



PRESS STATEMENT MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA

UPDATES ON THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION IN MALAYSIA 17 July 2020

Current Status of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Who Have Recovered

The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **three (3) cases** have been discharged today. **Cumulatively, 8,541 confirmed COVID-19 cases have recovered and discharged** (97.6% of total cumulative cases).

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

17 July 2020, 12 pm – A total of **18 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **8,755 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 92 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have all been isolated and given treatment.

Of the 18 additional cases reported today, 10 are imported case who were **infected overseas**, involving seven (7) Malaysians and three (3) non-Malaysians (allowed to enter Malaysian for work). Of the eight (8) **local transmission** cases, six (6) are among Malaysians and two (2) are among non-Malaysians.

The details of the local transmission cases among **Malaysians** (6 cases) are as follows:

- Sarawak – 4 cases:
 - 1 case: Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) in Sarawak General Hospital.
 - 1 case: From the Kuching Medical Centre Cluster; as detailed below.
 - 2 cases: Screening at a workplace. Cases were asymptomatic and have been admitted into Sarawak General Hospital.
- Terengganu – 2 cases: From the Pitakwa PUI Cluster, as detailed below.

The details of the local transmission cases among non-Malaysians (2 cases) are as follows:

- Kuala Lumpur – 1 case: From the Shirala PUI Cluster, as detailed below.
- Selangor – 1 case: Screening prior to travelling overseas. Case was asymptomatic and have been admitted into Sungai Buloh Hospital.

Currently, three (3) confirmed COVID-19 cases are receiving treatment **in intensive care units (ICUs). No patients are on ventilation support.**

Fortunately, **no additional COVID-19 death** was reported to the National CPRC MOH today. Cumulatively, there are now 122 COVID-19 deaths in Malaysia (1.39% of total cumulative cases).

Four New Clusters have been Identified Today

MOH would like to inform that **four (4) new clusters** have been identified today:

1. Pitakwa PUI Cluster

The index case for this cluster is a Malaysian (Case 8,737) who returned to Malaysia from Nigeria on 11 July 2020. The COVID-19 screening at Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) was negative. Three (3) days after his arrival in Malaysia, he underwent a repeat COVID-19 test because he developed severe symptoms; he was

found to be positive for COVID-19 and admitted into Hulu Terengganu Hospital.

Subsequently, a total of 44 close contacts were identified and screened; they are mainly family members, passengers and crew of the flight, a taxi driver and work colleagues. Of these:

- Two (2) confirmed COVID-19 cases (Case 8,754 and Case 8,755)
- Three (3) individuals tested negative
- 39 individuals still awaiting results

2. Shirala PUI Cluster

The index case for this cluster is a non-Malaysian white-collar professional (Case 8,730) who arrived in Malaysia on 6 July 2020 for work. The COVID-19 screening in India and later at KLIA were both negative.

Five (5) days after arrival in Malaysia, he underwent a repeat COVID-19 test because he started to develop symptoms on 11 July 2020 and was found to be positive for COVID-19. He was admitted into Sungai Buloh Hospital. To date, two (2) close contacts have been identified, where one (1) was found to be positive COVID-19 (Case 8,738) and the other tested negative.

3. Kuching Medical Centre Cluster

The index case for this cluster is a Malaysian (Case 8,734) who underwent COVID-19 screening because he was at high-risk (frontline healthcare worker) but asymptomatic. He was found to be positive for COVID-19 on 14 July 2020 and admitted into Sarawak General Hospital.

To date, there is one (1) confirmed COVID-19 case out of the 26 close contacts identified, who are family members and work colleagues. The remaining individuals all tested negative. The confirmed COVID-

19 case is Case 8,744 and a work colleague to Case 8,734 at a Medical Centre in Kuching.

4. Jupiter Cluster

This index case for this cluster is a non-Malaysian (Case 8,723). He is a crew of a ship with a history of travelling to Japan and Singapore. He developed symptoms on 3 July 2020 and the symptoms worsened on 11 July 2020 while in Sarawak waters. He was admitted into a medical centre and the COVID-19 screening was found to be positive. He was later transferred to Bintulu Hospital, Sarawak.

Following that, 29 close contacts were identified on board the ship, all fellow crew members. Of these:

- Two (2) confirmed COVID-19 cases (Case 8,747 and Case 8,748)
- 27 individuals tested negative

This cluster is an isolated imported cluster. The surrounding community was not exposed to the crew of this ship, however cases requiring treatment will be immediately taken to the nearest medical centre or hospital.

Further screening and investigations are ongoing for these four clusters. The latest information will be updated from time to time.

Health Advisory on COVID-19

MOH advises the public not to be complacent and to continue to remain vigilant; and to always practice all of the health advisories issued by the MOH. The advisories that should be incorporated as the new normal include:

- 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

17 July 2020 @ 5.00 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 17 July 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Perlis	0	18
Kedah	0	99
Pulau Pinang	0	121
Perak	0	258
Selangor	4 (3)	2,098
Negeri Sembilan	0	1,027
Melaka	0	258
Johor	0	701
Pahang	0	365
Terengganu	2	114
Kelantan	0	157
Sabah	1 (1)	381
Sarawak	10 (6)	594
WP Kuala Lumpur	1	2,449
WP Putrajaya	0	98
WP Labuan	0	17
Total	18 (10)	8,755

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 case