

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 6

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

## BSN, Bank Rakyat tangguh sementara bayar pinjaman

**Kuala Lumpur:** Bank Simpanan Nasional (BSN) dan Bank Rakyat mengumumkan tawaran penangguhan sementara pembayaran pinjaman bagi pelanggan, iaitu perusahaan kecil dan sederhana (PKS) yang terjejas akibat penularan jangkitan coronavirus baharu (2019-nCoV).

"Kami memahami keadaan pelanggan kami yang terdiri daripada pengusaha perniagaan yang mungkin terjejas kerana tidak dapat berurusan dengan pembekal tertentu akibat penularan penyakit ini, terutama di negara yang berisiko," kata Ketua Eksekutif BSN, Datuk Yunus Abd Ghani dalam kenyataan, semalam.

"Kami menyeru kepada mereka yang terbahadur hadir dan berbincang dengan BSN bagi memastikan kelangsungan perniagaan mereka, di samping memastikan fasiliti kemudahan dinikmati dengan sebaik mungkin. Sebagai sebuah bank yang prihatin, BSN sentiasa memastikan keperluan pelanggan ditamatkan," katanya.

Pelanggan boleh hadir di mana-mana Cawangan BSN berhasrat untuk berbincangan atau menghubungi Pusat Hubungan Pelanggan BSN di 1-300-88-1900 bagi keterangan lanjut.

Sementara itu, dalam satu kenyataan berasingan, Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Bank Rakyat, Datuk Rosman Mohamed turut meminta pelanggan yang terjejas untuk tampil di mana-mana cawangan Bank Rakyat bagi menangani masalah kewangan yang dihadapi akibat penularan jangkitan itu.

"Ini waktu yang mencabar bagi komuniti dan ekonomi global. Kami sentiasa memikirkkan mereka yang terjejas akibat penularan coronavirus ini.

"Untuk sebarang maklumat atau bantuan, pelanggan boleh hubungi Pusat Panggilan tele-Rakyat di 1-300-80-5454 atau kunjungi cawangan berdekatan," katanya.

Coronavirus baharu yang mula dikesan pada Disember 2019 di Wuhan, China, boleh menyebabkan radang paru-paru dan sudah mencatatkan jumlah lebih 700 kematian di negara itu.

**Kami memahami keadaan pelanggan kami yang terdiri daripada pengusaha perniagaan yang mungkin terjejas.**

**Yunos Abd Ghani,**  
Ketua Eksekutif BSN

## Penularan coronavirus

# Sektor perniagaan terkesan

Maklumat Kementerian Pelancongan dapati jumlah pendapatan sektor turun

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**Putrajaya:** Sektor perniagaan di negara ini mengalami tempis daripada penularan coronavirus baharu (2019-nCoV), kata Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail.

Timbalan Perdana Menteri menjelaskan bagaimanapun kerajaan setakat ini tidak menerima aduan atau laporan rasmi berhubung impak jangkitan berkenaan terhadap perniagaan tempatan.

Katanya, penelitian umum mendapati industri perhotelan, perusahaan kecil dan sederhana (PKS) serta rumah inap berdepan kekurangan pelanggan.

"Berdasarkan maklumat daripada Kementerian Pelancongan, jumlah pendapatan dari segi pe-



**Dr Wan Azizah** mempengerusikan Mesyuarat Khas High Level Committee (HLC) Jawatankuasa Pengurusan Bencana Pusat Berhubung Kluster Penyakit Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) di Putrajaya, semalam. Turut hadir, Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Zulkifly Ahmad dan Menteri Komunikasi dan Multimedia, Gobind Singh Deo. (Foto BERNAMA)

lancongan menurun daripada RM230,000 kepada RM41,000 disebabkan 2019-nCoV," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian pada sidang media Situasi Terkini Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) di Kementerian Kesihatan, di sini semalam.

Yang turut hadir, Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Zulkifly Ahmad dan Menteri Luar, Datuk Saifuddin Abdullah.

Sehingga semalam, tujuh disahkan positif 2019-nCoV, 84 negatif, manakala lima kes masih

menunggu pengesahan.

Dr Wan Azizah berkata, kerajaan tidak bercadang mengenaikan sekatan terhadap semua pekulat warganegara China kecuali dari Wilayah Hubei, termasuk bandar Wuhan sebagai langkah mencegah 2019-nCoV.

Menurut beliau, tiada keperluan untuk membuat sekatan perjalanan menyeluruh.

Katanya, Pertubuhan Kesihatan Dunia (WHO) turut meminta supaya negara tidak menyekat sepenuhnya kemasukan warga-

negara China meskipun WHO mengumumkan coronavirus baharu sebagai darurat kesihatan awam global.

"Di Malaysia, coronavirus masih dalam keadaan terkawal dan kita tidak mahu ia memberi kesan negatif kepada kepada ekonomi negara.

"Kerajaan sentiasa bersedia sedia untuk bertindak mengikut keperluan dan memantau pintu masuk negara bagi mengawal penularan coronavirus," katanya.

## Lelaki warga China dibenar pulang

**Putrajaya:** Lelaki warganegara China yang sebelum ini dimasukkan ke Hospital Permai, Johor selepas dijangkiti coronavirus baharu, dibenarkan pulang semalam apabila disahkan bebas daripada wabak berkenaan.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata pesakit itu pada mulanya ditempatkan di hospital pada 24 Januari lalu, selepas didapati mempunyai gejala demam panas dan radang paru-paru.

Katanya, keadaan pesakit kemudian bertambah tenat pada hari kedua di wad pengasingan hospital terbahadur, sehingga petugas perubatan terpaksa memberikan bantuan oksigen.

"Kajian sinar X dada pada hari keempat menunjukkan tanda jangkitan bertambah tenat. Justeru, hospital memulakan rawatan dengan ubat antiviral Kaletra pada 28 Januari lalu.

"Selepas lapan hari rawatan, keadaan pesakit bertambah baik dan sembuh sepenuhnya. Terkini keputusan ujian ulangan kali ketiga didapati negatif, selepas ujian pertama dan kedua juga didapati negatif.

"Pesakit seterusnya akan dibenarkan pulang pada petang ini (semalam). Alhamdulillah, tahniah kepada pasukan perubatan



**Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah**

yang diketuai Pakar Perubatan Penyakit Berjangkit, Dr Masliza Zaid," katanya dalam kenyataan, semalam.

Selasa lalu, seorang kanak-kanak perempuan warga China di Langkawi yang sebelum ini positif coronavirus, didapati pulih dan bebas sepenuhnya daripada jangkitan wabak berkenaan.

Sementara itu, 69 orang yang dipercayai mempunyai kontak rapat dengan lelaki rakyat Malaysia pertama dijangkiti coronavirus baharu (2019-nCoV) sudah menjalani ujian.

Timbalan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, berkata hasil ujian mendapati semua kontak rapat merangkumi ahli keluarga dan jiran lelaki terbahadur negatif jangkitan. "Agensi berkaitan akan mene-

ruskan pengesanan kontak, termasuk menerusi kerjasama dengan kerajaan Singapura," katanya pada sidang media harian berhubung situasi terkini coronavirus, di sini, semalam.

