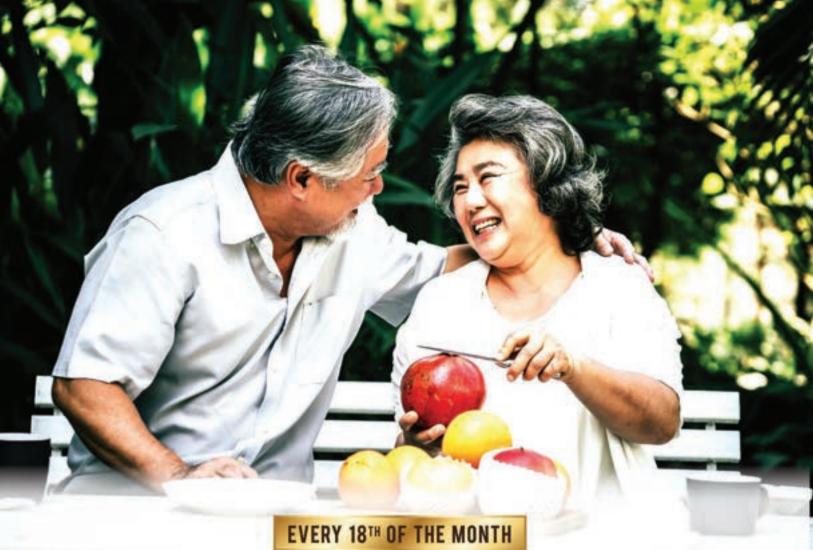


EVERY 18TH OF THE MONTH

SilverCare Member



* T&Cs apply.



SilverCare Member Privilege













* T&Cs apply.

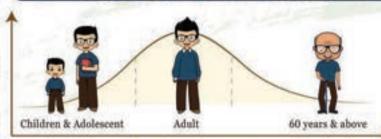
Stronge

By: Kelly Gan Wei Xin, Dietitian

In the midst of COVID-19 invasion worldwide, not only that we need to keep our immunity strong, "Muscle Health" is equally important in supporting overall health and wellness, especially into old age.

Based on research, adults lose up to 33% of muscle mass between age 40 to 70. This affects physical strength, balance, and recovery from illness.

Lower muscle strength can also put us at higher risk of breaking a bone. Thus, a good muscle health is especially crucial to keep us strong during the pandemic time.



Growth & Development Exercise performance, Weight maintenance, Body posture

Bone health, Walking strength

HOW CAN I IMPROVE MUSCLE HEALTH?

Move it 3 mini home or office bound exercises



Sitting Leg Lift

Train the quadriceps muscle in front leg, by sitting on a chair, stick up your knee and hold on straight for 5 seconds. Repeat each leg for 10 times.



Hand Lifting

Stick out both hands straight at the front parallel to your shoulder, then lift it up and over your head. Repeat for 10 rounds. Suggest to gradually increase strength by holding some weights like water bottle.



Biceps curl

Curl up and down both hands for 10 rounds. Also, can increase strength by holding up some weights like water bottle.

Eat it 3 eating tips



Take adequate amount of protein daily: 1.0-1.2g/kg of individual weight e.g. if a person weighs 50kg, her/his daily protein requirement is 50-60g, e.g. I egg is = 7g of protein



Fish



















grapefruit couliflower



Recommended 3g HMB daily intake (a little compound broken down from amino acid leucine) naturally found in very small amounts in foods





When comes to recovery, we often focus on things like nutrition and rehabilitation, however, many fail to consider another vital component that speeds up recovery - quality rest!

Pushing yourself too hard during recovery can cause immediate or long-term physical complications. It's common for patients undergo recovery to feel mentally and emotionally vulnerable, hence, quality rest during recovery state is very important because your body is going to do a lot of healing when your body is at rest or sleep.

Sleep is an essential biological function, and sleep deprivation can lead to a variety of physiologic and psychological dysfunctions. Disrupted sleep can result from numerous and diverse causes, including primary sleep disorders, medical conditions, environmental factors and psychological factors like stress and anxiety and eventually leads to poor recovery and lengthens hospital stays.

Converging evidence from different research paradigms suggest that psychological stress and disrupted sleep can affect the rate of recovery. A meta-analytic study using diverse wound healing models and outcomes found that across studies there was an average correlation of 0.42 between psychological stress and wound healing.

Here are a few ways in which poor rest quality negatively affects the recovery process:

- 1. It directly impacts your immune system
- 2. It slows down tissue growth
- 3. It can compromise healthy eating habits

010 | MEDICATION SAFETY • OUR PRIORITY • 药安全 在大专

ACTIVE RECOVERY

Nutrition
X
Rehabilitation
X
Quality Rest

Scientific Proven
Effective Ingredient
to Aid Stress and
Improve

Lactium® is a hydrolyzed milk protein (alpha-s1 casein hydrolysate) and is hypoallergenic, an ideal companion to help you gently manage your emotional state. Lactium® acts effectively and naturally on the central nervous system without giving any toxic effect on the body, even at high doses. It is completely natural, and therefore totally harmless.

Quality!

How does Lactium* work? By means of a selective affinity for certain receptors in the central nervous system, called GABA receptors, Lactium* increases the activity of gamma Aminobutyric acid (GABA), a neurotransmitter well known for its inhibitory action on anxiety and its relaxing properties.

Published studies reveal that Lactium® promote restful sleep and support relief from stress. Supplementing with Lactium® was found to support stress coping and promote healthy mood in stress-prone individuals parti- cipating in a placebo-controlled trial. In another study, a group of 63 women reporting a variety of stress-related difficulties experienced an change of over 20% in emotional response with just 150 mg per day.

A clinical study done on Lactium proves that those who consume 150mg of Lactium per day showed significant improvement in:



Reference: (1) Randall S. Friese, MD. Sleep and recovery from critical illness and injury: A review of theory, current practice, and future directions*, Critical Care Medicine. 2008, Vol.36: No. 3. (2) Walburn J., Volhara K., Henkins M., et al. Psychological stress and wound healing in humans: a systematic review and meta-analysis. J Psychological Stress on Wound Healing: Methods and Mechanisms. Jenuard Allergy Clin North Am. 2011 Feb; 31(1): 81–92.















Collagen 80s Twin Pack + Collagen Plus 20s





Collagen Plus 60s Twin Pack + 10s







Whita Glo L-Glutathione 400mg 30s





Eliminates Body Odour Maturally

Smelly-No-More is a deodorant made from pure & natural mineral salts

- Inhibits the growth of bacteria which is the real source of body odour
- . Does not darken skin
- · Non sticky & non greasy
- · Alcohol & fragrance free
- · Does not stain clothing
- Does not contain Aluminium Chlorohydrate

Where to apply



Under



Feet



Neck





₹1260 /unit

Smelly No More 60g

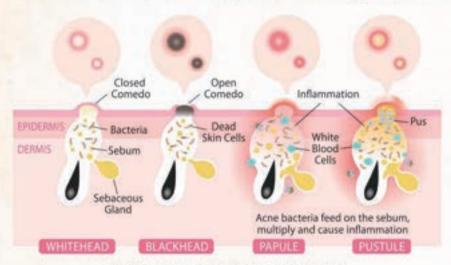


References: 1. IMS data on Emollients and Protective, MAT Q2 2018 2. Galderma data on file 203150, 3. Galderma data on file 203141, 4. Galderma data on file RD.27.SPR.203148



The Truth About Acne...Hello Clear Complexion

it's hard to pinpoint the cause of acne but understanding your skin is the first essential step to clearing oily and acne prone skin



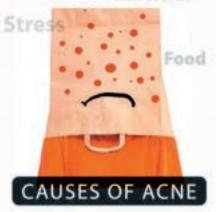
TYPES OF ACNE PIMPLES

Like most people with acne skin you're probably sick of not getting results. You've probably tried every product out there and nothing has worked. Well that stops here! Below is the information you need to arm yourself with, so you can stop making mistakes and start seeing results. Lack of Sleep
Hormonal
Imbalance
Genetics

Sebaceous Gland Hypersecretion

Cosmetics

Bacterial



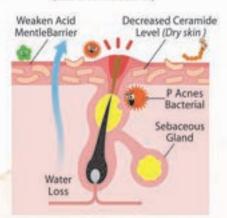
3 Factors That Cause Acne and Pimples to Develop

- 1. Over-active Sebaceous (oil) Glands – Typically in acne skin the sebaceous gland is over-active resulting in an excess of sebum (oil) being secreted onto the surface of the skin.
- 2. Excess Dead Skin Cells –
 Acne-prone skin sheds up to
 5x more layers of dead skin
 cells per day, the excess dead
 skin cells and excess sebum
 mix together and become
 trapped in the pore of the skin
 which leads to the pore
 becoming blocked.
- 3. Inflammation There is a particular bacteria called the Propionibacterium bacteria (P acnes) that lives in the pore of the skin and feeds on sebum. A blocked pore makes the perfect environment for the P acnes bacteria to breed, which leads to swelling, inflammation and further breakouts.

