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FACULTY OF MEDICINE & HEALTH SCIENCES

ATRIA

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MEDICAL FMHS

Little Lives Big Care

Physical & Infectious Illness

Learning & Development Conditions

Parenting & Everyday Care

Community & Support

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FACULTY PROFILE

UNIMAS
UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SARAWAK
FACULTY OF MEDICINE & HEALTH SCIENCES

Vision

A Global Leader in Medicine and Health Sciences Education.

Mission

To enhance the health and well-being of the global community through the pursuit of excellence in teaching, research, and strategic collaboration.

FOREWORD

Dear readers,

It is a great pleasure to see the fourth issue of ATRIA. Each edition of ATRIA has sought to highlight topics that matter deeply to our community, and this issue is no exception. In this edition, we turn our attention to those who represent our future our children.

The theme, *"Little Lives, Big Care"*, reminds us that the health and well-being of children require more than medical treatment alone. It calls for a collective commitment from families, healthcare professionals, educators, and communities to ensure that every child has the opportunity to grow, learn, and thrive.

Within these pages, readers will find a diverse collection of articles covering childhood illnesses, learning and developmental issues, parenting and caregiving, as well as the importance of early screening and timely intervention. Together, these topics highlight the many dimensions of child health and the vital role that prevention, awareness, and compassionate care play in shaping healthier futures.

At the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, we remain committed to advancing health through education, research, and community engagement. By fostering greater understanding of children's health needs, we hope to contribute towards a society where every child receives the care and support they deserve.

I extend my sincere appreciation to the editorial team and all contributors for their dedication in producing this issue of ATRIA. I hope this edition informs, inspires, and reminds us of the profound responsibility we share in caring for the youngest members of our society. For in every child we nurture today lies the promise of a healthier and brighter tomorrow.

Happy reading.

Prof. Dr. Asri bin Said
Dean

Dear Readers,

This issue brings **Little Lives, Big Care** into focus, reminding us how thoughtful care can make a lasting difference in a child's life. Caring for children is not merely about treating illness; it is about nurturing growth, protecting potential, and shaping healthier futures.

There is a well-known saying, ***"It takes a whole village to raise a child."*** In medicine, that village extends far beyond the clinic walls. It includes families, communities, educators, nurses, doctors, allied health professionals, policymakers, and advocates; each playing a vital role in supporting a child's wellbeing. When this village stands united, care becomes comprehensive, compassionate, and sustainable.

This issue not only explores clinical insights and innovations, but also highlights parent sharing; powerful narratives that remind us of lived experiences, resilience, and the value of partnership in care.

As you read through this issue, we hope it gently reminds you that every role matters, and that your care, compassion, and commitment can make a meaningful difference in a child's life.

Together, let us continue offering big care to the little lives who trust us most.

Amelia Mohamad
Chief Editor

Living with Autistic Child

***Daddy* @ Assoc. Prof. Dr. Johnny Kiu Toh Sing**
Consultant Anaesthesiologist

Living with a child with Autism Spectrum Disorder changes our view of reality and how we see ourselves. Most of the time, this is the learning-from-experience model where we think that the child must learn from us. But ultimately, with patience and willing to learn from them and interact with them, we will gain truly valuable insights.

One of the biggest takeaways is patience. While autistic children sometimes wait longer to respond or respond in nonverbal ways, which at some points may result in some time to pay careful attention. In our fast-paced world, a tiny taste of that reminder to slow down and give someone space to digest is especially precious. It is a good lesson to be more present, more aware.

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for illustration only

Another powerful insight is seeing the world through another person's eyes. Autistic children tend to notice details others miss such as patterns or faint sounds or reassuring routines. That if we genuinely observe what they experience when they watch, we will experience the richness of life and become more mindful and aware.

Authenticity is at the crux of what autistic kids also teach us. Their unadorned emotional expressions and profound passions contrast sharply with the way many adults suppress or camouflage their emotions. This existence encourages us to feel good about who we truly are andconnect honestly with others. Ultimately, supportive relationships with an autistic child result in compassion and acceptance.

