

PRESS STATEMENT MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA

UPDATES ON THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION IN MALAYSIA 3 July 2020

Current Status of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Who Have Recovered

The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **nine (9) cases** have fully recovered and discharged well today. **Cumulatively, 8,446 confirmed COVID-19 cases have fully recovered** (97.7% of total cumulative cases).

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

3 July 2020, 12 pm – A total of **five (5) additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **8,648 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 81 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have all been isolated and given treatment.

Of the five (5) additional cases reported today, **three (3) are imported cases** who were infected overseas, all involving Malaysians. There are **two (2) local transmission cases** among Malaysians, from pre-referral screenings at Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Kota Kinabalu. No cases among non-Malaysians are reported today.

Currently, two (2) confirmed COVID-19 cases are receiving treatment in intensive care units (ICUs) and both patients are on ventilation support.

Fortunately, **no additional COVID-19 death** was reported to the National CPRC MOH today. Cumulatively, there are now **121 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.4% of total cumulative cases).

Surveillance and Targeted Approach Will Continue to Detect COVID-19 Cases in the Community

Recently, the number of COVID-19 cases in Malaysia has been steadily declining, down to single digits reported daily in the past five days. This is a positive achievement; however some people may be concerned that COVID-19 is still present in the community and remained undetected (particularly among individuals without symptoms).

To ensure that COVID-19 cases in the community continue to be monitored, detected early and prevented, the Government has taken the approach of detecting COVID-19 cases through surveillance, including clinical surveillance, and screening of targeted high-risk groups. This targeted approach takes into account cost savings and has been adopted in several other countries to successfully fight the COVID-19 pandemic without widespread COVID-19 testing. With this targeted approach, the resources used to conduct these tests and screening activities can be more prudent so as to avoid wastage. This is because our fight against COVID-19 is still far from over.

The Government's actions in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic in Malaysia are focused on the following measures:

- Maximising the prevention and control of transmission of the infection, for example, through the Movement Control Order (MCO) that has subsequently been extended and modified based on the latest COVID-19 situation and economic situation in the country.
- Early detection of COVID-19 cases through Active Case Detection and early response to COVID-19 clusters; where each cluster is closely monitored. Information on active clusters is updated and published daily to keep people informed about the latest situation of COVID-19 in the country.

• Targeted screening of high-risk groups, especially the nine (9) high risk groups identified in the country. This targeted approach has so far detected many cases from within the community.

The clinical surveillance system for COVID-19 in Malaysia has been conducted since 12 February 2020. It is implemented in MOH health clinics and MOH hospitals. The clinical surveillance includes:

- Random sampling of Influenza Like Illness (ILI) patients in selected MOH health clinics, also known as sentinel sites. There are currently 26 sentinel sites nationwide.
- 2. Sampling of Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) patients in all MOH hospitals.
- 3. Pre-surgical sampling for emergency and semi-emergency cases in MOH hospitals, i.e. among asymptomatic patients.

As of 2 July 2020, MOH has cumulatively reported a total of 113 confirmed COVID-19 cases detected through this clinical surveillance:

- ILI sampling: 15 confirmed COVID-19 cases out of 2,507 samples tested (a positive rate of 0.6%)
- SARI sampling: 77 confirmed COVID-19 cases out of 19,422 samples tested (a positive rate of 0.4%)
- Pre-surgical sampling: 21 confirmed COVID-19 cases out of 51,870 samples tested (a positive rate of 0.04%)

Surveillance activities act as an early detection and warning system for the transmission of COVID-19 infection in Malaysia. This system allows the Government to take immediate action to control the spread of the infection.

Health Advisory on COVID-19

MOH urges the public to remain vigilant and continue to practice all of the health advisories issued by the MOH, that includes:

- Avoid the 3Cs: Crowded places; Confined spaces; and Close conversations
- Practice the 3Ws: Wash hands frequently with water and soap;
 Wearing facemasks are strongly encouraged in public areas or if symptomatic;
 Warn self and others for the following, in line with MOH's advisories:
 - Avoid shaking hands or touching others
 - Practice good coughing and sneezing etiquette
 - Seek early treatment if symptomatic
 - Stay at home and avoid from visiting others
 - Regularly clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces in common areas

In addition to the SOPs, continue to adhere to **THIS**:

- T: Terms set under the Recovery Movement Control Order (RMCO)
- Hi: High-risk groups such as children, infants, older adults and the disabled must be protected, and if unwell with symptoms, to seek early treatment
- **S**: Safe social distancing is practiced at all times, of at least 1 metre away from others

MOH will continue to monitor the development of the COVID-19 situation, both in the country as well as internationally, based on available information from the World Health Organization (WHO). The public will be continuously updated on the latest information. In addition, MOH will ensure that appropriate preventive and control measures are continuously implemented.

Thank you.

Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah

Director General of Health Malaysia

3 July 2020 @ 5.00 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 3 July 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Perlis	0	18
Kedah	0	97
Pulau Pinang	0	121
Perak	0	258
Selangor	3 (3)	2,051
Negeri Sembilan	0	1,025
Melaka	0	256
Johor	0	692
Pahang	0	365
Terengganu	0	111
Kelantan	0	157
Sabah	2	375
Sarawak	0	571
WP Kuala Lumpur	0	2,437
WP Putrajaya	0	97
WP Labuan	0	17
Total	5 (3)	8,648

^{*()} refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 case