Know How Your Skin's Protective Barrier Works

Your skin has a unique protective system called the 'Acid Mantle Barrier'. This barrier is made up of oils, fatty acids (especially Linoleic acid, the essential building block for ceramides, one of skin's main moisturizing elements), lactic acid, amino acids and your skin's own natural moisturising factor, which creates a protective barrier on your skin. This

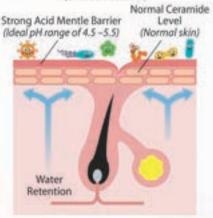
Unhealthy Microbiome (Less diverse bacterial)



seals in moisture and protects your skin against acne causing bacteria and infection.

And much like your gut, your skin has good and bad bacteria. Thus it is important to keep the good bacteria strong and healthy – as they play an active roll in making sure the acne causing bacteria doesn't take over and cause pimples.

Healthy Microbiome (Diverse bacterial)



RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ACID MANTLE & ACNE

Why a Quick Acne Fix is Not a Real Fix

Your acid mantle, being slightly acidic as the name suggests, is easily upset or stripped away and can take anywhere from 15 mins to 14 hours to restore itself.



So when you treat your skin with harsh products (that contain chemicals like benzoyl peroxide or salicylic acid), and getting that squeaky clean feeling, please don't be happy because you're actually destroying your skin's protective barrier and stripping away your skin's natural oils. This gives acne causing bacteria a chance to take over. It also tells the oil gland that it's not doing its job (protecting the skin) well enough - as a result, the oil gland is sent into overdrive to compensate. In other words, although you are trying to fix your skin, you're actually making it worse; one step forward, 3 steps back.

How Garden of Eden's Plant-based Rosa T Acne TRIO Clear Your Acne Safely and Effectively

Designed to work together, Rosa T 3-Step Routine includes the mild cleanser, acne gel and a clinically proven serum to help prevent and fight acne. Rosa T's unique botanical formulas are gentle yet effective. Rosa T products can be used by itself but when used together give better oil control and anti-acne results.

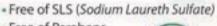
STEP 1 DEEP CLEANSING

Rosa T Mild Cleanser is formulated to deeply cleanse away dirt and oil build-up leaving your skin feeling soft, clean and hydrated. It is great for acne-prone and sensitive skin.



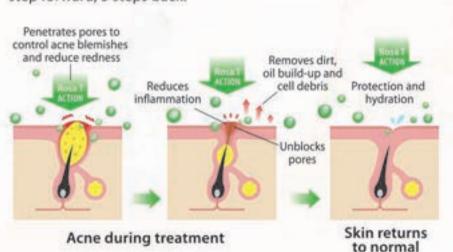
- Free of Parabens
- Free of Colourants
- Aloe Vera: Soothes the skin
- Witch Hazel: Mild anti-bacterial







effect and refines pores



ROSA T TRIO IN ACTION

STEP 2 INTENSIVE ACNE AND OIL CONTROL

Rosa T Triple Action Acne Serum is clinically proven to reduce excessive sebum (oil) secretion, acne and lightening acne scars, this potent 100% natural serum works its magic effectively yet gently with the following three actions:

- 1. Oil Control
- 2. Anti-Bacterial
- 3. Scar Reduction



sorbing, non-sticky and non-greasy formula

- Rosehip Seed Oil and Grape Seed Oil: Essential fatty acids (Linoleic acid)
- Australia Tea Tree Oil : Antibacterial
- Natural Vitamin E : Antioxidant effect

STEP 3 DAILY ACNE SPOT CONTROL

Rosa T Acne Gel is water-based and non-greasy. This targeted spot acne gel is infused with powerful oil-balancing natural extracts to control inflammation, and fight acne bacteria and oil-targeting blemishes where they start. It penetrates deep to bring you day-long skin protection and hydration.



- Free of Parabens
- Free of Fragrance
- Free of Colourants
- . Tea Tree Oil : Antibacterial
- Lotus Flower Extracts: Oil control
- Natural Vitamin E: Hydrates and anti-blemish

This article is brought to you by Maxwell Pharma, Kindly contact us at Tel.: 603-7887 8222 or email: hello@goeskincare.com

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ACNE-PRONE SKIN



Oily / Acne-Prone Skin:

Acne affects people of all ages. Acne affects your self-confidence and may leave your skin with permanent scars. That is why it is very important to start treating your skin right to prevent acne or reduce existing acne.









Main Causes:



Hormones

Some individuals may have hereditary reasons for overproduction of sebum

Genetics

p.Acne Bacteria
These bacteria thrive

& grow rapidly on oilly

skin surfaces & under

high pH conditions

Androgens, which are present in both men & women increase sebum production Cosmetics

Use of comedogenic products clog up skin pores Skincare

Products with a high pH formulation / contains soap & alkali destroy the skin's natural protective houses.

Skin Care Goals for Acne-Prone Skin:

- Normalization of sebum production
- Reducing overgrowth of p.Acne bacteria
- Skincare products formulated at the ideal pH5.5
- Soothes inflammation and irritation
- Removes excess dead skin cells





"Kell D. Aung EG, Bayerl C, 2002. Effects of a mild detergent syndet cleanuer for mild acne on skin barrier function. Ann Derm Venereol 129: 5 377









3-Step Routine

for Itchy, Sensitive & Troubled Skin







RM**149** (worth RM189)

\$ 100% Natural \$ pH-Balanced \$ Safe & Effective \$ Fragrance-free



















Breakthrough Probiotics for dry & itchy skin



Probiotics restore healthy microbiome

biodiversity of microbes on the skin to restore a healthy, belanced, skin microbiome improving skin barrier function for defence against irritation.



A moisture-binding, soothing agent that relieves dryness, itch and irritation by forming a protective glove-like shield over the skin to help retain its natural moisture.

Benefits of Rosken AD Probiotic Cream

Moisturizing -

Clinically proven to treat and protect dry skin by doubling skin moisture in 2 hours.

tions the way it should.

Helps to rebuild and regimen the skir's bar

Strengthening (

Soothing Assists in breaking to vich-scratch cycle.

Therapeutic (Soothes Inflammatio redness and Irritatio



Acts as a natural emulsifi locking in moisture to leave the skin soft and supple.

Defensive VV Supports the skints natural

immune response, so it becomes less reactive.

Replenishing >

the nutrients it needs in order to stay protected.





DISCOUNT RM5

* With purchase of RM50 and above for any Nature's Way Kids A+ range.



Glaucoma is one of the leading causes of vision loss worldwide

In 2020, an estimated

MILLION people worldwide were affected by GLAUCOMA

More than

among GLAUCOMA patients will lead to blindness if

GLAUCOMA is becoming the

most common cause of blindness worldwide

My eyes vision suddenly

become narrower!!

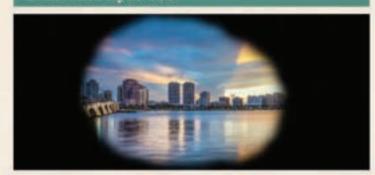
Why is it happening?

How can I prevent it become worsening?

Healthy Eyes See:



Glaucoma Eyes See:



CICADAE: The New Lition for eye care

supplement

Elevated Intraocular Pressure (IOP) is a known risk factor for glaucoma and optic nerve damage. High IOP results from the accumulation of aqueous humour in the anterior chamber, which is primarily due to the eye's lack of capabilities to drain aqueous fluid sufficiently. Increased IOP is considered a major risk factor for progressive loss of Retinal Ganglion Cells (RGCs) in the retina.



Common GLAUCOMA treatment

Common treatment options for glaucoma include:

- medications
- surgery
- laser therapy.

However, most clinical drugs have potential side effects, and now natural plant extracts could be come into place to provide alternative sources of medicine. There are a few studies that published recently has raised up some excited news in glaucoma prevention or worsening conditons. Cordyceps cicadae which has long been used as a Chinese herbal medicine since 1600 years ago, proven to be highly possible effectively lower or maintain the IOP at the normal IOP range. It is possibly due to its ability to increase the outflow of aquoues humour and hence IOP reduce. Besides that, its high anti-inflammation and antioxidant property results in a marked reduction of the effect of oxidative stress and hence believe to be able to have impact on the below eye disease apart from glaucoma:

- Dry eyes symptoms
- Cataract
- Infected eyes

What is Cordyceps Cicadae?



C. cicadae belongs to the Clavicipitaceae family, and is also known as cicadae flower or Chan-hua(単花). It parasitizes the larvae or nymphs of cicadas (Cicada flammate) and forms a biological complex of larva and fungus. The Compendium of Materia Medica notes that C. cicadae is a valuable traditional Chinese herbal medicine for the treatment of eye diseases, vision improvements.





All-in-One Drop

Optimal relief targeting all layers of the tear film.2

Nano-Droplet Technology

Optimal coverage for maximum dry eye relief.2

The all-in-one drop for any type of dry eye'

SYSTANE® COMPLETE uses advanced technology to optimise moisture and improve dry eye symptoms. 2.3



HP-Guar based products have been shown to improve dry eye symptoms, reduce inflammation and protect the eye's surface.