Pada 4 Februari lalu, Kementerian Kesihatan mengesahkan lelaki berusia 41 tahun dari Selangor menjadi rakyat Malaysia pertama dijangkiti coronavirus, selepas mempunyai sejarah perjalanan ke Singapura pada 16 hingga 22 Januari lalu.

Dr Wan Azizah berkata, pengesanan kontak bagi kes membabitkan lelaki rakyat tempatan itu turut meliputi lima individu warganegara lain, justeru sebarang perkembangan lanjut akan ditumunkan kemudian.

Mengenai langkah Singapura menalakkan Amaran Kedudukan Sistem Tindak Balas Perebakan Penyakit (DORSCON) dari tahap kuning ke jingga bagi membendung penularan coronavirus, Dr Wan Azizah yang juga Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Pengurusan Bencana Pusat menjelaskan situasi Malaysia masih dalam keadaan terkawal.

Katanya, hal itu kerana Malaysia setakat ini tidak mempunyai kes sporadic atau penyebaran coronavirus sesama rakyat di negara ini seperti yang berlaku di

Singapura.

Dr Wan Azizah berkata, Pusat Kesiapsiagaan dan Tindak Cepat Krisis Negara (CPRC) merekodkan pertambahan satu kes baharu jangkitan coronavirus.

Katanya, kes membabitkan warganegara China berusia 67 tahun, iaitu ibu kepada kawan rakyat republik terbahadur yang dilaporkan positif pada 6 Februari lalu.

Beliau berkata, wanita warga emas itu mulanya diarahkan untuk tidak ke mana-mana bagi menjalani perintah pengawasan dan pemantauan, selepas beliau didapati mempunyai kontak rapat dengan kes positif ke-14.

"Beliau kini dilaporkan stabil," katanya.

Setakat ini, jumlah keseluruhan kes coronavirus di negara ini ialah 16 kes, iaitu tujuh dalam kalangan kes disyaki (PUJ) jangkitan, kontak rapat (tujuh) dan dalam kalangan rakyat Malaysia yang dibawa pulang menerusi misi bantuan kemanusiaan (dua).

Mengulas perkembangan empat rakyat Malaysia yang disahkan dijangkiti coronavirus, Dr Wan Azizah menjelaskan semua pesakit masih diberikan rawatan dan dipantau oleh Kementerian Kesihatan, selain berada dalam keadaan stabil.



AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 8

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

## Salam cara Malaysia, kerap cuci tangan elak jangkitan

**Ipoh:** Orang ramai disaran mengelakkan bersalaman secara bersentuhan, sebaliknya menggunakan pendekatan 'salam cara Malaysia' iaitu meletakkan tangan di dada sebagai langkah pencegahan bagi mengurangkan penularan coronavirus 2019 (2019-nCoV).

Timbalan Menteri Kesihatan, Dr Lee Boon Chye, berkata cara berkenaan perlu diberi perhatian berikutan virus itu boleh berjangkit melalui sentuhan dan tidak melalui udara.

Beliau berkata, amalan 'salam cara Malaysia' antara langkah pencegahan yang perlu diamalkan, selain kerap mencuci tangan.

"Apabila pesakit batuk, virus yang keluar (mungkin berada) di atas meja, lif dan sebagainya boleh bertahan beberapa jam dan apabila menyentuh kawasan berkenaan, ada kemungkinan mendapat jangkitan penyakit.

"Jadi, kita mencadangkan beberapa perkara antaranya kerap membasuh tangan, memakai cecair pembasmi kuman atau mengelak menyentuh muka dengan tangan.

"Saya juga mencadangkan kalau boleh kurangkan sedikit bersalaman secara bersentuhan tangan," katanya yang ditemui ketika sambutan Thaipusam di Kuil Gunung Cheroh di sini, semalam.

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 21

RUANGAN : DUNIA

## NCP nama sementara coronavirus

**China:** Suruhanjaya Kesihatan Kebangsaan China mengumumkan nama rasmi sementara bagi coronavirus, iaitu novel coronavirus pneumonia atau singkatannya NCP.

Nama baharu wabak itu diumumkan pada sidang media, semalam.

Menurut suruhanjaya berkenaan, nama itu boleh digunakan jabatan kerajaan dan organisasi di China sehingga nama tetap wabak ditentukan kemudian.

Ia diputuskan Jawatankuasa Antarabangsa Mengenai Virus Taxonomi.

Selepas diputuskan, nama itu dihantar untuk jurnal saintifik dan jawatankuasa berharap akan membuat pengumuman mengenai hal berkenaan beberapa hari lagi.

Terdahulu, Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia (WHO) menjelaskan sedang meneliti penamaan virus baharu itu bagi mengelak stigma buruk terhadap bandar raya Wuhan yang menjadi tempat bermula penularan coronavirus.

WHO yang sebelum ini mengisytihar darurat kesihatan global susulan penularan virus itu menamakan ia penyakit pernafasan akut 2019-nCoV. AGENSI



AKHBAR : METRO AHAD

MUKA SURAT : 2

RUANGAN : LOKAL

lokal

6 HERO VIRUS MAUT

# RELA GADAI NYAWA SENDIRI

Getir selama 17 jam di sebalik operasi selamat rakyat Malaysia di wilayah wabak Wuhan didedah

SAMSUL



SYAHMI



JASON



IBRAHIM



NIK MAZAID

ZAITIE



## PERJALANAN PASUKAN PENINJAU EVAKUASI RAKYAT MALAYSIA





AKHBAR : METRO AHAD

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : LOKAL

Metro Ahad | 09.02.2020

3  
**lokal**

PASUKAN peninjau berada dalam pesawat AirAsia ketika penerbangan pulang ke tanah air.



BALACHANDAR sekeuarga sebelum keluar dari Wuhan.



Kesungguhan pegawai kedutaan menghunungi rakyat Malaysia di Wuhan dan kawasan terjejas sangat dihargai di samping mereka sanggup merisikokan diri untuk pastikan saya dan keluarga berjaya dibawa pulang ke Malaysia dengan selamat. Bukan satu misi yang mudah tambahan perlu berdepan dengan ancaman wabak maut, namun komitmen ditunjukkan pihak yang terbabit layak diberikan penghormatan"

Penuntut Doktor Falsafah Geokimia,  
Universiti Geosains China (Wuhan), S Balachandar, 43.



Prosedur tapisan kesihatan yang ketat memastikan rakyat Malaysia yang dibawa pulang sihat sepenuhnya walaupun masih perlu dikuarantin selama 14 hari. Saya berterima kasih kepada kerajaan, Kementerian Luar, Kedutaan Malaysia di China dan pihak yang terbabit kerana membantu membawa kami pulang dari kawasan berisiko"

Pelancong, Reen, 27.

sangat sejuk dengan di bawah tiga hingga lapan darjah Celsius cukup menguji ketahanan fizikal kami semua," katanya.

Katanya, sebaik tiba di Wuhan, pasukannya hanya berehat selama empat jam saja sebelum membuka sekretariat ataupun bilik operasi.

"Kami bawa tiga kenderaan, dua dinaiki pasukan manakala satu MPV diisi dengan makanan, minuman dan dokumentasi. Selepas sekretariat dibuka, kami mula menghubungi semua rakyat Malaysia di Wuhan memaklumkan kehadiran pasukan yang akan menyelaraskan pergerakan untuk membawa mereka pulang ke Malaysia dengan menaiki pesawat khas.

