



**PRESS STATEMENT
MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA**

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

Current Status of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Who Have Recovered

The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **24 cases** have fully recovered and discharged today. **Cumulatively, 9,167 confirmed COVID-19 cases have been discharged** (95.2% of total cumulative cases).

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

10 September 2020, 12 pm – a total of **45 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **9,628 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 333 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have all been isolated and given treatment.

Of the 45 additional cases reported today, only one (1) is an imported case, reported in Selangor of a Malaysian who had returned from Brazil.

Of the 44 **local transmission** cases reported today, 11 cases are among **Malaysians** and 33 cases are among **non-Malaysians**. The details are as follows:

- Kedah – four (4) cases:
 - 1 case: From the Sungai Cluster.
 - 2 cases: From the Telaga Cluster.
 - 1 case: From symptomatic screening at Klinik Kesihatan Simpang Kuala. The case has been admitted into Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital.
- Sabah – 40 cases: From the Benteng LD Cluster, with 33 cases involving non-Malaysians.

These clusters are detailed below.

Currently, **nine (9) confirmed COVID-19 cases** are receiving treatment in the intensive care units (ICUs), with **five (5) patients on ventilation support**. **No additional COVID-19 death** was reported to the National CPRC MOH today. Cumulatively, there remains **128 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.33% of total cumulative cases).

Current Status of Three Clusters – Benteng LD, Telaga and Sungai

MOH would like to inform that additional confirmed cases are reported in three clusters today i.e. the Benteng LD Cluster, Telaga Cluster and Sungai Cluster. The breakdown of screening and the current situation for these clusters based on states involved are as follows:

1. The Benteng LD Cluster, Sabah (2,679 individuals screened):

a) Tawau (1,909 screened):

- 83 confirmed COVID-19 cases (**40 additional cases** reported today: 34 cases are among prisoners, while the remaining six (6) cases are family members of the prison staff)
- 625 individuals tested negative
- 1,201 individuals awaiting results

b) Lahad Datu (770 screened):

- 87 confirmed COVID-19 cases
- 291 individuals tested negative

- 392 individuals awaiting results

2. The Sungai Cluster (1,585 individuals screened):

a) Kedah (1,456 screened):

- 39 confirmed COVID-19 cases (**1 additional case** reported today)
- 1,017 individuals tested negative
- 400 individuals awaiting results

b) Pulau Pinang (122 screened):

- 43 individuals tested negative
- 79 individuals awaiting results

c) Perlis (7 screened):

- One (1) confirmed COVID-19 case
- 3 individuals tested negative
- 3 individuals awaiting results

3. The Telaga Cluster (4,673 individuals screened):

a) Kedah (4,626 screened):

- 13 confirmed COVID-19 cases (**2 additional cases** reported today)
- 4,524 individuals tested negative
- 89 individuals awaiting results

b) Pulau Pinang (47 screened):

- 46 individuals tested negative
- 1 individual awaiting result

MOH takes note of the earlier announcement by the Senior Minister (Security Cluster) Dato' Seri Ismail bin Sabri on the implementation of the administrative Enhanced Movement Control Order (EMCO) in Kota Setar district, Kedah. This is due to the significant increase in cases in the Sungai Cluster and the Telaga Cluster. This implementation will be effective from 11 September 2020 until 25 September 2020. The

implementation of the administrative EMCO in Amanjaya is extended until 13 September 2020 to ensure screening of the residents in the area can be implemented comprehensively.

MOH also takes note of the results of the implementation of similar actions in the Tawau Prison and Prison Quarters. Appropriate decisions and integrated actions by various agencies will help the MOH to continue to carry out public health control measures in all three areas. Close cooperation with the local community is also essential to ensure that these measures can successfully break the chain of transmission of the COVID-19 infection.

The Risk of Imported COVID-19 Cases from Overseas Travellers Entering Malaysia

From 3 April 2020 to 9 September 2020, the total number of travellers entering Malaysia was 119,268 individuals. Of these, 995 were confirmed COVID-19 cases, with 742 cases detected during the screening upon arrival, and 253 cases detected from the second screening on day 13 of quarantine.

Following the increase in the number of imported of COVID-19 cases, the MOH has developed a risk assessment matrix on countries around the world to measure the risk of importing COVID-19 infection into Malaysia. This is important in determining the implementation of the Movement Control Order (MCO) and international border control. Each country is assessed based on the above criteria and placed within a specific risk category. The results of the assessment on all 23 countries that have been restricted to travel to Malaysia are found to have a high risk of importing COVID-19 infection into our country.

The criteria for assessing the risk of importing COVID-19 infection are based on the Scoring Board: Merit System developed by MOH using data from the European Center for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) and Our World in Data.

The six criteria that have been identified are:

1. Number of COVID-19 cases in the last 14 days;
2. Incident rate per 1 million population in the last 14 days;
3. Death rate of the last 14 days per 1 million population;
4. Cumulative case mortality rate;
5. Recovery index; and
6. COVID-19 cumulative cases exceeding 150,000 cases.

However, this risk assessment is one of the mechanisms to assess the risk of a country's COVID-19 status. There are still other criteria that need to be examined, such as the COVID-19 case tracking policy of the country concerned, that has direct implication for the number of current cases detected and reported.

Non-Compliance and Complacency Can Cause Failure

As the Nation struggles in our war against the COVID-19 virus, compliance to the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and new norm and normal practices have proven to be effective in controlling and curbing the transmission of the COVID-19 infection in the country. This can be seen from the surge in cases in early March 2020 until the reduction in cases to one digit in early June 2020. Although the COVID-19 vaccine has not yet been fully developed and tested, these infection prevention and public health control measures that have been adopted such as physical distancing, use of facemasks as well as frequent hand hygiene practices have acted as a defense system for every individual, family and community in the fight against the COVID-19 virus.

MOH would like to continue to remind the public that these measures and practices must continue to be implemented at all times and places, so that they will become the new habit and culture. If the public becomes complacent, this will lead to failure. The COVID-19 virus will spread again, resulting in the increase of daily cases, hospital and ICU cases again. Even worse, deaths from COVID-19 will also increase as seen in many other countries.

Preventing the transmission of COVID-19 is our shared responsibility. Come on, let us take this responsibility together and ensure that we will win in the fight against this invisible enemy.

Health Advisory on COVID-19

MOH advises the public to 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, including bumping parts of the body in lieu of shaking hands
 - 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

10 September 2020 @ 5.00 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 10 September 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Perlis	0	33
Kedah	4	270
Pulau Pinang	0	138
Perak	0	269
Selangor	1 (1)	2,190
Negeri Sembilan	0	1,039
Melaka	0	262
Johor	0	752
Pahang	0	371
Terengganu	0	114
Kelantan	0	160
Sabah	40	592
Sarawak	0	700
WP Kuala Lumpur	0	2,616
WP Putrajaya	0	99
WP Labuan	0	23
Total	45 (1)	9,628

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 case