



**PRESS STATEMENT
MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA**

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

Current Status of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Who Have Recovered

The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **six (6) cases** have fully recovered and discharged today. **Cumulatively, 8,971 confirmed COVID-19 cases have been discharged** (96.6% of total cumulative cases).

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

25 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 **9,285 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 189 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have all been isolated and given treatment.

Of the 11 additional cases reported today, two (2) are imported cases who were **infected overseas**, involving one (1) **Malaysian** and one (1) **non-Malaysian**. They were travellers from the following countries:

- Philippines – 1 case in Selangor
- Indonesia – 1 case in Selangor

All nine (9) **local transmission cases** are among **Malaysians**. The details are as follows:

- Kedah – 7 cases:
 - 5 cases: From the Tawar Cluster, as detailed below.
 - 1 case: From pre-surgery screening in Sultan Abdul Halim Hospital; the case was subsequently transferred to Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital.
 - 1 case: From symptomatic screening.
- Selangor – 1 case: Still under investigation. The case was asymptomatic and was admitted into Sungai Buloh Hospital.
- Perlis – 1 case: From Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) screening in Tuanku Fauziah Hospital.

Currently, **eight (8) confirmed COVID-19 cases** are receiving treatment in the **intensive care units (ICUs)**, with **six (6) patients** 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 (1.35% of total cumulative cases).

The Tawar Cluster Reporting Five (5) Additional Confirmed Cases Today

MOH would like to inform that **five (5) additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** are reported in the Tawar Cluster today; cumulatively there are now **70 confirmed cases** in this cluster. The five (5) additional cases are students at a primary school in Kedah. They were detected through active case detection and screening of close contacts of confirmed cases. Investigation found that they were close contacts to Case 9,197, who is a pre-school student (this case was reported on 16 August 2020).

As of 25 August 2020, 12 pm, a total of **3,547 individuals** have been screened in this cluster. The breakdown of screening by states involved is as follows:

1. Kedah (3,018 individuals screened):
 - 59 confirmed COVID-19 cases
 - 2,717 individuals tested negative
 - 242 individuals awaiting results

2. Pulau Pinang (518 individuals screened):
 - 11 confirmed COVID-19 cases
 - 507 individuals tested negative

3. Perak: All 11 individuals screened tested negative (no additional screening done)

Active case detection and screening of close contacts for this cluster are still ongoing. The current situation of this cluster and other active clusters will be updated from time to time.

MOH would like to remind all schools to comply with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) set by the Ministry of Education Malaysia (MOE) and the National Security Council (NSC), including SOPs before, during and after school sessions. Parents should also play a role in advising and educating their school-going children on the practices to prevent COVID-19 infection while in school buses, classrooms and during any sports or curriculum activities.

The Threat of the New Wave of COVID-19 Overseas and The Risk to Our Country

MOH would like to thank all of the frontliners and individuals working behind the scene, as well as all Malaysians who have worked together to control the transmission of the COVID-19 infection in Malaysia. Compliance to the regulations and SOPs issued by the Government is crucial in preventing further transmission of the infection.

Compared to the situation in other countries, there are countries that are now facing the threat of a new wave of COVID-19 infection. The same can occur in Malaysia if we are complacent and underestimate the situation in the country.

Border control needs to be further strengthened with the cooperation of various agencies to prevent the influx of potentially COVID-19 infected individuals into the country. From 3 April 2020 to 23 August 2020, a total of 104,188 Malaysians and permanent residents were screened, of which 103,289 individuals were quarantined either at home or in quarantine stations. A total of 899 confirmed COVID-19 cases were detected; they were isolated and treated in hospitals. If any weaknesses are identified, the procedures and work processes will be improved from time to time.

MOH would like to remind all frontliners to continue to adhere to the case management framework, practice guidelines and procedures in the field. If faced with any challenges, complexities, or obstacles in carrying out the tasks, their superiors need to be informed immediately so that it can be investigated and resolved. This is important to ensure that regulations and SOPs are complied with, and that the frontliners are protected from infection as well as any challenges in performing their duties in the field.

The Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases Act 1988 [Act 342] is very important to break the transmission of the COVID-19 infection. Failure to comply with this Act will increase the risk of infection and disease transmission. MOH again would like to remind that:

1. All healthcare workers and frontliners must adhere to the practice guidelines in performing their duties; and
2. The public must continue to comply with the regulations and SOPs issued by the MOH.

The public plays a very important role by fully complying with this Act and all SOPs set, regardless of the person and place. Only with one hundred percent compliance with this Act can we unite in fighting the war against our common enemy, the COVID-19.

Health Advisory on COVID-19

MOH advises the public to remain vigilant and continue to follow the recommendations and health advisories that are often emphasised. These advisories must be incorporated as the new normal in our daily life, including:

- 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 is 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** as the new normal:

- **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.

Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah
Director General of Health Malaysia

25 August 2020 @ 5.00 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 25 August 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Perlis	1	32
Kedah	7	207
Pulau Pinang	0	136
Perak	0	269
Selangor	3 (2)	2,158
Negeri Sembilan	0	1,034
Melaka	0	259
Johor	0	751
Pahang	0	370
Terengganu	0	114
Kelantan	0	160
Sabah	0	417
Sarawak	0	696
WP Kuala Lumpur	0	2,560
WP Putrajaya	0	99
WP Labuan	0	23
Total	11 (2)	9,285

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 case