



**PRESS STATEMENT
MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA**

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

Current Status of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Who Have Recovered

The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **11 cases** have fully recovered and discharged well today. **Cumulatively, 8,476 confirmed COVID-19 cases have fully recovered** (97.8% of total cumulative cases).

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

6 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 **8,668 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 71 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, involving two (2) Malaysians and one (1) non-Malaysian (a permanent resident).

The **two (2) local transmission cases** are:

- Kuala Lumpur – 1 case: Non-Malaysian; screening in the community by the District Health Office.

- Selangor – 1 case: Malaysian; screening of close contacts to a confirmed COVID-19 case (Case 8,649). This new case is a family member of Case 8,649.

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 (1.39% of total cumulative cases).

Current Status of Individuals Placed Under the Home Surveillance Order for COVID-19

MOH would like to update on the current status of the number of the Person Under Surveillance (PUS) released from quarantine centres on 10 June 2020, and subsequently placed under the Home Surveillance Order (HSO). As of 6 July 2020, 12 pm, out of a total of 5,804 individuals placed under the HSO, 414 individuals have not yet undergone the day 13 COVID-19 testing. This number is 206 individuals less than the number reported on 2 July 2020. So far 5,390 individuals have been given the Home Release Order after the day 13 screening tests were found to be negative. This figure will be updated regularly based on information obtained from the District Health Offices and the State Health Departments.

We need to learn from the situation in the state of Victoria, Australia that made the announcement to close all 55 entrances at the state border with New South Wales following escalation of COVID-19 cases. This is due to the spread of the virus in several major cities, and one of the factors contributing is because of the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) infringement at quarantine centres by individuals returning from overseas.

MOH would like to thank the cooperation of all travellers returning to Malaysia for complying to all of the terms under the HSO, including attending health clinics or private clinics for the day 13 screening. MOH also expresses its appreciation to the District Health Offices and the Royal

Malaysian Police for their cooperation in tracking down individuals who had to undergo the day 13 screening. MOH hopes that all travellers returning to Malaysia will continue to cooperate with MOH and comply to the terms under the HSO.

World Zoonoses Day 2020

The World Zoonoses Day is celebrated annually on 6 July worldwide as an expression of ongoing commitment to prevent, control and eradicate zoonotic diseases, as well as increase public awareness and knowledge on zoonotic diseases. In addition, on this date, Louis Pasteur successfully created the rabies vaccine in 1885, the first vaccine to treat and prevent zoonotic diseases.

Zoonosis is an infectious disease that occurs between animals and humans. It has close relationships between humans, animals and the environment in which humans and animals interact. The disease can be caused by various pathogens such as viruses, bacteria, fungi and parasites. Each year it is estimated that one of the three people in the world will be infected with zoonotic diseases.

In conjunction with the celebration of World Zoonoses Day 2020, MOH hopes for public involvement in the prevention of zoonotic diseases can be improved through:

1. Practice good personal hygiene by regular hand washing with soap and clean water especially after handling animals.
2. Protect yourself to prevent bites from mosquitoes, ticks and fleas.
3. Avoid getting bitten or scratched by animals.
4. Store, cook and handle food properly and safely. Make sure that meat or other raw ingredients are cooked thoroughly before eating.
5. Make sure that recreational activities are carried out in a well-maintained, clean and well-kept locations.

Comparing the prevalence of zoonotic diseases from previous years, currently there has been a decline in cases. The practice of good personal hygiene and the implementation of the Movement Control Order (MCO) in

our country have in fact contributed to the reduction of zoonotic diseases such as Leptospirosis, Rabies, Brucellosis, Japanese Encephalitis, Q Fever and Malaria *Knowlesi*. A comparison of the number of cases from year 2016 through June 2020 is shown in **Table 1** below:

A history of Zoonotic Diseases in Malaysia is shown in **Appendix 2**.