"Berpusing-pusing rakyat Malaysia datang ke sekretariat untuk mendaftarkan diri. Alhamdulillah, kerjasama baik mereka (rakyat

Malaysia) di Wuhan menjayakan misi membawa pulang 107 individu terdiri daripada 87 rakyat Malaysia dan 20 bukan warga negara," katanya.

Menurutnya, debaran amat kuat terasa ketika dia dan pasukannya menguruskan rakyat Malaysia daripada hotel ataupun rumah masing-masing ke Lapangan Terbang Antarabangsa Tianhe di Wuhan kerana tanpa kebenaran atau kelulusan mereka tidak boleh berada di jalan raya.

"Kerjasama baik daripada kerajaan China akhirnya menjayakan misi itu. Penerbangan pulang jam 1.10 pagi dari Wuhan mengakhiri misi penuh getir itu. Tahniah kepada ahli pasukan yang memang bekerja keras sepanjang misi.

"Terima kasih juga kepada duta yang memberi kepercayaan kepada kami untuk menjayakan misi berkenaan," katanya.

## Hubungan diplomatik baik bantu misi

**Kuala Lumpur:** "Saya percaya kerjasama pasukan mampu mengimbangi sebarang kemungkinan kerana kebajikan rakyat Malaysia dalam menghadapi situasi di Wuhan menjadi keutamaan," kata Duta Besar Malaysia ke China, Raja Datuk Nushirwan Zainal Abidin.

Bellau berkata, pasukan peninjau adalah wira sebenar dalam menjayakan misi ini walaupun perlu berdepan risiko.

Katanya, setiap pegawai Wisma Putra yang ditugaskan di luar negara sedar terdapat kemungkinan luar jangka yang boleh berlaku dari memerlukan pelan tindakan awal bagi menangani situasi itu. Menurutnya, mengenal pasti rakyat Malaysia yang berada di Wuhan dan

sekitarnya antara cabaran besar pegawai kedutaan kerana pangkalan data yang dimiliki tidak mempunyai maklumat terkini.

"Kedutaan menggunakan pendekatan menyebar luas kenyataan mengandungi maklumat yang boleh dihubungi rakyat Malaysia menerusi media sosial. "Rakyat Malaysia secara umumnya jarang mendaftar dengan kedutaan negara yang dikunjungi walaupun ada kemudahan e-portal di laman web Kementerian Luar," katanya.

Katanya, keputusan kerajaan China menghentikan mod pengangkutan termasuk darat menyukarkan pihaknya menyediakan kenderaan kepada mereka yang berada di luar Wuhan untuk dibawa ke bandar itu.

"Namun, hubungan diplomatik erat antara Malaysia dan China membolehkan permit perjalanan diperoleh membenarkan rakyat Malaysia dikumpulkan di lapangan terbang.

"Kerjasama peringkat antarabangsa yang baik berjaya menyelesaikan misi ini serta hubungan baik antara Malaysia dan China membolehkan setiap perancangan berjalan lancar," katanya.



NUSHIRWAN

Abidin bagi melaksanakan misi getir yang jelas merisikokan diri sendiri kepada jangkitan yang boleh membawa kematian itu bagaimanapun dilaksanakan dengan jayanya.

Berkongsi cabaran itu, Samsul Kahar berkata, dia dan lima lagi ahli pasukannya yang dipilih sendiri Nushirwan mengakui perasaan bercampur baur antara bimbang dan tanggungjawab kepada negara kerana tidak mengetahui secara jelas situasi sebenar di Wuhan.

Menurutnya, di sebalik kebingungan itu, pasukan peninjau tetap bersemangat

untuk menggalas tanggungjawab demi keselamatan rakyat Malaysia yang berada di Wuhan dan China secara keseluruhannya.

"Kami anggap mereka (rakyat Malaysia) seperti saudara sendiri walaupun wujud kebingungan dalam diri untuk berdepan dengan 'musuh' yang tidak dapat dilihat dengan mata kasar.

"Walaupun kepenatan dan masa tidur terhad, pasukan peninjau memiliki ketahanan mental yang tinggi kerana dalam tempoh singkat keputusan segera perlu dibuat untuk menjayakan misi," katanya

kepada Metro Ahad.

Bercerita lanjut, Samsul Kahar berkata, misi menyelamat itu bermula jam 10.30 pagi, 1 Februari lalu dengan menaiki tiga kenderaan pelbagai guna (MPV) dari Beijing ke Wuhan.

"Kami terpaksa tempuh perjalanan sejauh 1,200 kilometer dan mengambil masa selama 17 jam untuk tiba di Wuhan. Mod pengangkutan darat saja yang dibenarkan di wilayah Hubei termasuk Wuhan.

"Untuk sampai ke Wuhan, lima seketan jalan raya dan pemeriksaan sekuriti ketat perlu dilepasi. Cuaca pula

Oleh Ekhwan Haque  
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### Kuala Lumpur

Lima seketan jalan raya dan 17 jam perjalanan darat terpaksa ditempuh pasukan peninjau dari Beijing ke Wuhan dalam misi mengumpul dan menyelamatkan rakyat Malaysia yang terperangkap di bandar yang bermulanya penularan wabak koronavirus baharu.

Bukan itu saja, pasukan itu hanya mempunyai masa terhad untuk membuka sekretariat, mengagihkan bekalan makanan, mendapatkan pelepasan penerbangan pesawat, menguruskan pasport dan memastikan semua rakyat Malaysia yang berada di Wuhan mendapat akses perjalanan di jalan raya daripada pihak berkuasa rentetan perintah berkurung dikeluarkan kerajaan China.

Enam ahli pasukan peninjau layak digelar wira itu terdiri daripada Menteri Penasihat Kedutaan yang juga Ketua Delegasi Samsul Kahar Kamarudin dibantu Nik Mazaid Nik Man (Jabatan Kastam Diraja Malaysia), Ibrahim Jack (Jabatan Imigresen Malaysia), Nur Zaitie Suhana Zakaria (Setiausaha Pertama), Jason Choy Min Sheng (Setiausaha Pertama Pendidikan) dan Mohd Syahmi Md Yusoff (Polis Diraja Malaysia).

Kecekapan dan komitmen jitu keenam-enam ahli pasukan peninjau yang dipilih sendiri Duta Besar Malaysia ke China Raja Datuk Nushirwan Zainal



AKHBAR : METRO AHAD

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : LOKAL

## Pas khas pelancong China terkandas

**Petaling Jaya:** Pelancong warga China yang mempunyai masalah kesihatan atau gagal mendapatkan penerbangan keluar dari negara ini akan diberikan pas khas selepas mendapat perakuan daripada Kedutaan China.

Ketua Pengarah Jabatan Imigresen Malaysia (JIM), Datuk Khairul Dzaimie Daud berkata, tindakan sekatan perjalanan dikenakan terhadap pelancong dari Hubei termasuk Wuhan, China ekoran penularan koronavirus baharu.

"Bagi pelancong yang berada dalam negara, visa mereka tidak akan dilanjutkan kecuali mempunyai masalah kesihatan atau gagal mendapat penerbangan keluar.