Nano-sized lipid droplet minimises blurning on instillation and improved spreading across the eye. covering more surface than a conventional oil droplets?





Promotion Period: untill 31 May 2021

GET RM

with every unit of Systane* Complete Purchased

HOW TO REDEEM?

Step 1: BUY



Step 2 : SCAN OR code to WhatsApp the receipt



WhatsApp +6017-3022107

BEST DEAL!

Step 3 : Choose





Type<TnG> Type<Boost>

Step 4: Receive



TnG E-Wallet Reload Pin or Boost E-Wallet Credit Code

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 1. This promotion is only valid from IS March 31 May 2021. Any redunction after this date will not be:

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- accepted.

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 3. Discount will be reimbursed via E-Wallet ovelds. Consumer to shadoe Set when Youth in Go or Baset
 E-Wallet.

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 7. Alcon Laboratories (H) Size this reserves others withdrawal spect.

Alcon

Note: Protection is for consumers/patients only. Not suild for resellers such as hospitals, clinics, pharmacies and any related intermediaries







Struggling with remenstrual androme (PMS) everytime,

Written by : Ng Siew Li, Nutritionist



PMS is a combination of physical and emotional symptoms that many women in reproductive age would experience before the start of their menstrual period. PMS symptoms can begin from 7 days before menstruation and go away within a few days after a woman's period starts as hormone levels begin rising again. Up to date, the exact causes of PMS remained unknown. It is most likely due to the changes in hormone levels and brain chemicals (for example, serotonin) throughout the menstrual cycle.

Some women get their periods without any signs of PMS or only very mild symptoms. For others, PMS symptoms may be so severe that it makes it hard to do everyday activities like go to work or school. According to different investigations on the prevalence of PMS, altogether the results show that up to 90% of women of reproductive age experience several premenstrual symptoms varying from mild to severe; around 20-40% of them experience PMS, and 2-8% suffer from severe PMS, called premenstrual dysphoric disorder (PMDD).

PMS Symptoms Checklist



Bloating



Breast Tenderness



Headaches





Backaches Appetite Changes / Food Cravings



Mood swing



Fatigue



Period Pain



Nausea / Vomiting



Constipation / Diarrhea

What can a lady do to ease PMS?

Ladies should be very familiar to hear that, "Drink some warm water to help you feel better." Oh my! This is so old-fashioned, and it doesn't work for most of the time! Let's check out some other better tips!

The DOS

- · Regular exercise
- Choose healthy foods most of the time
- · Get enough sleep
- · Find ways to cope with stress
- · Keep track on the symptoms

The DON'TS

- · Smoke
- · Drink too much alcohol
- · Intense exercise prior period
- Salty and high sugar foods prior period
- · Excessive caffeine prior period

What's the other complementary or natural remedies to help with PMS?

Herbal and natural plant extracts supplements seem to be a good approach to ease PMS when compare to medications like painkillers, hormonal medicines as they do not usually come with side effects and are relatively safe. There are few herbal and plant extracts that are backed by science, showing to ease PMS symptoms, let's check them out:



Chasteberry Fruit (Vitex Agnuscastus)

Chasteberry is the longest used and best investigated phytotherapeutics for PMS and irregular menstruation. Chasteberry fruit extract works by reinstate normal balance between estrogen progesterone during the luteal phase of the menstrual cycle2 - thus reducing PMS symptoms. Interestingly, chasteberry has no direct hormonal activity, it is proven to be a safe, well tolerated and effective alternative of the treatment for patients with the moderate to severe premenstrual syndrome, the effects being confirmed by physicians and patients alike1.



Ashwagandha (Withania Somnifera)

Ashwagandha is the flagship herb of Ayurveda, the traditional system of medicine from India. Ashwagandha is an adaptogenic herb that promotes balance in the body, regulates anxiety and stress' which makes it plays a major role in regulating mood, Ashwagandha also showed to improve sexual function and sexual satisfaction in women'.



Maca Root (Radix Lepidium Meyenii)

Maca root is known as "Peruvian Ginseng", it is highly nutritious that packed with vitamins, minerals, and phytonutrients. It has been used for centuries in the Peruvian Andes to increase energy and fertility in both human and animals. Maca root has been shown to increase libido, improve mood and promote overall women's health. Apart from that, research finding also proved that maca root helps to balance hormones, which will then ease PMS symptoms".

Conclusion

We can't cure PMS and PMS symptoms can recur, there are a lot of remedies out there to help us better cope with PMS. A healthy lifestyle and a comprehensive treatment plan can usually reduce or eliminate the symptoms for most women. Seek for professional help if your PMS is severely affecting your daily activities.

Anyway, menstruation is a sign of good health, it shall be normalised and celebrated, ladies!

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Selangkah Lagi untuk GLAMZ

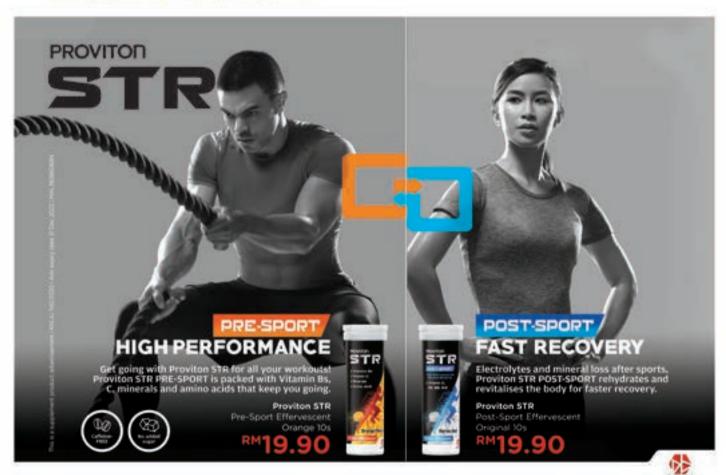
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pharmaniaga*







Coffeine & sugar

Caffeine & sugar NO LONGER the Choices for

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Written by : Dr. Alicia Wong PhD Biological Sciences (Biochemistry & Immunology)

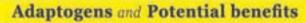
ADAPTOGENS:

Caffeine alternatives for natural energy

From the moment we get out of bed through our morning commutes until we are sitting at our desks, many of us remain in a zombie-like state. If your morning coffee ritual is starting to make you feel more sleepy than active, it is time to rethink your relationship with caffeine. It is true that caffeine can give you temporary physical and mental energy, but when the effects wear off, you feel more tired and want even more caffeine. Intriguingly, adaptogenic herbs or adaptogens have natural energy-boosting quality, that will give you that required morning jumpstart without feeling jittery.

What are adaptogens?

Adaptogens are non-toxic herbs, roots and fungithat work to increase or "adapt" the body's ability to resist stressors and restore the body to its normal physiological function. The medicinal practice of using these herbs can be traced back to 3000 B.C. in ancient Chinese and Ayurvedic medicine, before the Russian scientist, Nikolai Lazarev, who first coined the term adaptogen when researching substances that produced a "state of nonspecific resistance" to adverse influences like stress on the performance of soldiers during World War II.





 Ginseng Boosts working memory, reaction time, immune system

Ashwagandha — Reduces stress and anxiety



Cordyceps
Boosts stamina

Rhodiola rosea -> Increase haemoglobin capacity to carry oxygen, staves off physical and mental fatigue



Are these claims just a hype?

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that herbal medicines provide primary healthcare for approximately 3.5 to 4 billion people worldwide, with about 86% of traditional medicine involves the use of plant extracts, which is also known as the modern herbal medicine.

Adaptogens are similar to catecholamines, neurotransmitters involved in stress situations. Examples of catecholamines includes adrenaline, epinephrine, dopamine and norepinephrine. Adaptogens help the body to adapt and control future severe and moderate stress situations.

How adaptogens work?

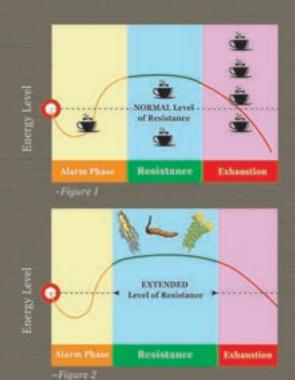
Our body releases the hormone cortisol when we experience stress, especially in a long-term basis, which can be potentially dangerous. High amount of cortisol does not only affect the endocrine and immune systems, but it also affects the brain, sex drive and skin elasticity.

Research has found that adaptogens work through two master control systems in the body, the HPA (hypothalamic / pituitary / adrenal axis), that controls endocrine function, as well as nervous system and immune function. The other system is sympatho-adrenal system, which is our fight or flight response. Adaptogens also work on a cellular level to prevent cortisol-induced mitochondrial dysfunction. Mitochondrial are the powerhouse of our cells and when they are malfunction, this can contribute to conditions such as chronic fatigue syndrome and fibromyalgia.

