



**PRESS STATEMENT  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA**

**UPDATES ON THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)  
SITUATION IN MALAYSIA  
24 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 recovered and discharged well today. **Cumulatively, 8,577 confirmed COVID-19 cases have been discharged** (96.8% of total cumulative cases).

**Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia**

24 July 2020, 12 pm – A total of **21 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **8,861 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 161 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have all been isolated and given treatment.

Of the 21 additional cases reported today, five (5) are imported cases who were **infected overseas**, involving three (3) Malaysians and two (2) non-Malaysians (spouse to a Malaysian or allowed to enter Malaysia for work). The five (5) imported cases were travellers from:

- Singapore – 1 case
- Australia – 1 case
- Philippines – 1 case
- Pakistan – 1 case
- Qatar – 1 case

Of the 16 **local transmission** cases, 13 cases are among Malaysians and three (3) cases are among non-Malaysians.

Details of the local transmission cases among **non-Malaysians** (3 cases) are as follows:

- Johor – 1 case: From the Kluang Elderly Care Home Cluster.
- Pahang – 2 cases: From the Elsa Cluster, as detailed below.

Details of the local transmission COVID-19 cases among **Malaysians** (13 cases) are as follows:

- Kuala Lumpur – 2 cases: From the Ramnad PUI Cluster, as detailed below.
- Selangor – 1 case: From the Al-Khobar PUI Cluster, as detailed below.
- Johor – 1 case: From the Kluang Elderly Care Home Cluster.
- Pahang – 1 case: From the Elsa Cluster, as detailed below.
- Sarawak – 8 cases: From the Sentosa Cluster.

Currently, only **five (5) confirmed COVID-19 cases** are receiving treatment **in intensive care units (ICUs)**, and two (2) patients are on ventilation support.

**No additional COVID-19 death** was reported to the National CPRC MOH today. Cumulatively, there are now **123 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.39% of total cumulative cases).

## **Three New COVID-19 Clusters Reported Today**

MOH would like to inform that three (3) new clusters have been reported today:

### **1. Elsa Cluster**

The index case for this is a non-Malaysian (Case 8,839) who is a ship crew member. The case has a history of air travel from the Philippines and transiting in South Korea. He entered Malaysia on 16 July 2020 to start working. The COVID-19 screening in the Philippines on 14 July 2020 was reported to be negative. He then boarded a flight to Kuantan and spent a night at a hotel there, before being taken to the ship to undergo quarantine on board after obtaining the approval from the Marine Department.

Five days later, on 20 July 2020, he began to develop symptoms. He was tested positive for COVID-19 on 22 July 2020, and was admitted into Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah Hospital, Pahang.

Subsequently, close contact screening was conducted and so far, a total of 108 individuals have been screened and tested:

- Three (3) confirmed COVID-19 cases (involving 2 non-Malaysians and 1 Malaysian)
- 48 individuals tested negative
- 57 individuals awaiting results

### **2. Ramnad PUI Cluster**

This index case for this cluster is a Malaysian who returned to Malaysia from India on 6 July 2020 (Case 8,817). The COVID-19 screening at Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) was negative. He was placed under the Home Surveillance Order (HSO) and began to develop mild symptoms on 19 July 2020. The HSO day 13 screening was found to be positive and he was admitted into Sungai Buloh Hospital, Selangor.

Subsequently, close contact investigation and screening were conducted. So far, a total of individuals has been screened, consisting of six (6) family members and 12 passengers of the flight. Of these:

- Two (2) confirmed COVID-19 cases (family members of the index case).
- 13 individuals tested negative
- 3 individuals awaiting results

### **3. Al-Khobar PUI Cluster**

The index case for this cluster is a Malaysian who returned to Malaysia from Saudi Arabia on 10 July 2020 (Case 8,803). The COVID-19 screening at KLIA was negative. He was placed under HSO with five other family members at their family home; they have all returned from Saudi Arabia on board the same flight. There are two other family members living in the same household.

The index case began to experience symptoms on 18 July 2020 and was found to be positive for COVID-19 on 20 July 2020. Following this, seven (7) family members were screened and tested:

- 1 confirmed COVID-19 case
- 6 individuals tested negative

Investigation and close contact screening are ongoing, including screening of other passengers on the same flight as the index case.

MOH would like to inform that these three clusters were due to local transmission in the community caused by imported cases. MOH therefore urges all travellers returning to Malaysia and are **undergoing** the HSO to **fully comply** with all measures set out in the COVID-19 Management Guideline in Malaysia No.5/2020 (Annex 10a and 10b: Home Assessment Tool), including:

- Wear a facemask all the way from the International Port of Entry to their residence or home.
- Wear facemasks at home if safe social distancing of at least 1 metre away from others is difficult to practice.
- If symptomatic, to contact the nearest District Health Office.
- The HSO bracelet **must be worn** at all time throughout the HSO.
- Undergo COVID-19 testing on day 13 at the nearest health clinic or private clinic accredited by MOH and obtain a copy of the results.
- On day 14, to go to the nearest District Health Office with the COVID-19 test results to be released from the HSO, and to remove the HSO bracelet.

Family members of individuals placed under the HSO must also play their role by ensuring that safe social distancing is practiced at all times with the individuals under the HSO. Individuals found violating this Order will be subjected to legal action. The cooperation of all parties is important so that we can together break the chain of transmission of COVID-19 infection in Malaysia.

### **Health Advisory on COVID-19**

MOH advices the public to continue to remain vigilant and to always comply to the recommendations and health advisories repeatedly emphasised by the MOH. These advisories must be incorporated into everyday life as the new normal.

- Avoid the **3Cs**: Avoid **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

24 July 2020 @ 5.00 pm

## Appendix 1

### Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 24 July 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Perlis	0	18
Kedah	0	100
Pulau Pinang	0	121
Perak	1 (1)	262
Selangor	3 (2)	2,115
Negeri Sembilan	0	1,028
Melaka	0	258
Johor	2	720
Pahang	3	369
Terengganu	0	114
Kelantan	0	159
Sabah	0	384
Sarawak	9 (1)	641
WP Kuala Lumpur	3 (1)	2,457
WP Putrajaya	0	98
WP Labuan	0	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>21 (5)</b>	<b>8,861</b>

\*( ) refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 case