"Mereka (pelancong) mesti datang ke pejabat JIM bersama tiket penerbangan keluar dan mendapat perakuan daripada Kedutaan China untuk memohon pas khas berkenaan," katanya pada sidang media selepas mengetuai operasi di sebuah pangsupuri di Ara Da-

mansara, di sini, semalam. Beliau berkata, ia berkuat kuasa sejak 27 Januari lalu.

"Mereka yang menerima pas khas akan diberi tempoh dua minggu atau 30 hari mengikut tarikh penerbangan keluar," katanya.

Terdahulu, Harian Metro melaporkan sekatan perjalanan ke Malaysia dikenakan ke atas pelawat China dari Hubei termasuk Wuhan akan diperluaskan meliputi wilayah lain selepas dikenakan sekatan pergerakan keluar masuk lockdown oleh kerajaan China.

Timbalan Perdana Menteri Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail dalam satu kenyataan memaklumkan langkah itu diputuskan selepas mengambil kira status semasa berhubung wabak koronavirus baharu.

Beliau juga Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Penguurusan Bencana Negara memaklumkan JIM akan mengambil tindakan sekatan perjalanan sebaik sahaja kerajaan China mengisytiharkan lockdown di sesebuah wilayah.



SEORANG jururawat dalam sut perlindungan menyuap pesakit koronavirus baharu di wad isolasi di Hospital Zhongnan, University Wuhan, semalam.

# MALAYSIA CATAT MANGSA KE-16

Seorang lagi pelancong China disahkan positif koronavirus baharu



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Putrajaya

**P**ertambahan satu kes positif terbaru, semalam menjadikan jumlah pesakit koronavirus baharu sebanyak 16 kes membabitkan empat rakyat Malaysia dan 12 warganegara China.

Timbalan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail berkata, kes terbaru itu membabitkan seorang pelancong China berumur 67 tahun

iaitu ibu kepada kawan kes warganegara China yang dilaporkan positif pada 6 Februari 2020 (kes positif ke-14).

"Mengambil kira kes terbaru ini adalah kontak rapat kepada kes terabit, beliau diarahkan tidak ke mana-mana bagi menjalani perintah pengawasan dan pemantauan.

"Ujian pengesanan dan pengesanan koronavirus baharu dibuat dan dilaporkan positif pada 7 Februari 2020.

"Beliau kini dimasukkan ke wad isolasi di Hospital Kuala Lumpur dan berada dalam keadaan stabil," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian dalam sidang media Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) mengenai situasi terkini jangkitan koronavirus baharu dan pengesanan kes baharu di Malaysia di sini, semalam. Hadir sama, Menteri Ke-

sihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad.

Dr Wan Azizah berkata, satu kes iaitu kes ke-6, didiscaj dari Hospital Langkawi pada 4 Februari lalu selepas dua ujian ulangan pengesanan jangkitan koronavirus baharu adalah negatif.

Beliau berkata, satu kes iaitu kes ke-4 menunggu keputusan ujian ulangan ketiga apabila ujian pertama dan kedua negatif.

Menurutnya, kes berkenaan menerima rawatan menggunakan ubat antiretro-

viral iaitu ubat digunakan untuk merawat pesakit yang dijangkiti oleh *human immunodeficiency virus* (HIV).

"Selain itu, enam kes iaitu kes pertama, ke-3, ke-5, ke-7, ke-8 dan ke-10 menjalani ujian ulangan pertama pengesanan jangkitan koronavirus baharu didapati negatif," katanya.

Beliau kini dimasukkan ke wad isolasi di Hospital Kuala Lumpur  
Dr Wan Azizah



## Perluas perintah larangan sementara

**Kota Kinabalu:** Sabah memperluaskan lagi perintah larangan sementara untuk sekatan perjalanan pelancong ke negeri itu susulan penularan wabak koronavirus baharu.

Menteri Pelancongan, Kebudayaan dan Alam Sekitar Sabah, Datuk Christina Liew berkata, langkah diambil selepas dipersetujui Kabinet negeri sebagai menunjukkan pendirian Sabah dalam menangani penularan wabak.

Antaranya, warga asing dan rakyat Malaysia yang bukan berasal dari Sabah dan mempunyai rekod perjalanan ke China dalam tempoh 14 hari tidak dibenarkan memasuki negeri itu.

## Pesakit ke-4 pulih sepenuhnya

**Kuala Lumpur:** Pesakit keempat yang dijangkiti koronavirus baharu yang sebelum ini tenat sembuh selepas dirawat dengan ubat antiviral kalestra (off-label use).

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, pesakit itu dimasukkan ke ke Hospital Permai, Johor Bahru pada 24 Januari lalu selepas mengalami gejala demam panas dan radang paru-paru pneumonia.

Menurutnya, keadaan pesakit itu bertambah tenat pada hari kedua di wad isolasi hingga memerlukan bantuan oksigen.

"Kajian sinar X dada pada hari keempat menunjukkan tanda jangkitan bertambah tenat.

"Pihak hospital memulakan rawatan dengan ubat antiviral kalestra (off-label use) pada 28 Januari 2020 di mana selepas lapan hari rawatan, keadaan pesakit bertambah baik dan sembuh sepenuhnya," katanya dalam kenyataan, semalam.