Different adaptogens have their own unique properties, some are stimulating, some calming, some warming or cooling and some drying.

How it works on contrast to caffeine and other stimulants

Caffeine acts by triggering the release of stress hormones, like norepinephrine and cortisol, which increase alertness and energy in the short term, but with habitual use, stimulants can lead to burnout. Coffee drinkers keep needing to drink more and more, yet feel more exhausted than ever (Figure 1). On the other hand, adaptogens do not cause a rise and crash. Rather, adaptogens extend the phase of resistance, so that you can perform better for a longer period of time (Figure 2). Adaptogens also help to make our bodies less sensitive to stress by acting similar to a vaccine, mildly activate the stress system in order to help the body cope with more severe stress during the day. This would prevent over-release of stress hormones and eventual exhaustion.



Synergistic effects of adaptogens

Adaptogens have been causing a buzz in the wellness world and although they are totally safe, they are not one-size-fits-all. Some combinations of adaptogenic plants provide unique effects due to their synergistic interactions in organisms which are not obtainable by any ingredient independently, such as the expression of genes that requires the interaction of several ingredients in combination. The combination of Rhodiola and Cordyceps have been reported to improve endurance training in athletes.

Daily stress is a part of life, many lifestyle choices including food, sleep, meditation, yoga, deep breathing can improve stress management. There is science backing up the claims of adaptogens as promising adjunctive therapy for stress. Side effects are rare but individual's health status should be understood before recommendation on these botanicals.





Feeling Tired? Numbness in hands and feet?

Could it be VITAMIN B12 deficiency?



Ph. Dhinishwary Thangarajah Certified Minor Illness Service Pharmacist Alpro Pharmacy Seremban Flagship

What is Vitamin B12?

Vitamin B12 is a water-soluble vitamin that is naturally synthesized by microorganisms and obtained through diet. Vitamin B12 is found in animal products such as fish, meat, poultry, eggs, milk, and dairy products.

Vitamin B12 does not present in plant foods generally but is added in breakfast cereals as a readily available source of Vitamin B12 for vegetarians.

Vitamin B12 exists in several forms,

methylcobalamin and 5-deoyadenosylcobalamin are forms that are active in human metabolism. Vitamin B12 is present as cyanocobalamin in most dietary supplements, a form that the body readily converts to the active form methylcobalamin and 5-deoxyadenosylcobalamin.

Why Vitamin B12 is important for us?

Vitamin B12 is important in the formation of red blood cells, neurological functions, and DNA synthesis. Vitamin B12 also prevents a type of anaemia called megaloblastic anaemia which can cause tiredness and weakness. Besides maintaining the normal nervous system function, Vitamin B12 is also a coenzyme crucial in folate metabolism and nucleotide biosynthesis, which is important in the metabolism of fatty acids and some amino acids.

Why some people have insufficient Vitamin B12?

Deficiency is normally caused by malabsorption of Vitamin B12 which is commonly found in some adults and the

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elderly. This factor is affected by gastritis or inflammation of gastric mucous increases with the age, this results in a reduction of vitamin B12 absorption.

Besides that, the inadequacy of dietary intake of Vitamin B12 is commonly seen among vegans, ovo-lacto vegetarians, pregnant and breast-feeding mothers. The requirement of Vitamin B12 can be obtained by absorption of synthetic Vitamin B12 added to fortified foods and dietary supplements. Other factors that may contribute to a deficiency of Vitamin B12 is pernicious anaemia which results in loss of synthesis of Intrinsic factor affecting absorption of Vitamin B12.

Medications like Metformin, or Gastric Medication can contribute to Vitamin B12 deficiency.

Some medications may interfere with the absorption or metabolism of Vitamin B12 resulting in a deficiency. The medication includes proton pump inhibitor (PPI) eg. Omeprazol, Histamine 2 receptor antagonists, metformin, epileptic medication, colchicine, and chloramphenicol.

Medication like metformin requires long term and regular intake for optimal function, a medication used for the treatment of non-insulin-dependent diabetes. Patients taking metformin can develop megaloblastic anaemia which is related to changes in intestinal motility, bacterial overgrowth competing for Vitamin B12, or alteration in calciumdependent uptake of Vitamin B12.

What are the possible symptoms of Vitamin B12 deficiency?

Vitamin B12 deficiency is characterized by weakness, constipation, loss of appetite, weight loss, fatigue, and megaloblastic anaemia.

This may also lead to depression, confusion, dementia, poor memory, and difficulty maintaining balance.

The deficiency of Vitamin B12 may also cause damages to the myelin sheath which surrounds and protect our nerves. These damages will affect the proper function of the nerve and may result in peripheral neuropathy. Peripheral nerve damages are commonly associated with muscle weakness, numbness and tingling in feet or hands, and burning or shooting pain in affected areas. Therefore, Vitamin B12 is one of the suggested treatments for neuropathic pain as it helps to alleviate pain by promoting myelination, improving nerve regeneration, and reducing ectopic nerve firing.

The Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDAs) for Vitamin B12 in adults and adolescents over the age of 14 years old is 2.4mcg, pregnancy 2.6 mcg, and breastfeeding mothers 2.8mcg. Vitamin B12 sources found in animal products can be inadequate in daily dietary intake. Therefore, it is recommended for the elderly or those at risk of Vitamin B12 deficiency to meet their RDA by additionally consuming Vitamin B12 fortified food, or by taking Vitamin B12 supplements.



You can always speak to any Alpro Pharmacist, Dietitian and Nutritionist to understand better about Vitamin B12.



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As you grow up, it also implies that your parents are starting to grow old. Aging can be seen not only from their faces, but from the declining of their general health as well.

Parents will start feeling painful at certain parts of their bodies, especially the knees. The pain at the knees often resulted from knee joint wear and tear, kneecap pain, knee osteoarthritis, and other age-related knee problems.

When it happens, knee stability for your parents is very important. Using knee support is a good choice to boost the knee stability in them.

A knee support not only provides compression for weak or over-stressed knees but retain body heat to warm the knee joint and increase blood circulation. In addition, it has shock-absorbing function and helps recovery from knee injuries and relieves arthritis pain.

LEVEL

PREVENTION / MILD PAIN

· Suitable for home use without frequent stair climbing, squatting or activities that involve 45° knee bending.



Closed Patellar Knee Support

PREVENTION / MILD PAIN · Suitable for frequent stair climbing, squatting or

- activities that involve 45° knee bending.
- · The taping function allows simple and less strenous exercises, such as jogging.



Closed Patellar Knee Support With Taping

PREVENTION / MILD PAIN

- · Suitable for frequent stair climbing, squatting or activities that involve 45° knee bending.
- · Extremly suitable for sport use and vigorous exercises, such as marathon and baminton.



Open Patellar Knee Support

LEVEL

TREATMENT FOR MODERATE PAIN

 The built-in stabilisers provide extra support for injuries such as ligament damage or weak knee.



Knee Support with Stabilizer & Silicone Pad

POST-SURGERY USE

· Generally prescribed by orthopedic surgeons or sports physicians for athletes with ligament damage that has been repaired. This is the ONLY type of support that should be worn every waking hour until advised to remove either by your surgeon or physiotherapist.



How tight should I wear my support?

The level of tightness should be comfortable and provide necessary level of support based on your parents individualized needs. Over tightness will cause discomfort and lose blood circulation. You should loosen the straps or choose a larger sized knee support for your parents.

How long at a time should I wear my support?

The length of time is a personal preference. A general recommendation would be that you wear a brace or support during activity and for an hour or two afterwards. If you feel better wearing it longer, that is fine as well. However, we would not recommend wearing any brace or support while you sleep unless specifically recommended for that use.





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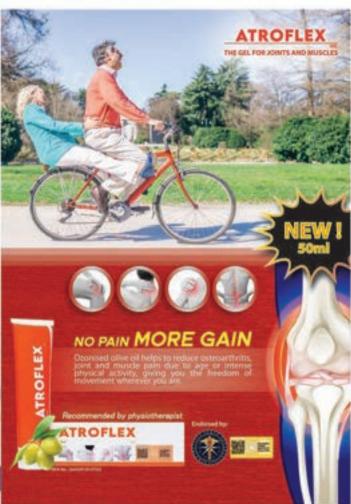
















3 WAYS TO RELIEVE PAIN WITHOUT TAKING PAINKILLERS

If it is possible, we generally do not encourage people relying on medication to relieve the discomfort caused by muscle and joint pain. This is because using medication will only fix the symptoms in a short run but will not treat the root problem. In fact, it may cause side effects from long-term medication dependence. If it is absolutely needed, please do consult your doctor or pharmacist for permission first before using one.

In fact, physiotherapy is the best way to resolve muscle soreness or stiffness. And yes, if you were to compare it with the quick effect from using medication, it is going to take some time before you see the effect from physiotherapy. However, physiotherapy is still a better option because it can resolve the problem in a deeper level, once and for all. Besides, the chances of recurrence are definitely much lower than using medication!

