



PRESS STATEMENT MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA

UPDATES ON THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION IN MALAYSIA 12 August 2020

Current Status of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Who Have Recovered

The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **eight (8) cases** have fully recovered and discharged today. **Cumulatively, 8,817 confirmed COVID-19 cases have been discharged** (96.7% of total cumulative cases).

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

12 August 2020, 12 pm – a total of **11 additional confirmed COVID-19 case** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **9,114 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 172 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have all been isolated and given treatment.

Of the 11 additional cases reported today, eight (8) are imported cases who were **infected overseas**, involving seven (7) Malaysians and one (1) non-Malaysian. The eight (8) imported cases were travellers from the following countries:

- Singapore – 3 cases: 2 cases in Johor and 1 case in Kuala Lumpur
- Philippines – 3 cases in Sabah
- Australia – 1 case in Kuala Lumpur
- Japan – 1 case in Kuala Lumpur

Of the three (3) **local transmission cases**, two (2) cases are among Malaysians and one (1) case is a non-Malaysian.

The two (2) local transmission cases among **Malaysians** were from symptomatic screening in a medical centre in Kedah. Both cases have been admitted into Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital, Kedah. These cases **were not** related to each other.

The one (1) **non-Malaysian** local transmission case was from screening of new detainees at a police station prison in Tawau, Sabah.

Currently, only **one (1) confirmed COVID-19 case** is receiving treatment in the intensive care unit (ICU), and the patient is not on ventilation support.

No additional COVID-19 death was reported to the National CPRC MOH today. Cumulatively, there remains **125 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.37% of total cumulative cases).

Viral News of a COVID-19 Case in Lembah Pantai being Investigated

MOH took note of a short message being viralled on the WhatsApp application and social media sites on an alleged COVID-19 case in Lembah Pantai involving a student from a school in Seri Pantai. MOH is currently investigating this alleged case. MOH has received a report from the school concerned about one (1) symptomatic case involving a student. Following this, an investigation was conducted according to the MOH's protocol, whereby any case reported to the MOH will be investigated first and further action such as active case detection will be carried out if necessary.

Initial investigation found that a Form 5 student from the school had symptoms of vomiting and diarrhoea on 9 August 2020. On 10 August 2020, the student was taken to a private clinic for treatment and later transferred to a medical centre for further treatment, where the student was screened for Dengue Fever as well as for COVID-19. The student

tested positive for Dengue Fever; however, a confirmatory COVID-19 was done at the laboratory to ensure that there is no cross-positivity during the screening test that may occur with Dengue Fever.

While waiting for the confirmatory laboratory test result, MOH has started early active case detection as a proactive action that is usually carried out in the field to prevent the risk of spread of infection. To date, a total of 34 students and eight (8) teachers have been identified as close contacts to the student. Of these, 28 individuals have been screened and 14 individuals have been instructed to go the health clinic for testing.

All the individuals who have been screened were placed under the Home Surveillance Order (HSO) as a precautionary measure. In addition, decontamination and disinfection have been carried out at the identified locations. MOH will continue to monitor the symptomatic case and all close contacts. The current situation will be updated from time to time.

MOH would like to explain to the public that any COVID-19 case will only be reported as a confirmed COVID-19 case after it is officially announced by MOH. Reports from any other sources will be considered as speculation until investigations are conducted and the case(s) confirmed by MOH. The public is requested to check the validity of the information received before believing and disseminating the information.

Health Advisory on COVID-19

MOH hopes that the public will continue to practice the advisories often emphasised by the MOH as the new normal in daily life. These advisories include:

- 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 now mandatory in public areas (starting from 1 August 2020 as directed by the National Security Council) or highly recommended 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 physical 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

12 August 2020 @ 5.00 pm

Appendix 1

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

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Perlis	0	30
Kedah	2	134
Pulau Pinang	0	125
Perak	0	269
Selangor	0	2,139
Negeri Sembilan	0	1,032
Melaka	0	259
Johor	2 (2)	749
Pahang	0	370
Terengganu	0	114
Kelantan	0	160
Sabah	4 (3)	415
Sarawak	0	681
WP Kuala Lumpur	3 (3)	2,517
WP Putrajaya	0	99
WP Labuan	0	22
Total	11 (8)	9,114

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 case