RINGKAS



AKHBAR : METRO AHAD

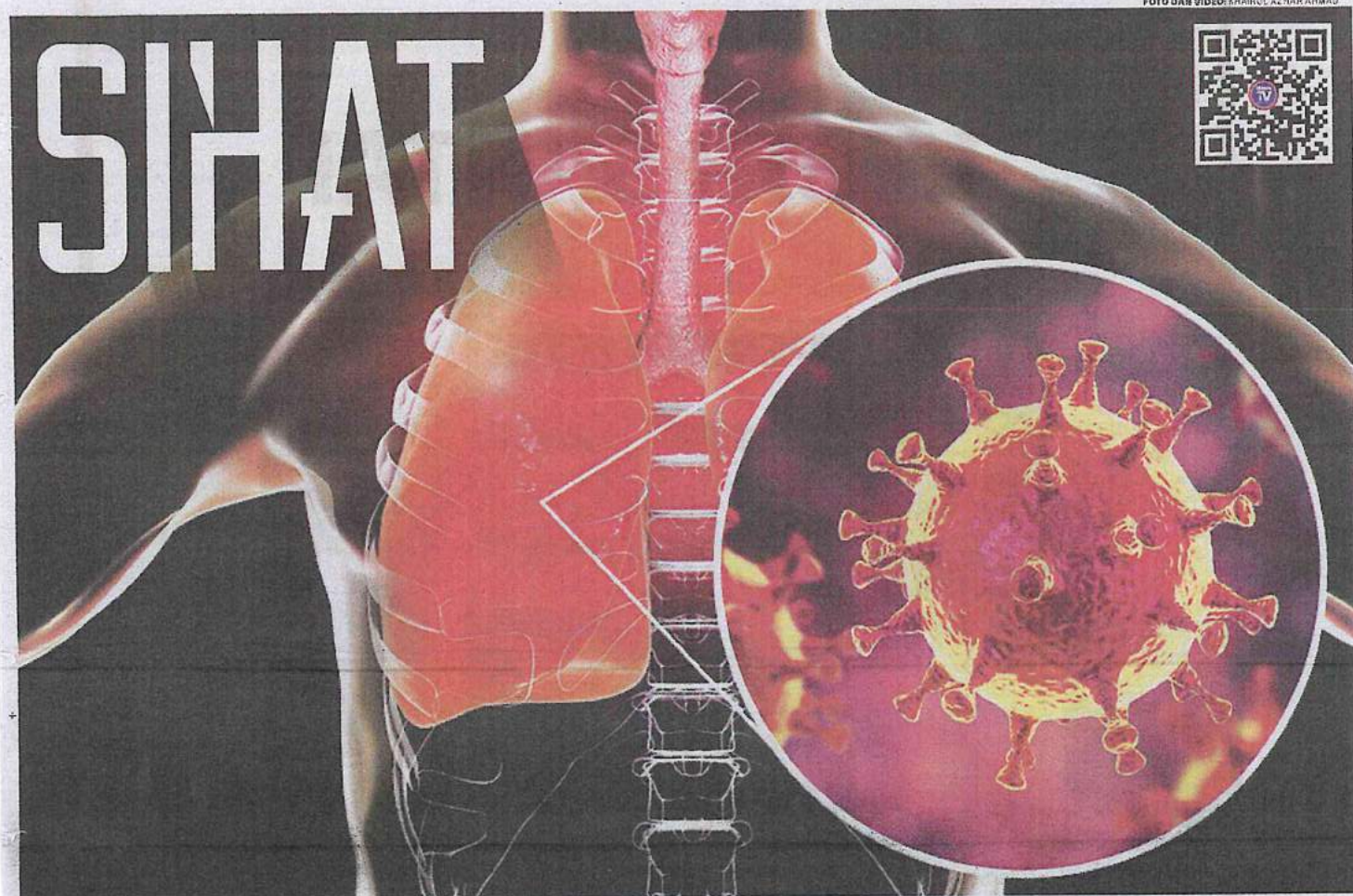
MUKA SURAT : 36

RUANGAN : SIHAT

36 | SIHAT

METRO AHAD  
9 FEBRUARI 2020

FOTO DAN VIDEO: KHAIRUL AZHAR AHMAD



# SASAR PARU-PARU UNTUK MEMBIAK

Virus koronavirus baharu memerlukan sel pada organ manusia untuk bergiat aktif

Oleh Nor 'Asyikin Mat Hayin  
asyikin.mat@hmetro.com.my

Wabak koronavirus baharu diklasifikasikan sebagai sangat patogenik (boleh menyebabkan kesan teruk) kerana komplikasinya bukan sekadar demam selesema biasa, tetapi mampu menyebabkan radang paru-paru yang boleh mengakibatkan kematian.

Ini kerana, berdasarkan penemuan sehingga kini, mutasi pada virus baharu itu menyasarkan sel organ paru-paru sebagai tempat membiak dan secara tidak langsung membunuh sel dalam organ berkenaan.

Apabila sel paru-paru cedera dan mati (gagal berfungsi), ia menyebabkan paru-paru secara keseluruhan tidak dapat menjalankan fungsi asasnya

iaitu membekalkan oksigen ke badan manusia.

Ini mengakibatkan komplikasi lebih teruk sehingga boleh menyebabkan kematian.

Pakar Perunding Perubatan Dalaman dan Penyakit Berjangkit, Dr Muhamad Yazli Yuhana berkata, kod genetik koronavirus baharu ini hampir sama dengan kod Sindrom Pernafasan Akut Teruk (SARS) korona virus pada 2002.

"Pesakit yang dijangkiti SARS turut mengalami gejala sama iaitu demam berpanjangan dan keradangan paru-paru yang menyebabkan kesukaran bernafas.

"Pesakit memerlukan mesin bantuan pernafasan kerana paru-parunya tidak mampu berfungsi secara optimum untuk membekalkan oksigen ke



MESIN pengimbas suhu badan untuk mengenal pasti individu mempunyai simptom wabak koronavirus baharu.



AKHBAR : METRO AHAD

MUKA SURAT : 37

RUANGAN : SIHAT

O AHAD

10 FEBRUARI 2020

SIHAT | 37

ruah badan," katanya. Dr Muhamad Yazli berkata, hingga kini, wabak itu dipercayai menjangkiti individu lain menerusi air liur dan mulut ketika bersin (batuk yang dilepaskan) atau di sekelilingnya iaitu dalam jarak kurang dua meter. Melalui pengalaman dengan wabak SARS-CoV dan MERS-CoV sebelum ini, Dr Muhamad Yazli menjangkakan wabak coronavirus baharu turut memberi risiko lebih tinggi kepada petugas barisan depan dan pegawai perubatan, terutamanya rawat juga ahli keluarga yang sentiasa mendampingi pesakit untuk menjaga pesakit di rumah.

"Rakyat Malaysia dan negara lain yang tidak terpapar di Wuhan atau mana-mana bahagian di mana tidak perlu gusar serta risik." katanya.

"Ini kerana risiko mereka untuk mendapat jangkitan ini adalah rendah melainkan jika mereka mengunjungi negara berisiko atau berada berdekatan pesakit yang membawa virus ini," katanya.

Menurut Dr Muhamad Yazli, tidak dinafikan bahawa masyarakat yang gelintir masyarakat mungkin membangkitkan kemungkinan jangkitan wabak ini melalui perjalanan diimport dari China.

"Tidak perlu bimbang kerana tiada bukti menunjukkan wabak ini menjangkiti manusia melalui perjalanan dan Pertubuhan Kesihatan Dunia (WHO) turut memberikan jaminan berkara itu.

"Virus koronavirus baharu ini memerlukan sel pada organ manusia seperti paru-paru untuk terus hidup dan menjadi aktif.

"Virus ini tidak mampu berada lama pada suhu bilik dan sejuk, contoh etika pengangkutan dalam pesawat terbang," katanya.

Menurut Dr Muhamad Yazli, koronavirus seperti influenza dan virus pernafasan lain yang sudah lama wujud, tetapi hanya menyebabkan penyakit biasa iaitu demam dan selesema biasa.

Katanya, virus korona ini mula mendapat perhatian masyarakat dunia apabila SARS koronavirus melanda selatan China pada 2002.

"Sebelum ini, penyakit koronavirus lebih kerap menjangkiti haiwan dan sebab itu tidak banyak kajian ke atas virus berkenaan dibuat kerana kurangnya jangkitan serius pada manusia.

"Namun, apabila SARS muncul pada 2002, saintis menemui mutasi unik pada virus koronavirus ini yang mengakibatkan penyakit membawa maut pada manusia," katanya.

Dr Muhamad Yazli



berkata, ketika penularan SARS, kerajaan China mengambil langkah mengawal penularan pada haiwan pembawa virus ini dan ia mengesahkan penularannya sehingga hari ini.

Menurut Dr Muhamad Yazli, pada 2012, muncul pula wabak MERS-CoV iaitu sejenis virus korona yang bermutasi yang turut mampu menyebabkan kematian.

Insiden itu mendorong lebih ramai saintis membuat kajian mengenai virus

## INFO

### KORONAVIRUS BAHARU

- Keluarga virus yang menyebabkan pelbagai penyakit daripada selesema hingga penyakit lebih teruk seperti SARS dan MERS-CoV
- Merujuk spesies baharu yang belum ditemui manusia.