LET'S USE KNEE PAIN AS AN EXAMPLE, A PHYSIOTHERAPIST CAN RESOLVE THE PROBLEM USING THE FOLLOWING METHODS:

(1) Hot Compression Therapy

Generally, hot towels, hot water bottles or warm packs can be used directly onto the targeted area for treatment. This helps to improve local blood circulation and promoting local metabolism, which eventually relax tense muscles, relieve pain, but also help to increase range of motion.



Cold/Hot Soft Pack

(2) Personalized workout and stretching exercises.

This will not only increase the flexibility of your muscles, but also help with muscle conditioning to restore the "imbalanced muscles" and improve endurance. At the same time, the joint exercises help to prevent joint stiffness by improving blood circulation as well as ensuring even distribution of synovial fluid around the joint.



Pedal Exerciser

(3) Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation (TENS) Therapy

This therapy involves the use of low-voltage electric currents to treat painful skeletal nerves and muscles in an appropriate intensity. TENS therapy works in two theories. One by stimulating nerves cells that block the transmission of pain signals. Other way by nerve stimulation to raise the level of endorphins, in order to eases the pain while decreases your attention to the pain. It is safe and convenient, with very little side effects.



TENS Machine







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> By Chen Shiann Min (The Coffeeholic Owner)

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According to statistics revealed by WHO, it is concluded that 1 in every 10 persons might be suffering from hearing loss.

In the United States, about one-third of people between the age range of 65 and 75 have some degree of hearing loss. For those older than 75, that number is approximately 1 in 2. The number is significant, hearing loss had indeed impacted one's daily life.

Aging and chronic exposure to loud noises both contribute to hearing loss. Other factors, such as excessive earwax, can temporarily reduce how well your ears conduct sounds.

[We cannot reverse most types of hearing loss. However, you and your doctor or a hearing specialist can take steps to improve what you hear.]

HOW IS HEARING LOSS MEASURED?



Mild 30dB ~ 50dB

- May hear some speech sounds but will have difficulty.

Moderate 50dB - 70dB

- Struggle to hear / understand speech when someone is

talking at a normal level.

Severe >70dB

 Will hear little-to-no speech when spoken at normal levels, and hear only loud sound.

SIGNS OF HEARING LOSS

- Frequently asking others to repeat themselves
- Turning the TV to a volume other find it loud
- Problems with clarity in noisy places
- Difficulty hearing women and children's voice
- · Feeling like others are mumbling
- . Trouble hearing on the phone
- · Ringing in your ears
- Told by others that you have hearing loss

If you have >4 out of 8 signs, you might have hearing loss.

TYPES OF HEARING LOSS

Hearing loss comes in many forms. It range from a mild loss, in which a person misses certain high-pitched sounds, such as the voices of women and children, to a total loss of hearing.

There are three general categories of hearing loss:

Sensorineural Hearing Loss (SNHL)

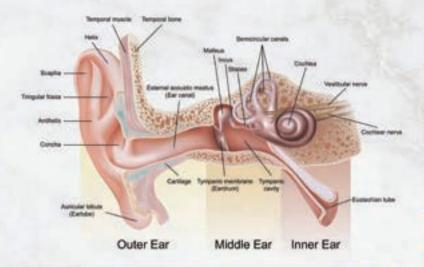
It occurs when the inner ear nerves and hair cells are damaged due to age, noise damage or something else. This impacts the pathways from your inner ear to your brain.

Conductive Hearing Loss (CHL)

Typical result of obstructions in the outer or middle ear due to fluid, tumours, earwax, or ear formations. This will prevent sound from getting to the inner ear.

Mixed Hearing Loss

Is caused by a combination of conductive damage in the outer or middle ear and sensorineural damage in the inner ear (cochlea) or hearing/auditory nerve.



HOW HEARING LOSS AFFECTING US?

Hearing Loss Association America (HLAA) revealed that those who suffer from mild to moderate hearing loss waited 7 years before they reach out for help. Can we imagine how it would be if happening on us? Unable to hear, unable to communicate as usual, stress, isolated, eventually leading to depression. Hearing loss is impacting one's life greatly.

1. Functional impact

One of the main impacts of hearing loss is on the individual's ability to communicate with others. Spoken language development is often delayed in children with unaddressed hearing loss.

Unaddressed hearing loss and ear diseases such as otitis media can have a significantly adverse effect on the academic performance of children. They often have increased rates of grade failure and greater need for education assistance. Access to suitable accommodations is important for optimal learning experiences but are not always available.

2. Social and emotional impact

Exclusion from communication can have a significant impact on everyday life, causing feelings of loneliness, isolation, and frustration, particularly among older people with hearing loss.

3. Economic impact

WHO estimates that unaddressed hearing loss poses an annual global cost of US\$ 750 billion. This includes health sector costs (excluding the cost of hearing devices), costs of educational support, loss of productivity, and societal costs.

In developing countries, children with hearing loss and deafness rarely receive any schooling. Adults with hearing loss also have a much higher unemployment rate. Among those who are employed, a higher percentage of people with hearing loss are in the lower grades of employment compared with the general workforce.

Improving access to education and vocational rehabilitation services and raising awareness especially among employers about the needs of people with hearing loss, will decrease unemployment rates for people with hearing loss.

Overall, it is suggested that half of all cases of hearing loss can be prevented through public health measures. Early detection and intervention are crucial to minimizing the impact of hearing loss on our lifestyle.

People with hearing loss can benefit from the use of hearing devices, such as hearing aids, cochlear implants, and other assistive devices. They may also benefit from speech therapy, aural rehabilitation and other related services. However, global production of hearing aids meets less than 10% of global need and less than 3% of developing countries' needs. The lack of availability of services for fitting and maintaining these devices, and the lack of batteries are also barriers in many low-income settings.

WHY?

Current market survey showed a pair of middle range hearing aid cost up to RM30,000 and it is not just a simple buying and selling transaction. Patients need to attend medical exam with ENT doctor to rule out medical problem that is causing the hearing loss, or they must sign a waiver opting out of the exam. Some can purchase hearing aids through an audiologist.

It is not an affordable gadget for general public, the costing to all involved parties exceeded the functional value of a pair of hearing aid, which exactly tell us why global production is low, why patients waited 7 years before asking for help, why hearing loss issue remaining increasing and yet to have any effective solution.

Mimitakara is founded with the vision to offer the best innovative products at affordable prices in order to contribute to the community.

Mimitakara works closely with partners from worldwide to move OTC hearing aid worldwide.

WHAT IS CLOUD BASED HEARING AID?

Cloud Based hearing aid as we called OTC (Over the counter) is the new experience for purchasing of hearing aid without needing user to go through hassle screening or examination that needed to be conducted in clinic, hospital, or audiology centre. User can conduct a self-fitting adjustment on their intended to purchase hearing aid and guided by team of audiologist by offering cloud-based service.

Cloud based hearing aids are too regulated as medical devices by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) as it is now becoming a daily gadget needed by user. Mimitakara insisted on providing convenience and quality service all these years, benefitting more than 10,000 users worldwide.

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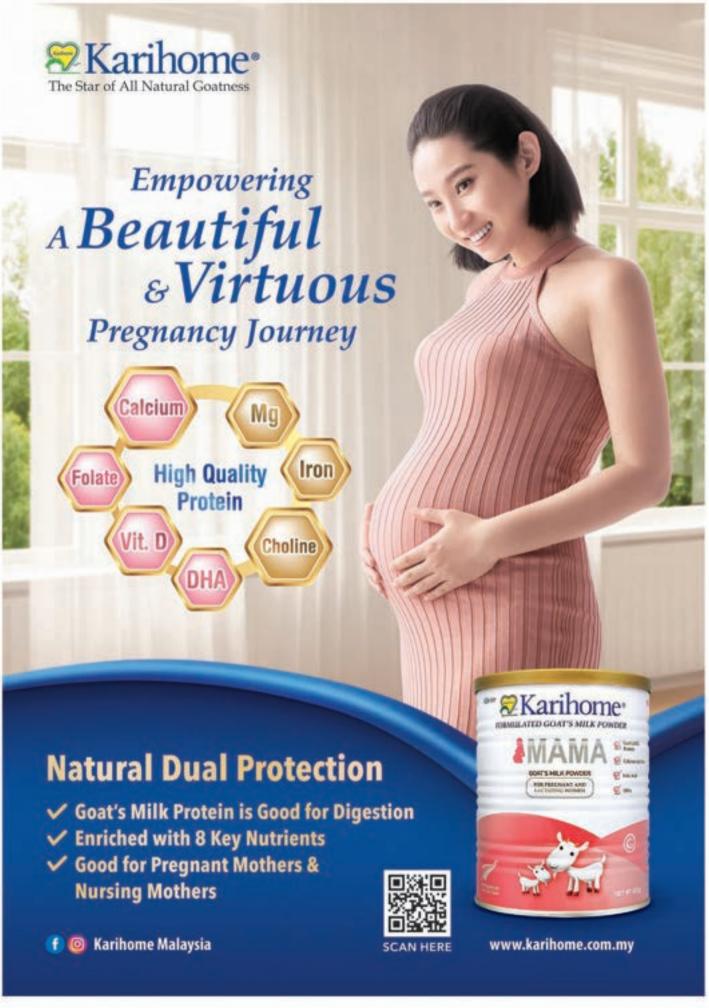
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The Healthiest MATERNITY

Written by: Chua Ee Lin Physiotherapist, Alpro Physio

Pregnancy might seem like the perfect time to sit back and relax. Pregnant ladies are likely to feel more tired than usual, and they might experience backache because of carrying extra weight.