Table 1 Number of Zoonotic Diseases Cases in Malaysia

	2016	2017	2018	2019	Jun 2020
Leptospirosis	5,285	4,365	5,056	5,217	1,484
Rabies	0	6	10	6	2
Brucellosis	26	42	40	10	0
JE	49	22	28	36	7
Q Fever	6	6	1	0	0
Malaria <i>Knowlesi</i>	1,600	3,614	4,131	3,222	1,156

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**: **C**rowded places; **C**onfined spaces; and **C**lose conversations
- Practice the **3Ws**: **W**ash hands frequently with water and soap; **W**earing facemasks are strongly encouraged in public areas or if symptomatic; **W**arn 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

6 July 2020 @ 5.00 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 6 July 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Perlis	0	18
Kedah	0	97
Pulau Pinang	0	121
Perak	0	258
Selangor	2 (1)	2,062
Negeri Sembilan	0	1,027
Melaka	0	256
Johor	1 (1)	693
Pahang	0	365
Terengganu	0	111
Kelantan	0	157
Sabah	0	378
Sarawak	1 (1)	572
WP Kuala Lumpur	1	2,439
WP Putrajaya	0	97
WP Labuan	0	17
Total	5 (3)	8,668

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 case

History of Zoonotic Diseases in Malaysia

	Disease	Year	Summary
1.	Nipah	1998 to 1999	<p>The outbreak began at Sungai Nipah, Bukit Pelanduk, Port Dickson, Negeri Sembilan among individuals handling pigs. It caused 265 cases of acute encephalitis. Of these, 105 have died.</p> <p>This infection was caused by a new (novel) virus, that has been named after the place where it was found, the Nipah River. The source of infection is believed to be from bats</p>
2.	SARS	2003	<p>The outbreak in Malaysia began with a case who has a history of visiting China in March 2003. At the end of the outbreak, five (5) cases were confirmed to be infected with the new (novel) Coronavirus virus, the SARS-CoV. A total of 129 contacts were identified and all were asymptomatic. The source of infection was from civet cats.</p>
3.	Avian influenza	2004	<p>Avian influenza is endemic in the East Asian region including China, Thailand and several IndoChina countries. It is transmitted by birds migrating from one country to another (migratory bird) as a result of climate change.</p> <p>Avian influenza incidents reported in Malaysia:</p> <p>2004 - Kelantan</p> <p>2006 - Kuala Lumpur, Perak, Penang</p> <p>2007 - Selangor</p> <p>2017 - Kelantan</p> <p>2018 - Sabah</p>
4.	Rabies	2017 till present	<p>Malaysia has been rabies free, however in 2015, rabies among dogs were reported in Perlis. As a result, rabies surveillance in dogs has been strengthened. Penang, Perak and Kedah have</p>

	Disease	Year	Summary
			<p>reported cases in dogs. No human cases were reported then.</p> <p>On 1 July 2017, Sarawak reported a case of rabies in humans. As a result, surveillance of dogs has been strengthened and many dogs were diagnosed with rabies. To date, 24 confirmed human cases of rabies have been reported, with 23 deaths. All of these rabies cases in humans were in Sarawak:</p> <p>2017 - 6 cases 2018 - 10 cases 2019 - 6 cases 2020 - 2 cases</p>
5.	Leptospirosis		<p>Leptospirosis disease notification became mandatory in December 2010. Each year, the average reported cases ranged from 4,000 to 4,500 cases.</p> <p>This year, as of 27 June 2020, 1,484 cases have been reported compared to 2,589 cases in 2019 for the same time period.</p>
6.	Salmonellosis		<p>A zoonotic disease transmitted through food; it is usually due to contamination and poor handling of raw ingredients as well as poor cooking.</p> <p>An example of salmonellosis is food poisoning caused by eating egg pudding reported in Terengganu.</p>
7.	Brucellosis		<p>A zoonotic disease often associated with drinking raw unpasteurised milk. The Department of Veterinary Services has increased the awareness of farmers on the importance of pasteurisation and has helped provide pasteurisation facilities for small-scale farmers.</p>
8.	Q Fever		<p>A zoonotic disease related to handling livestock and ruminants such as cattle and goats. A case was reported in Malaysia in 2017.</p>