### PENCEGAHAN

- Kerap cuci tangan
- Menutup mulut dan hidung ketika batuk juga bersin.
- Masak daging dan telur dengan sempurna.
- Elak bersentuhan dengan individu yang mempunyai gejala

### CARA JANGKITAN

- Air tisisan mulut ketika bersin dan batuk pada jarak jangkitan kurang dua meter.

### GOLONGAN PALING BERISIKO

- Petugas perubatan iaitu pegawai perubatan dan jururawat.
- Ahli keluarga tinggal serumah dengan pesakit.

### SIMPtom

- Demam berpanjangan.
- Sesak nafas.
- Radang paru-paru.

### RAWATAN

- Rawatan sokongan.
- Mesin bantuan pernafasan - pesakit mengalami kesukaran pernafasan.
- Memasukkan air dalam badan pesakit - pesakit kekurangan air.
- Belum ada ubat khas merawat jangkitan ini (namun kajian sedang rancang dijalankan)



ORANG ramai memakai penutup mulut dan hidung di tempat awam.

terbahit

"Sehingga kini, MERS-CoV masih wujud walaupun tidak banyak kes berlaku disebabkan ada jangkitan daripada unta dan kelawar di negara Asia Barat.

"Sukar hendak bunuh semua haiwan ini. Bagaimanapun, pada penghujung tahun lalu, satu lagi virus daripada keluarga koronavirus muncul iaitu koronavirus baharu yang menjadi ancaman baharu terhadap kesihatan manusia," katanya.

Jelasnya, berdasarkan pemerhatian hingga hari ini, kadar kematian yang dilaporkan tidak setinggi wabak SARS dan MERS-CoV sebelum ini.

"Ini kerana, setakat ini (minggu lalu), hanya 400 atau 0.02 peratus pesakit daripada keseluruhan kes wabak itu meninggal dunia.

"Berdasarkan perspektif saya, terlalu awal mengatakan pesakit meninggal dunia kerana koronavirus baharu, tetapi mungkin kekurangan mesin bantuan pernafasan di hospital menyebabkan mereka meninggal dunia," katanya.

Dr Muhamad Yazli berkata, walaupun trend kematian wabak koronavirus baharu adalah rendah dan tidak seteruk SARS serta MERS-CoV, tetapi trend berjangkit lebih tinggi daripada dua penyakit ini.

Pesakit yang dijangkiti SARS turut mengalami gejala sama iaitu demam berpanjangan dan keradangan paru-paru yang menyebabkan kesukaran bernafas. Pesakit memerlukan mesin bantuan pernafasan kerana paru-parunya tidak mampu berfungsi secara optimum untuk membekalkan oksigen ke seluruh badan

**DR MUHAMAD YAZLI**



AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 8

RUANGAN : ANCAMAN KORONAVIRUS DI CHINA

8

ANCAMAN KORONAVIRUS DI CHINA

Laporan RAIHAM MOHD SANUSI, NOR HANAFARIZA HARUN dan AHMAD ISMADI ISMAIL

# Seorang lagi pelancong China positif koronavirus

Jumlah mangsa yang positif virus itu di Malaysia meningkat kepada 16 kes

PUTRAJAYA

**S**eorang lagi pelancong China disahkan positif koronavirus menjadikan jumlah mangsa yang positif virus itu di negara ini meningkat kepada 16 kes semalam.

Timbalan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail berkata, wanita berusia 67 tahun itu merupakan ibu kepada rakan seorang warga China yang disahkan positif pada 6 Februari lalu (kes positif ke-14).

"Dia disahkan positif wabak itu semalam (6 Februari) selepas menjalani ujian pengesanan dan pengesahan koronavirus."

"Warga emas itu dimasukkan di wad isolasi di Hospital Kuala Lumpur dan berada dalam keadaan stabil," katanya pada sidang media di sini semalam.

Dr Wan Azizah berkata, pertambahan kes baharu itu menjadikan jumlah pelancong China dijangkiti koronavirus bertambah kepada 12 kes, manakala empat lagi kes melibatkan rakyat tempatan.



Wan Azzah (tengah) pada sidang media di Putrajaya semalam.

Mengulas lanjut, beliau berkata, satu kes iaitu kes keenam telah didiscaj dari Hospital Langkawi pada 4 Februari lalu setelah dua ujian ulangan pengesanan jangkitan koronavirus yang dilakukan adalah negatif.

"Kes keempat pula sedang menunggu keputusan ujian ulangan ketiga di mana ujian pertama dan kedua adalah negatif. Kes ini telah menerima rawatan dengan menggunakan ubat antiretroviral."

"Ubat antiretroviral merupakan ubat yang digunakan untuk merawat pesakit yang dijangkiti *human immunodeficiency virus* (HIV)," katanya.

Menurutnya, kes keempat itu mempu-

nyai jangkitan radang paru-paru dan pihak hospital telah memulakan rawatan ubat antiretroviral ke atasnya dan pesakit didapati memberi respons yang baik kepada ubat itu.

Katanya, mangsa akan dibenarkan pulang selepas keputusan ujian ulangan ketiga diperoleh dalam masa terdekat.

"Bagi empat warga Malaysia yang dikesan positif jangkitan koronavirus ini, ujian ulangan akan dilakukan dalam tempoh terdekat."

"Kesemua 15 pesakit ini masih dalam rawatan dan pemantauan oleh Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) dan berada dalam keadaan stabil," katanya.

Pas khas untuk pelancong China terkandas

**PETALING JAYA** - Pelancong warga China yang mempunyai masalah kesihatan atau gagal mendapatkan penerbangan keluar dari negara ini akan diberikan pas khas selepas mendapat perakuan daripada Kedutaan Besar China.

Ketua Pengarah Jabatan Imigresen Malaysia (Imigresen), Datuk Khairul Dzamee Daud berkata, ia susulan tindakan sekatan perjalanan yang dikenakan terhadap pelancong dari Wilayah Hubei termasuk Wuhan, China ekoran penularan wabak koronavirus.

"Visa mereka tidak akan dilanjutkan kecuali mempunyai masalah kesihatan atau gagal mendapat penerbangan keluar."

"Mereka (pelancong) mesti datang ke pejabat imigresen dengan membawa tiket penerbangan keluar dan mendapat perakuan daripada Kedutaan China untuk memohon pas khas berkenaan," katanya pada di sini semalam.

Beliau berkata, peraturan itu mula berkuat kuasa sejak 27 Januari lalu.

"Mereka yang menerima pas khas akan diberi tempoh selama dua minggu atau 30 hari mengikut tarikh penerbangan keluar," katanya.

## Bank Rakyat tawar penanguhan sementara pembiayaan pelanggan

**KUALA LUMPUR** - Bank Rakyat mengambil inisiatif untuk membantu pelanggan yang menghadapi isu kewangan akibat wabak novel koronavirus dengan menawarkan penanguhan sementara terhadap pembiayaan mereka.

Ketua Pegawai Eksekutifnya, Datuk Rosman Mohamed berkata, pelanggan perlu tampil mendapatkan bantuan di mana-mana cawangan Bank Rakyat untuk menangani masalah kewangan yang dihadapi bagi memastikan kelangsungan perniagaan mereka.

"Kami menyedari bahawa sesetengah pelanggan terutamanya mereka yang berada dalam industri keusahawanan dan koperasi mungkin terjejas disebabkan oleh jenis perniagaan yang memerlukan mereka untuk pergi ke negara dianggap berisiko tinggi disebabkan oleh penularan wabak koronavirus."