But unless certain pregnant ladies are experiencing complications, otherwise sitting around won't be helpful. In fact, pregnancy can be a great time to get active, even for those that haven't exercise in a while. Numbers of research has been done and proved that exercise has big benefits for both pregnant lady and the baby!

Get an "Okay" to START!

Before we go into the benefits of exercise, let's start with a preexercise screening. Getting an "OK" from your health care providers (such as doctors or physiotherapists) is very important before you start to perform any exercise. They might advise you not to exercise or modify the intensity of your exercise if you are having:

- Some forms of cardio (heart) and lung disease
- Hight blood pressure that develops due to pregnancy
- Spine instability
- Persistent vaginal bleeding during second or third trimester
- Placenta problems
- Severe anemia

How can I benefit from exercise during pregnancy?

There are 7 major benefits if we exercise during pregnancy.

1. Reduce prognancy and delivery complications

Pregnant ladies that participated in fitness program are less likely to develop gestational diabetes and unplanned cesarean sections if compared to those who didn't exercise. Exercise also helps them to have healthier weight babies, pregnant ladies that didn't exercise have higher chances to have heavier babies and this could cause complications during delivery.

2. Speed post-delivery recovery

A higher fitness level pregnant lady tends to have higher recovery rate physically after childbirth.

3. Positive mood boosting effect

During pregnancy, women are more susceptible to depression, with an estimated 1 in 2 of all women reporting increase depression or anxiety due to many reasons. But research has found that exercise during pregnancy effectively reduces depression, releasing endorphins (a.k.a. the Happy Hormone) that help improve mood while diminishing stress and anxiety.

4. Ease buck ache and pelvic pain

The growing baby bump on all mummies put extra pressure on their lower back, resulting in low back pain and achy pelvis. Exercise helps to strengthen low back, improve flexibility and at the same time let all mummies say bye-bye to these unwanted pains.

5. Fight and prevent fatigue

Have you ever heard your pregnant friend keep complaining about tiredness during pregnancy? Tiredness and fatigue strike every woman during pregnant trimester, then again in third trimester. To be honest, sometimes getting TOO MUCH REST can make them feel more tired. Therefore, appropriate exercise, walking or simple stretch can make a big difference in their energy level.

6. Improve quality of sleep

Many pregnant women complained having difficult in sleep. They could be disturbed by low back pain, emotionally or other physical issue, this make them feel restless and very tired during the next day. Those who exercise consistently say the quality of their sleep is better and that they wake up feeling more rested!

7. Relieve constipation

Some pregnant women experiences constipation due to hormonal and physiologic changes. An active body encourages active bowels, hence by exercise regularly, this issue can be settled easily.

What kind of exercise can 1 perform?

Exercise consisting aerobic and weight train are suitable for all pregnant ladies. But bear in mind that everyone is different in terms of pre-pregnancy and pregnancy fitness level, therefore physiotherapist will be helpful in advising the intensity and what types of exercise that suitable to perform after assessment.

What kind of exercise can 1 perform?

For most pregnant ladies, at least 30 minutes of moderate intensity exercise is recommended every day. If you can't exercise every day, then try to achieve for at least 3-4 days per week.

Remember to warm up, stretch and cool down. Stay hydrated, avoid overheating. During exercise we shouldn't push ourselves too much, we should be able to carry on a conversation while exercising.







GESTATIONAL DIABETES affects MOM & BABY?



By:
Dr. Chooi Kheng Chiew
Consultant Endocrinologist,
Diabetologist and Physician
KPJ Ampang Puteri Specialist Hospital

Pregnancy is an exciting and overwhelming time in a woman's life. Learning that you have or may have gestational diabetes mellitus can really throw a wrench in an otherwise joyful experience. While developing gestational diabetes is certainly not ideal, but it is not also as scary as it seems. With timely testing and diligent health choices, gestational diabetes can be easily diagnosed and managed. Let's hear the answers those common questions many women have about gestational diabetes (or GDM):

Question: Hi, Dr, Chool, we always hear mummies need to have a sugary drink and check their glucose when they are at the 6th month of pregnancy. Why is that?

Answer: This 'sugary drink' is also known as an Oral Glucose Tolerance Test (OGTT). This is a screening test that is used to check for gestational diabetes or diabetes in pregnancy. It measures a person's response to sugar, or glucose. Our Malaysian clinical practice guideline recommends that this screening test should be done at booking (when a pregnant lady makes the first visit to a clinic for antenatal care) if there are risk factors for GDM. If the test is negative, it should then be repeated at the 6th to 7th month of pregnancy. This is to enable early detection and management of this condition in women who are at risk. For women aged

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25 or older with no other risk factors, this OGTT can be done at the 6th to 7th month of pregnancy. This test is done after the lady has fasted overnight, for at least 8 hours. A blood test will be done in the morning. After that, the lady will be required to drink a sugary drink, which is actually 75 grams of glucose diluted in a glass of water. Another blood test will be done 2 hours after that. If the blood glucose levels at those time points exceed certain thresholds or levels, the woman would be diagnosed as having GDM.

Questions: Can we know what are the reasons or risk factors causing the mummies to have GDM?

Answer: When a woman is pregnant, there are various hormones produced by the placenta which can interfere with the action of insulin and this causes resistance to the effects of insulin. The pancreas (an organ located behind the stomach) then has to produce even more insulin to overcome this. If the body fails to compensate for this, the blood glucose levels will rise, resulting in gestational diabetes mellitus. Most of the time, the condition improves or goes away after the baby is delivered. but the woman is at higher risk for developing diabetes mellitus in later life. Hence, regular screening is required even after pregnancy to detect diabetes.

Risk factors that predispose a woman to (or increase her chances of) having gestational diabetes are:

- 1) being overweight or obese
- If they have a close relative with diabetes mellitus,
- 3) If they have a previous history of GDM
- If they have previously delivered a big baby weighing more than 4kg or with birth deformities
- If they have had glucose detected in their urine on several occasions.
- If they have other pregnancy issues like hypertension in pregnancy, or a history of stillbirth.

Questions: What will happen to the baby or mummy if the mummy is diagnosed with GDM? Is GDM dangerous?

Answer: If a lady is diagnosed with GDM, there are increased risks during the pregnancy to both the baby and mommy. There is a higher chance of the baby being too big, leading to difficulty in childbirth, as well as a higher risk of miscarriage, stillbirth and birth defects. There is also a higher risk of premature delivery as well as perinatal or postpartum depression. A baby born to a mother with GDM can have breathing problems after birth, and have a higher risk of developing obesity and diabetes later on in life. We have had patients who despite having being diagnosed with GDM, were not keen to start on the treatments that were recommended and continued to have high and worsening blood glucose levels. Some of them had miscarriages later on and regretted not taking better care of themselves. Therefore, to avoid these complications or problems in pregnancy, appropriate measures need to be taken to ensure blood glucose levels stay within the normal or accepted limits during pregnancy. It will be best for the lady to be taken care of by an endocrinologist or doctor who is trained to treat patients with this condition, together with the help of dietitians and diabetes educators to achieve the best outcome for the pregnancy.

Questions: What mommy need to do or things they need to pay extra attention to if they are diagnosed with GDM?

Answer: If a woman is diagnosed with gestational diabetes mellitus, she will need to take several steps to control her blood glucose levels. A nutritious and balanced diet is important throughout pregnancy. A dietitian can advise on the appropriate food choices and the total amount of calories to be taken in a day, and the distribution of meals

during the day. Generally speaking, patients should avoid food with high sugar content and instead take high foods and fibre complex carbohydrates like vegetables, fruits, wholemeal bread, nuts and legumes. A low fat diet should be adhered to, with avoidance of oily and deep fried food. Exercise is also important, as frequent physical activity helps to improve insulin sensitivity and results in better glucose control. If necessary. vour doctor may recommend for you to start on medications or insulin injections to optimise your blood glucose levels.

Regular self-monitoring of blood glucose is essential as the results will help a patient to assess the effects of diet and exercise on blood glucose levels, as well as to determine if medications need to be initiated or the doses adjusted. Blood glucose measurements can be taken using a blood glucose monitoring device. It is easy to learn how to use the device, and patients can get advice from their doctors or pharmacists as well. The SugO365 programme conducted by Alpro Pharmacy and Ascensia Diabetes Care also allows patients to receive consultations with dietitians and nutritionists in addition to making blood glucose monitoring more affordable.

