

## FACULTY RESEARCH GROUP INITIATIVES

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Research Strategic Plan of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences (FMHS) 2021-2025 was generated as a purpose of providing the framework of research direction. With this strategic plan, it could increase the high research performance culture in clinical and health sciences subsequently produces excellent research outcomes. The Research Strategic Plan is also in line with the vision and mission of FMHS that is **'To become an institution of national pride and global prestige in health to humanity'** and **'Empowering the world community to improve human health through discovery and innovation with excellence, diversity, sustainability and integrity'**, respectively.

The first aim or Pillar in the Strategic Plan is related to strengthening the high impact research. This pillar is one of the components used to measure the achievement of research at FMHS. It also acts as a primary component in evaluating the quality and quantity of research that can be of international standard. Thus, this aim is also one of the faculty's responsibilities to empower the niche areas, supporting and maintaining UPM as one of the research universities, disseminating the new discovery of the human health breakthrough, enhancing the visibility and the reputation of research to the outstanding achievement. With the ability to produce the high impact research, it will facilitate UPM to improve its international ranking position indirectly.

A few initiatives have been developed to achieve the first aim. The first initiative is related to the high impact research program (HIRP). In this program, different levels of research groups are developed, which are based on the High Impact Centre of Excellent (HICoE) instruments (produced by the Ministry of Higher Education in 2018) [ref]. HICoE instruments encompass several key performance indicators that are related to the research and innovation. Five different levels of research groups have been proposed as follows:

1. Faculty Research Group (FRG),
2. Faculty High Impact Research Group (FHIRG),
3. University Research Group (URG),
4. Research Centre of Excellence (RCoE) and
5. High Institution Centre of Excellence (HICoE).

A representative from each research group is strongly encouraged to participate in this research program at different levels of research groups provided the group has fulfilled the requirements as stipulated in Table 1. Each application will be assessed by members of FMHS Task Force. To accomplish the required percentage at each level, each research group will be closely assisted and monitored by the Deputy Dean of Research Office. The research office shall assist the groups according to their levels especially groups at Level 1 until 3.

For example, groups at Level 1 (FRG) and Level 2 (FHIRG) & 3 (URG) will be offered several seminars/consultations (research-related) and similar other enablers, respectively. Based on the annual research group performance, each group will be encouraged to upgrade their group level. However, if the group could not attain the percentage imposed at Level 2 and 3, they shall be called for a special meeting. The decision to maintain or discontinue the program will be determined by the FMHS Task Force team upon approval by the Dean of FHMS. On another note, the FMHS top management team has agreed to offer several enablers to research groups at Level 2 and 3. The enablers are also in line with Pillar 2 (Strengthening Research Support Systems) including a laboratory space for research activities, a contract staff for documentation and filing purposes, and a priority use of centralized laboratories. Nonetheless, the implementation of enablers will be continually evaluated in stages based on the faculty's annual budget.

Table 1. Brief information on the Faculty Research Group Program

<b>Level</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Acronym</b>	<b>Component involved</b>	<b>Percentage to achieve</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Faculty Research Group</b>	<b>FRG</b>	<b>Entrance criteria*</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Faculty High Impact Research Group</b>	<b>FHIRG</b>	<b>Modified HICoE instruments</b>	<b>45%</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>University Research Group</b>	<b>URG</b>	<b>Solely based on HICoE instruments</b>	<b>55%</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Research Centre of Excellence</b>	<b>RCoE</b>	<b>Solely based on HICoE instruments</b>	<b>65%</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Higher Institution Centre of Excellence</b>	<b>HICoE</b>	<b>Solely based on HICoE instruments</b>	<b>80%</b>

\*The minimum requirements for the entrance criteria are as follows:

- I. One academician as Primary Investigator
- II. Five researchers/group
- III. 70% of researchers with PhD/Professional qualification
- IV. Has 200 cumulative citation index/group
- V. Has published 20% of journals in Q1 & Q2/group
- VI. Has published six SCOPUS/WOS/ERA journals
- VII. Has secured RM50K active research grant

In conclusion, the Strategic Research Plan has the inclusive factors and very comprehensive which includes the responsibility, support system and cooperation from all staff. This is to ensure that the ecosystem and research performance culture in FMHS can be attained with a great achievement. Finally, it is our hope that FHMS could establish the outcomes for Pillar 1 within the next five years (2021-2025), which are three FHIRG, three URG, three RCoE and one HICoE.

For further reading on HICoE rating instrument, please click [here](#):



Research Strategic Plan Book 2021-2025 Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences

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