



**PRESS STATEMENT
MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA**

**UPDATES ON THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)
SITUATION IN MALAYSIA**

Current Status of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Who Have Recovered

16 April 2020 – The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **119 cases** have fully recovered and discharged well today. **Cumulatively, 2,766 confirmed COVID-19 cases have fully recovered and discharged well** (53.4% of total cumulative cases). **The number of cases discharged is more than the number of additional confirmed cases reported.**

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

16 April 2020, 12 pm – A total of **110 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **5,182 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. **Currently 2,332 active COVID-19 cases**, whereby they have been isolated and provided treatment.

Currently, **56 confirmed COVID-19 cases are receiving treatment in intensive care units (ICU)**, and of these, 29 cases are on ventilation support.

Regretfully, **one (1) additional COVID-19 death** was reported to the National CPRC MOH. Cumulatively, there are now **84 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.62% of total cumulative cases):

1. **Death #84:** Case 4,711 is a 66 year-old Malaysian man with a history of heart disease and hypertension. He was admitted into Kuala Lumpur Hospital on 9 April 2020 and was pronounced dead on 15 April 2020 at 12.55 pm.

MOH conveys condolences to all family members.

Risk of COVID-19 Infection Amongst Older Adults and Individuals with Chronic Diseases

As previously informed, older adults are more vulnerable to COVID-19 infection, with higher risk of infection and death due to COVID-19 amongst individuals age 60 years and above. Older adults are at high risk of developing complications and death due to COVID-19 due to increasing age and presence of chronic diseases. This is a global issue faced by all affected countries.

Statistics show that there are two age-groups with the highest number of confirmed COVID-19 cases compared to the other age-groups i.e. 20 to 24 years and 56 to 59 years. This is shown in the graph of the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases by age groups. However, when the number of cases is expressed at a percentage of the age-group population, it is obvious that the incidence of COVID-19 infection per 100,000 population in Malaysia is highest in the 55 to 59 years and 60 to 64 years age-groups.

The latest statistics of COVID-19 deaths show that 62.6% of all deaths were amongst individuals age 60 years and above. Of all deaths, 80.7% were amongst individuals with history of chronic diseases such as diabetes, hypertension, kidney disease, heart disease and other various chronic diseases or conditions.

Health Advisory for Older Adults and Individuals with Chronic Diseases

It is found that the recovery and prognosis for COVID-19 infections are better when treatment is initiated early. Therefore, it is very important for older adults to seek **early treatment** even for mild symptoms such as fever, cough, cold or sore throat.

It is the responsibility of family members such as the adult children or caregivers living with older adults to ensure that they:

- ❑ Get early treatment if unwell
- ❑ Have adequate supply of medications and keep their clinic appointments
- ❑ Have sufficient daily necessities
- ❑ Practice high levels of personal hygiene, for example, frequent hand washing with water and soap
- ❑ Practice social distancing of at least 1 metre from others

For medical or health advice, the public can contact the Virtual Health Advisory from 8.30 am to 5.00 pm daily,

In this regard, to ensure adequate and uninterrupted supply of medications while reducing the need for older adults to go out of their houses, MOH strongly encourages patients who are prescribed medications for their chronic diseases to use the Pharmacy Value Added Services (VAS) available at MOH healthcare facilities. These services are:

1. Medicines through Post (*Ubat Melalui Pos* or UMP)
2. Drive-through pharmacy
3. Locker4U
4. Pharmacy Appointment System (Call & Pick-up; SMS & Pick-up)

Patients are encouraged to use the UMP service during the time period of the Movement Control Order (MCO). This allows the medications to

be sent directly to the patient's home without the patient having to come to the hospital or health clinic to collect their repeat prescriptions.

MOH is also deeply concerned about the health of older adults living in elderly care institutions, especially in institutions with large numbers of residents and having difficulty in practicing and maintaining a safe social distance.

Therefore, MOH has worked closely with the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, where the Ministry has developed a guideline entitled “Recommendations for the COVID-19 Pandemic for Private, Public and NGO Residential Aged Care Facilities”. MOH also monitors the health management aspects relating to the prevention of COVID-19 infection at the *Rumah Sri Kenangan* and *Rumah Ehsan* together with the Department of Social Welfare.

Infographic-based health education materials on the prevention of COVID-19 infection have been distributed to 344 institutions licensed under the Care Centres Act 1993 (Act 506) and other care institutions. MOH thanks the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, non-governmental organizations and the private sector for their assistance.

MOH will continue to monitor the development of the COVID-19 situation based on all available information, and the public will be continuously updated on the latest information.

Thank you.

Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah
Director General of Health Malaysia

16 April 2020 @ 5.00 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 16 April 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases	Cumulative
Perlis	0	18
Kedah	0	94
Pulau Pinang	0	119
Perak	1	251
Selangor	13	1,329
Negeri Sembilan	26	389
Melaka	0	147
Johor	13	614
Pahang	8	261
Terengganu	2	108
Kelantan	1	155
Sabah	3	288
Sarawak	16	387
WP Kuala Lumpur	26	952
WP Putrajaya	1	55
WP Labuan	0	15
Total	110	5,182