In the end, do not be discouraged or distressed if you are diagnosed with GDM. It is possible to be managed and your healthcare professionals will be guiding and helping you along the way. Remember to attend your clinic and hospital visits at the appointed dates and to stay positive while following the recommendations and advice given. Do continue to lead a healthy lifestyle even after your baby is delivered and attend for regular screening as women who have had GDM are more likely than other women to develop diabetes mellitus.





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he preset limit can be changed as recommended by healthcare professional

Let's get moving. Help you understand your blood sugar results.

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WELCOME TO FREESTYLE LIBRE

YOU CAN DO IT

Say goodbye to routine fingerpricks!2



282

Discover the FreeStyle Libre system

Get ready to make routine fingerpricks a thing of the past!2



What is it?

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How does it work?

The sensor uses a thin, flexible filament under the skin to measure glucose every minute



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Use the handheld reader to scan the sensor with a painless*, 1-second scan to replace routine fingerpricks*



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A painless³ 1-second scan is all you need to see your glucose readings



Read out

See your current glucose reading, eight hours of data, and a trend arrow that shows you where your glucose is heading

*Please consult your doctor for the interpretation of result and diagnosis



1. Scanning the sensor to obtain guizone values done not require lancets 2. A finger prick test using a blood guizone maker in required during times of registry changing glucose levels when interesting fully glucose levels may not accurately reflect blood glucose levels on 2 hypoglycaemic or imperiding flugorgycaemic is reported by the system-or when symptoms do not make the above an explosion of the system and symptoms do not make the above an explosion of the system system or an explosion of the system consistence of the system of the property of the system of the



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Images and readings are for illustration purpose only. LibreView is currently not assistors in Malaysia, Work with your health care professional to determine your Target Glucose Range and understand your glucose history.



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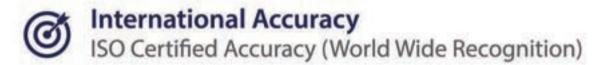
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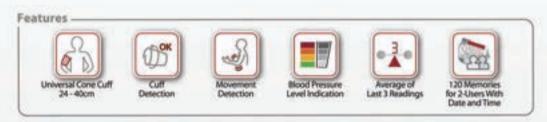






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DID YOU KNOW?

1 in 3 people measure their blood pressure incorrectly¹, while using their blood pressure monitor at home.



Common Mistakes When Wearing Blood Pressure Monitor Cuffs







Are you perhaps one of them?

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*Based on the stands of an independent and control to Mall in Administration of the stands of





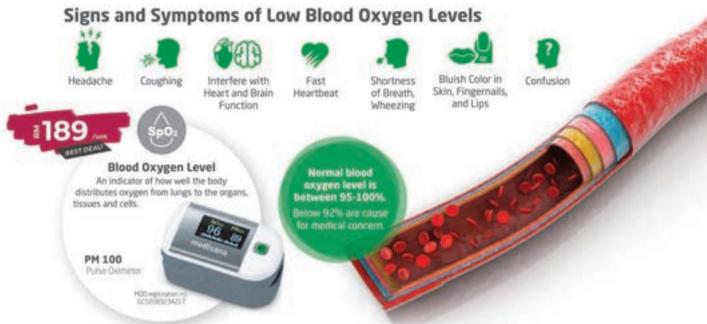
JOIN MEDISANA IN THE BATTLE AGAINST COVID-19

One of Warning Signs of COVID-19

Large number of incidences of SILENT HYPOXIA occurring in individuals diagnosed with COVID-19

What is Silent Hypoxia?

Silent hypoxia is when a pulse oximeter check on a patient who does not appear to be short of breath, results in an oximeter finding lower than a physician would expect. People with silent hypoxia sometimes even have blood oxygen levels so low as to be "incompatible with life", but feel no ill effects.









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with ALLERGIC RHINITIS? SINUSITIS?

Are you using your

correctly?

Allergic Rhinitis(AR) is a very common respiratory disorder seen among Malaysia population. AR is a diagnosis associated with a group of symptoms affecting the nose. These symptoms occur when you breathe in something you are allergic to such as dust, animal dander or cold wind or after you eat a food that you are allergic to.

The symptoms included:

Shortly after allergens exposure

- · Itchy nose, mouth, eyes
- · Runny nose
- · Sneezing
- · Watery eyes

Possible later after allergens exposure

- Stuffy nose (nasal congestion)
- · Coughing
- · Clogged ears
- · Puffiness under the eves
- · Fatigue and irritability

Every 1 in 15 Malaysian will be diagnosed having AR since they are young, and the prevalence is now getting higher. Although AR is not fatal, it affects the quality of life of patients and disrupts their daily life including sleeping quality based on the severity.

Avoidance from the allergen's exposure is still the best treatment for AR. However, it is sometimes impossible to avoid completely from the allergens, which trigger the necessary of pharmacotherapy treatment such as intranasal corticosteroid spray, oral anti-hismines, and / or intranasal decongestant spray. These treatments are having their side effects which reduce the patient's compliance and hence the symptoms might persist and keep affecting the patients' quality of life.

Nasal saline has been widely used as decongestant treatment and / or adjunctive treatment based on their different osmolality. Comparing to pharmacotherapy, nasal saline is more tolerable and hence able to use as daily maintenance treatment (isotonic solution).

Isotonic solution contains 0.9% sodium chloride where it does cleansing, moisturising and clearing the nasal cavities.

Hypertonic solution

contains more salt (around 2%) than isotonic solutions which contribute to higher osmolality. It clears the nasal cavitiesmechanically through an osmotic effect where it draws the mucus out to reduce the congestion. When the solution contact with nasal cavities, the mucous cells contract and swollen reduced. It is clinically proven to be particularly effective against cold, sinusitis and allergic rhinitis without altering the nasal mucosa like the medicated decongestant intranasal spray.



Why Osmolality tested is important?

Osmolality influences the passage of water through the biological membranes. Hence isotonic nasal spray does not interfere with the cellular volume while hypertonic nasal spray will carry out decongestant effect. Nasal spray with tested osmolality is very important as Osmolality is affected by all the active solutes from sea water instead of the sodium chloride (The sodium chloride content affecting the salinity but not the osmolality). The osmolality determines the tonicity of the solution and the duration of the nasal spray can be used.

What is the difference between different Nasal Spray?

The second secon			
/EYB	HYPERTONIC NASAL SPRAY	ISOTONIC NASAL SPRAY (NORMAL)	ISOTONIC NASAL SPRAY (SOFT)
Salinity	2%	0.9%	0.9%
Osmolality	600mOsm/kg	300mOsm/kg	300mOsm/kg
Spray Jet	Nebulized	Direct	Nebulized
Function	Decongestion Reduce swelling Reduce reliance on pharmacotherapy treatment	For thicker, purulent secretions Remove scabs Provides relief for breathing difficulties	For abundant, liquid secretions Soft spray which is very safe to use up to severa times daily Suitable for fragile nasal mucosa
Dose during treatment	1 to 3 sprays into each nostril 2 or 3 times daily	1 to 3 sprays into each nostril up to 4 to 6 times daily	1 to 3 sprays into each nostril up to 4 to 6 times daily
Prevention / Daily Hygiene	Not recommended	1 spray into each nostril up to 2 times daily.	1 spray into each nostril up to 2 times daily.
Recommended	TONING	TONNER CONTRACTOR	TOWNER CONTINUES

Allergic Rhinitis is no longer a nightmare! What you need is choosing the right nasal spray, maintain the good nasal hygiene and yes! You can breathe easily and no more headache for you!

Alpro Events 2021



Feel headache? Looking for Minute Consult? Now you can spot more pharmacy branches and get proper medication and consultation at Kuching (Sarawak), Sungai Gadut and Seremban (Negeri Sembilan), Kerteh (Terengganu) and more!



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Post-percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) care amidst COVID-19

Due to fear of the COVID-19 pandemic, there may have been delays in people with medical emergencies seeking treatment 12

Why is it important to protect yourself?

Involvement of the heart is common with COVID-19, due to increased risk of blood clots



Pay attention to your heart health post-PCI (also known as stent)

- Attend your follow-ups as suggested by your doctor³
- Practice protective measures to take care of your heart health for secondary prevention³



What are some secondary preventive measures I can take to protect my heart?



