

Headline	Seven UUM staff injured, three seriously, in van-bus crash		
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Seven UUM staff injured, three seriously, in van-bus crash

JITRA: Seven Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) staff, including a van driver, were injured, three seriously, when the north-bound vehicle collided with an express bus near a toll plaza located at the 30km stretch here early yesterday.

The van, from Alor Setar, was heading towards UUM in Sintok while the Perlis-bound bus from Kota Baharu, Kelantan had stopped at the toll plaza when the crash occurred about 7.30am.

Van driver Mohd Esman Osman, 54, and his passengers, Alina Mohd Mahdzir, 46, and Wan Merina Wan Saad, 51, were warded at the intensive care unit of the Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital in Alor Setar.

Four other passengers were warded in a normal ward at the hospital with limb fractures,

and head and body injuries. They were Zurina Yahya, 41, Norhaneza Nordin, 33, Nelwati Abidin, 35, and Haslina Mohamed Shah, 39.

Kubang Pasu police chief Supt Ibrahim Mohamed Yusuf said the front of the van was badly wrecked by the impact of the crash which resulted in serious injuries for Mohd Esman, Alina and Wan Merina.

He said Mohd Esman's wife, Hasliza Shafe, 50, and another passenger, Noor Azura Othman, 40, were given outpatient treatment at the Jitra Hospital.

Meanwhile, Jitra Fire and Rescue Department operations chief Mohammad Darus said firemen spent about 15 minutes to rescue the driver and passengers who were trapped in the wrecked van, via the vehicle's rear door. — Bernama