Finally, we accept the fact that there are strengths and challenges faced by everyone and we must be able to embrace uniqueness instead of fixating on differences. This evolution of empathy, patience and openness extends to autism and makes us more empathic and sensitive human beings. Being with a child with autism not only changes our lives drastically, but it also redefines our humanity.

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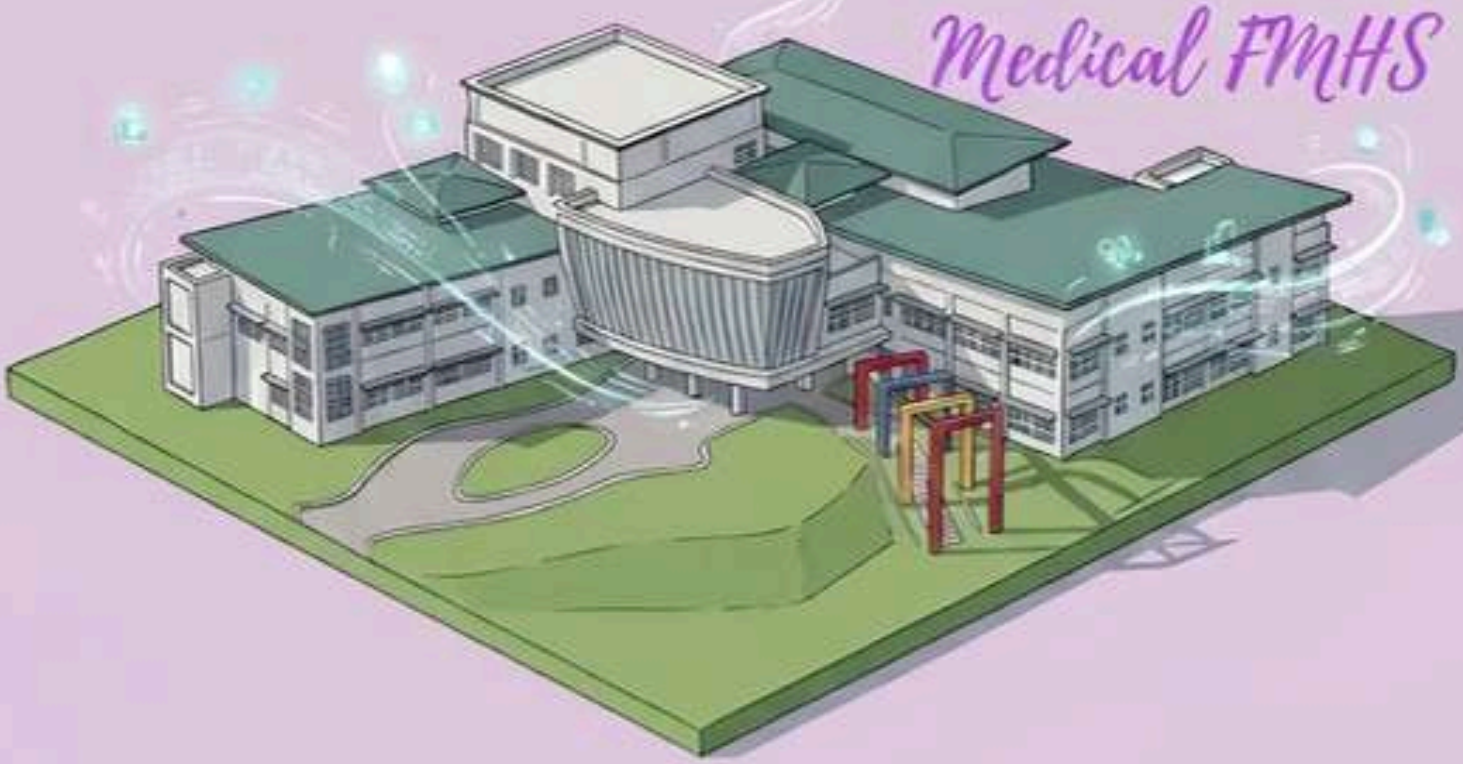

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