Pharmacological (drug) therapy³

- Make sure to take the medications prescribed by your doctor. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding your medications, please consult your doctor before stopping or changing your medications.⁴
- Know the names, doses and how often you should take all the medications prescribed to you by your doctor.⁴
- Talk with your doctor before taking any herbal supplements*



Make lifestyle changes 3,5

Be physically active

- Exercise can help strengthen your heart*
- Always follow your doctor's recommendation for exercise⁶
- Start slowly and work up to more vigorous exercise as you get stronger *
- · Include aerobic activities*

Refrain from smoking







other medical conditions 3,5

Manage your



Keep blood sugar levels under control





Manage your cholesterol levels

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Ideal heart health is associated with lower incidence of heart-related problems, even after PCI⁵

References: 1. Awad WI, et al. J Card Surg 2020;doi:10.1111/jocs.14833. [Epub ahead of print]: 2. Kwok CS, et al. Heart 2020;106:1805-1811. 3. Delai F, et al. 8MJ 2017;358;3237. 4. Vancouver Coastal Health. Going Home after Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI). Available at: http://heartointre.ca/vites/default/files/goinghomepostPCI.pdf. Accessed on 12 March 2021. 5. Wang Y, et al. BioMed Res Int 2020;24796521-6. 6. UC San Diego Health. Exercising Safety after Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI). Available at: https://myhealth.ucsd.edu/Relateditems/3,90088. Accessed on 12 March 2021.

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TERENGGANU

Alpro Pharmacy Kemaman

Jates Solumen, Bureter Chokel • Tel: 09-850 2560 • HP: 019-331 1923

Alpro Pharmacy Kuala Terengganu

• Tel: 00-022 0886 • HP: 019-774 1923

Alpro Pharmacy Dungun

Jaion Yahya Ahmad, Sura Gate • Ter: 09-844 2080 • HP: 019-713 1929

Alpro Pharmacy Paka Taman Gentaka, Jalan Besar • Tal: 09-028 1366 • HP: 019-086 8322

Alpro Pharmacy Kubang Kurus * Tel: 09-850 5118 * HP: 013-920 2923

Alpro Pharmacy Goog Badak Np. Makel Terebuse, K. Tere + HP: 019-476 2903

Alpro Pharmacy Kerteh • Tel: 09-626 1194 • HP: 013-963 6322

MELAKA

Alpro Pharmacy Melaka Raya

nun Mi + 767, 04-202, 3768 + NP: 019-323, 1929

Alpro Pharmacy Munshi Abdullah

Julian Morroth Abdrullah • Tel: 08-284 7202 • HP: 019-658 1823

Alpro Pharmacy Jasin Jalan Kissang + Tur. 06-329 3000 + HP: 010-403 1923

Alpro Pharmacy Mastid Tanah

Jalan Broar Manjid Tanah • Tel: 06-365 1923 • HP: 013-756 1923 Alpro Pharmacy Malim Jaya

Taman Malon Jaya • Tet: 08-332 2349 + HP: 019-931 1923 Alpro Pharmacy Bafu Berendam

Terran Melaka Baru + Sel 06-217 9988 + NP: 013-587 1923

Alpro Pharmacy Merlimau

* Tel: 06-263 1937 * HP: 011-1081 8694

JOHOR

Algro Pharmacy Parit Raja

+761 07-454 6099 +34P: 013-326 1823

Alpro Pharmacy Taman Flora * Tel: 07-438 7799 + HP: 013-288 1929

Algro Pharmacy Taman Maju

+ Tel: 07-438 6699 + HP: 013-701 1923. Alpro Pharmacy Simpang Renggam

+ Tel: 07-756 0000 + HP; 013-512 1923

Alpro Pharmacy Bandar Bare Uda

Juliet Pauli Riu • Tel: 07-292 4796 • HP: 013-996 2923 Alpro Pharmacy Kluang

Jalan Manggis • Tel: 67-738-0969 +HP: 019-263 1823 Alpro Pharmacy Tamon Intan

Tarren Inten, Klueng +Tel: 07-772 7007 +HP: 019-691 1929 Alpro Pharmacy Pesta, Mear Tenri. Kampung Kenangan, Tun Dr. Itumal • Tur. 06-959-4055 • HP: 019-452 1023

Alpro Pharmacy Tangkak

Jalan Solok, Tangkak • No: 06-978 6739 + HP; 011-1096 9739 Alpro Pharmacy Yong Peng

- Tel: 07-468 (9323 + HP: 013-568 1923 Alpro Pharmacy Skudai Hery Utoma, Skotle, +HP 012-800-4002

Alpre Pharmacy Bandar Seri Alam

* Tel: GT-382-4733 * HP: 019-6200004

Alpro Pharmacy KSL City Mail Jin, Selatang, Tree. Atout. J Bahru, Johov • HP: 014-280 6002

Alaro Pharmacy Tinn. Implan Emas Tiren, Impian Emas, Skudai, Johor

+ INP: 013-584 1923 Alpro Pharmacy Taman Molek Tree. Motek, Johor Bharu. . + HP: 919-610 1923

Alpro Pharmacy Rusa Bestari + RP-015-810 1003

Alpro Pharmacy Parit Sulong Port Sulong, Batu Pahat, John +HP: 913-816 1923

Alpro Pharmacy Kulai

Jin, Karsanga, Bot: Indahpura, Kalbi, Johon +101: D19-548-2923 Alpro Pharmacy Keta Tinggi

+147-073-477 1925 Alpre Pharmacy Tmn. Mount Austin

+ Set 87-357 8923 + HP: 015-745 2923 Alpro Pharmacy Tmn. Bukit Indah

Built Indah, Iskandar Pur HP, 019-815 1923 Alpro Pharmacy Tmn. Sutera Utama

un Suning Ultums, Sk +HP: 012-800 4002 Alpro Pharmacy Pekan Muar idan Ab, Pekan Mus

+ Tel: 00-953 7526 + HP: 019-612 1009 COMING SOON!

Alpro Pharmacy Built Pasir Pusat Perdagangan Bulkt Pasir, Musir + HP, 019-358 8923

Alpro Pharmacy Batu Pahat

+14P-019-454 R023 Alpro Pharmacy Timn. Setia Indah

Julier Setiu Indah 3/7 • HP: 019-695-8023 Alpro Pharmacy Masai

eUln, Musai Lama (Jin, Besar) +10°: 019-052 8003

KEDAH

Alpro Pharmacy Balling • Tel: 04-470 1830 • HP: 019-669 8090

KELANTAN

Alpro Pharmacy Kobang Kerian JH Paja Psrempuse Zanab 15 • Tet 09-760 7100 • HP: 013-430 1923

Alpro Pharmacy Tanah Merah

* Tet: 09-950-0543 + HP: 019-201-2023 Alpro Pharmacy Tanjung Chat

Jin Long Yurus Keta Bhary + Tel: 09-740 6365 + HP: 013-460 1923 Alpro Pharmacy Tumpat

+ HP: 019-977 1922 Alpro Pharmacy Jin. Sultan Yahya Petra + Tel: 07-351 8023 + HP 019-683 1923

Alpro Pharmacy Kg. Pasir Pokan

+HP: 013-841 1923

PERAK Alpro Pharmacy Kamunting

*Tel: 05-801 7003 + HP 013-903 2003

PENANG

Alpro Pharmacy Summerton

+ Set 04-668 1193 + HP: 013-898 3923 Algro Pharmacy Farlim

Bandar Bary Ayer Harn • Tel: 04-929 5477 • 147- 813 591 3923

Alpro Pharmacy Balik Putau

Jatan Besan, Pulau Pinang • Tar. G4-866 1003 • HP: 8019-3861929

Alpro Pharmacy Jalan Tembikai

Build Mr +Tel: 94-030 1923 +HP: 019-327 3023

Alpro Pharmacy Lebuh Chulia

*Tel:04-053-4142 *HP: 013-062 3923

Algra Pharmacy I-Avenue

Medies Kampung Pelas 1 • Techi-611 7553 • HP: 019415 1923

Alpro Pharmacy Promenade

Bitr. Bayan Baru, Bayan Cepas, Penang + Tar. 04-638-6910 + HP. 019-4871003 Alpro Pharmacy Jolan Perak

Jir. Perak, Meden Her Meden Harmony, Pulse Pinang + HP: 019-985 1903 Alpro Pharmacy Pusat

Komersial Sunway Perdana Seberang Jaya • Tel: 64-383 9969 • HP: 019-671 2023

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SARAWAK

Alpro Pharmacy Satok

Jalan Satok • Tel: 082-23 9062 • HP: 013-391 2923 Alpro Pharmacy Premier 101

* Tel: 2007-4500046 * HIP 2019-775 79075 Alpro Pharmacy Tabuan Jaya

Tabuan Jaya Commercial Centra • Tel: 982-362962 • HP: 010-400 2923 Alpro Pharmacy Matang Jaya

Les Ling Convenential Centre • Not 002-645401 • HP-019-354 2923

Alpro Pharmacy Batu Kawa Lee Ling Commercial Gentre • Tel: 080:-573034 • HP: 013-5713923

Alpro Pharmacy 7th Mile Kota Sentosa • Tan: 082-819755 • HP: 019-9943923

Alpro Pharmacy 3rd Mile

* Termal Park Commercial Centre • Ter: 082-521090 • HP: 019-9053903

Algro Pharmacy Hui Sing Hoi Sing Commercial Centre • Tat: 082-450064 • HP: 019-475 3023 Alpro Pharmacy Siburan

Jalan Kushing - Sena •16P: 019-312-8923

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+ HP: 019-332 8923



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