"Sehubungan itu, kami berharap inisiatif ini dapat membantu mengurangkan kesan kewangan akibat pe-

nularan wabak tersebut," katanya dalam satu kenyataan semalam.

Beliau berkata, inisiatif itu juga merupakan sebahagian usaha Bank Rakyat untuk memastikan kelestarian terhadap pembiayaan pelanggan dengan menguruskannya secara berkesan, sejajar status institusi kewangan itu sebagai agensi di bawah Kementerian Pembangunan Usahawan dan Koperasi (MEDAC).

"Kami menghargai hubungan jangka panjang dengan para pelanggan kami dan sentiasa berkerjasama rapat dengan mereka untuk menyokong keperluan kewangan mereka dalam pelbagai situasi yang berbeza."

"Ini merupakan waktu yang mencabar bagi komuniti dan ekonomi global. Kami sentiasa memikirkan mereka yang terjejas akibat penularan koronavirus ini," katanya.

Untuk sebarang maklumat atau bantuan, pelanggan boleh menghubungi Pusat Panggilan tele-Rakyat di talian 1-300-80-5454 atau mengunjungi cawangan berdekatan.

## Amal 'salam cara Malaysia' elak jangkitan

FOTO: BERNAMA

**IPOH** - Orang ramai disaran mengelakkan bersalaman secara sentuhan dan sebaliknya mengamalkan 'salam cara Malaysia' iaitu meletakkan tangan di dada sebagai langkah pencegahan bagi mengurangkan penularan koronavirus.

Timbalan Menteri Kesihatan, Dr Lee Boon Chye berkata, cara berkenaan perlu diberi perhatian berikutan virus itu boleh berjangkit melalui sentuhan.

"Apabila berada berhadapan pesakit yang batuk, dalam jarak 0.9 meter kemungkinan cecair itu boleh membawa jangkitan dan kuman."

"Virus pada cecair batuk yang terkena pada permukaan seperti meja, lif dan sebagainya boleh bertahan dalam tempoh beberapa jam dan ada kemungkinan orang lain akan mendapat jangkitan penyakit apabila tersentuh kawasan itu," katanya ketika ditemui pada sambutan Thaipusam di Kuil Sri Subramaniam di Gunung Cheroh di sini semalam.

Sementara itu, katanya, kerajaan tidak bercadang untuk menghalang rakyat negara ini untuk mengunjungi Singapura



Dr Boon Chye (tengah) bergambar bersama Menteri Sumber Manusia, M Kula Segaran (tiga dari kiri) ketika menghadiri sambutan Thaipusam di Ipoh semalam.

buat masa kini kerana pihaknya percaya negara jiran tersebut mampu mengawal kluster jangkitan koronavirus.

"Kita harap kluster jangkitan itu boleh dikawal. Sekiranya jangkitan yang terdapat di Singapura tidak dapat dikawal, ini bermakna risiko jangkitan dalam komuniti di Malaysia adalah tinggi," katanya.

Kelmarin, Kementerian Kesihatan Singapura mengesahkan tiga lagi kes positif jangkitan koronavirus di republik itu menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan kepada 33 kes. - *Bernama*



AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION

NewSundayTimes . FEBRUARY 9, 2020 •

4 | NEWS / Nation

67-YEAR-OLD WOMAN

# MALAYSIA CONFIRMS 16TH VIRUS CASE

Chinese national had close contact with a reported case, says Dr Wan Azizah

ESTHER LANDAU  
AND ZAHRATULHAYAT MAT ARIFF  
PUTRAJAYA  
news@nst.com.my

**M**ALAYSIA yesterday recorded its 16th case of the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) involving a woman, 67, from China.

The tourist is the mother of a friend of the 14th coronavirus victim.

Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail yesterday said the woman tested positive for the virus on Friday.

"Considering that the latest case involved a close contact of a reported case, this patient has to be placed under the Surveillance and Monitoring Order.

"The woman is the mother of a friend of the country's 14th case, which was reported on Thursday.

"She is in an isolation ward at Kuala Lumpur Hospital.

"The 16 cases of the 2019-nCoV comprise 12 Chinese nationals and four Malaysians," she said at

the Health Ministry here.

Dr Wan Azizah, who is National Disaster Management Agency chairman, updated the media on the status of patients, including their treatment.

She said one of them, a man, 40, from China, suffered from pneumonia and underwent antiretroviral treatment.

"The antiretroviral drug administered on him is meant to treat patients with the human immunodeficiency virus."

Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said the man was discharged from Permai Hospital in Johor Baru at 7:15pm on Friday after his repeat tests came out negative for the coronavirus.

"He was infected with the virus and warded on Jan 24 with high fever and pneumonia.

"His condition worsened on the second day. He required oxygen assistance.

"A chest X-ray conducted on the fourth day showed his infection had worsened.

"The hospital began treatment with Kaletra (off-label use) on Jan 28.

"After eight days of treatment, his condition improved and he recovered," said Dr Noor Hisham, who congratulated the team led by infectious disease specialist Dr Masitza Zaid.

Dr Wan Azizah said the government would discuss with Singapore following the republic's

decision to up its disease outbreak response alert level to "orange" after 33 people were confirmed to have contracted the coronavirus.

An orange alert is the second highest level in the republic's response system to outbreaks.

It means a disease can be easily transmitted and is severe although it is contained.

Dr Wan Azizah reminded the public not to cause panic after a man, 41, became the first Malaysian to have contracted the coronavirus on Tuesday.

The man attended a meeting in Singapore from Jan 16 to 22.

The meeting involved international participants, including delegates from China.

She said the Health Ministry had tracked down 69 individuals who had close contact with the man.

She said they tested negative for the virus.

She said there were 336 patients under investigation for coronavirus in Malaysia and they comprised 213 Malaysians, 115 Chinese nationals and one each from Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Indonesia, Jordan, Canada, South Korea and Thailand.

She said the tourism industry, especially hotels and homestays, were badly affected by the outbreak.

"There have been losses in (tourism sector) businesses as there is a drop in the number



of tourists visiting Malaysia due to the outbreak and the temporary travel ban on Chinese nationals.

"The number of domestic tourists is expected to drop."

In Ipoh, Deputy Health Minister Dr Lee Boon Chye urged the public to practise the hand-over-heart gesture instead of shaking hands when meeting people in to prevent the spread of the virus.

"We can practise 'Salam Cara Malaysia' (hand over heart) instead of handshake to avoid the spread of the virus.

"I believe we should look into this matter and start practising it," he said after a Thai Pusam event at the Sri Subramaniam Temple here.

He said the virus was not airborne, but it could spread through droplets or contact with an infected person.



AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES  
 MUKA SURAT : 5  
 RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION



Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail speaking at the Health Ministry in Putrajaya yesterday. With her are (from left) Communications and Multimedia Minister Gobind Singh Deo and Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad. PIC BY AHMAD IRHAM MOHD NOOR

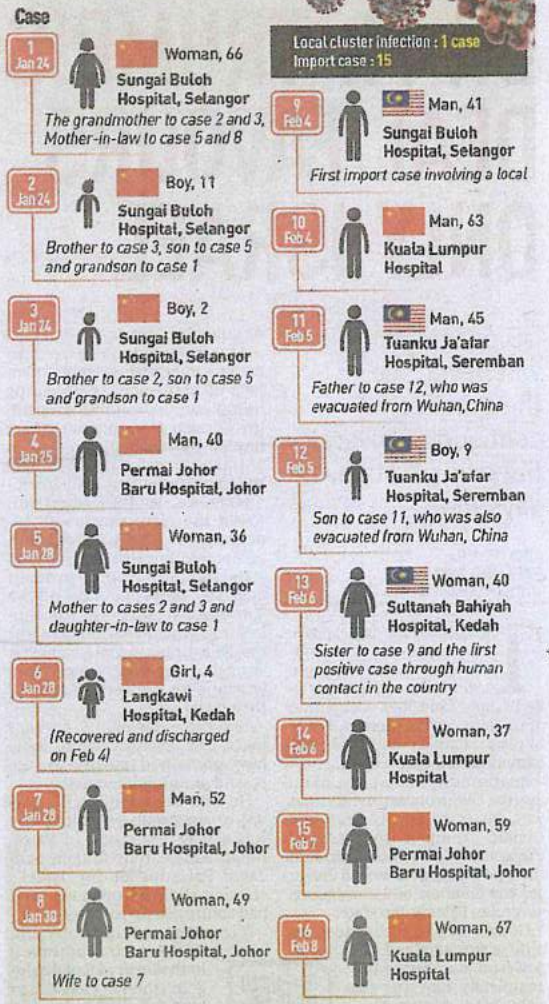


People wearing masks in Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman, Kuala Lumpur, yesterday. PIC BY SUPIAN AHMAD

FEBRUARY 9, 2020 • NewSundayTimes

Nation / NEWS | 5

POSITIVE CASES OF NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (2019-nCoV) IN MALAYSIA



Source: Health Ministry Corporate Communications Unit

INFOGRAPHIC NST

Special pass for stranded Chinese tourists

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Tourists from China unable to return home due to flight cancellations over the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak will be issued with a special pass to extend their stay in Malaysia, Immigration director-general Datuk Khairul Dzaimie Daud said yesterday.

The pass, which will also be issued to Chinese nationals experiencing health issues not related to the 2019-nCoV, would be distributed after receiving validation from the Chinese embassy in

Malaysia, he added.

"Visas for Chinese tourists in the country will not be extended, except for those with health issues or those who have failed to get on flights out of the country."

"Effective Jan 27, (tourists) are required to go to the Immigration office with their flight tickets and validation from the Chinese embassy to apply for the special pass."

He said the special pass allowed for a 14- or 30-day stay in Malaysia, based on departure flight dates.



AKHBAR : SUNDAY STAR

MUKA SURAT : 2

RUANGAN : NATION

## 2 Nation

SUNDAY STAR, SUNDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2020

Reports by MANJIT KAUR, MOHD FARHAAN SHAH, ZAKIAH KOYA, JUSTIN ZACK, YUEN MEI KENG, CHRISTINA CHIN, BEH YUEN HUI, OH ING YEEN and DIYANA PFORDTEN



Safe gesture: (From third left) Dr Lee, Human Resources Minister M. Kulasegaran and other politicians from DAP and PKR showing the 'Salam Malaysia' greeting. — MANJIT KAUR/The Star

## Ways to greet each other without shaking hands

**PETALING JAYA:** Why stop at "Salam Malaysia" when there are also other ways to greet each other?

This was the general consensus in response to Deputy Health Minister Dr Lee Boon Chye's call to practise the "Salam Malaysia" gesture instead of shaking hands amid the coronavirus outbreak.

Facebook and Twitter posts from *The Star* showed many Malaysians agreed with Dr Lee, calling it a necessary measure at this point in time.

"It is for the greater good of everyone," said Facebook user Reza Salim.

Some Malaysians even pointed out that there were many other ways to greet each other.

"Just greet by Anjali!" said Facebook user Charlie Chew.

Anjali Mudra is a customary Hindu greeting widely used both for greeting and leave-taking.

It is usually gestured with a slight bow and hands pressed together, palms touching and fingers pointing upwards, thumbs close to the chest.

User Kavee Karina Ram added: "Yes, that's why Indians practices Anjali Mudra! One of the reasons is to prevent cross infections."

Aside from that, some users even inheriting cultures from our Asian counterparts.

"We can bow, like the Japanese do," Twitter user @wylam2020 said.

# 'Salam Malaysia' is the way

Lee: Option will avoid the need of having to touch one another

**IPOH:** Malaysians should opt for the "Salam Malaysia" greeting instead of shaking hands in view of the coronavirus outbreak, says Deputy Health Minister Dr Lee Boon Chye.

This would avoid the need of having to touch one another and hence, reduce the possibility of contracting the virus, he said.

"However, what's more important is for the people to practise washing their hands properly with soap. And if they are unable to do so at all times, it is important to use hand sanitizers.

"So for the time being, I want to tell people to try not to shake hands but use the 'Salam Malaysia' greeting (which involves the gesture of placing a hand on the chest)," he said.

"Salam Malaysia" was a form of national greeting in welcoming tourists suggested by then Culture, Arts and Tourism Minister Datuk Abdul Kadir Sheikh Fadzir back in 1999.

He said that Malaysians should adopt the right hand-over-heart gesture as a way to greet visitors.

According to him, the Japanese would greet one another by bowing while the Thais would do the *wai* (by placing both palms together)

“But if an infected person coughs or sneezes within three feet of another person, there is the possibility of the droplets transmitting the virus.”

Dr Lim Boon Chye

but Malaysia had no "standard greeting".

He also said that "Salam Malaysia" might be more appropriate than shaking hands as some cultures considered it unsuitable for a woman to touch a man's hand.)

Speaking to reporters yesterday during a walkabout for Thaipusam celebrations leading to the Sri Subramaniam Temple in Gunung Cheroh here, Dr Lee said since human-to-human transmission had been reported in the country, it was important for the people to

cooperate and ensure good hygiene practices.

"This is not an airborne infection, so if a person with the virus does not cough or sneeze, it will not spread to others.

"But if an infected person coughs or sneezes within three feet of another person, there is the possibility of the droplets transmitting the virus.

"Also, droplets that are found on surfaces such as tables and lifts can survive for a few hours. So when a person touches the surface, then he can be infected if he uses that same hand to wipe his face," he added.

On Singapore recording several human-to-human transmissions, Dr Lee said they were relying on the Singapore government to control the infection cluster.

"We (Malaysian government) are hoping that the cluster can be controlled, and if Singapore is unable to do so, this will mean the risk of human-to-human transmission in Malaysia could possibly be high.

"At the ministry level, we must be ready if such a situation arises. But our hope is to be able to contain the virus from spreading, unlike what is happening in China," he added.

## Mahathir's allergy acts up

**PETALING JAYA:** Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, who appeared to have a runny nose, was quickly whisked away by his security detail after his attendance at an event here.

The Prime Minister had to turn down the many offers of handshakes.

He waved at the people and was then escorted off by the security personnel after opening the annual conference of the League of Parliamentarians For Al-Quds yesterday.

Earlier, he was seen constantly using a handkerchief during a press conference.

"That is his allergy acting up. It has always been there," said a security escort.

He dispelled the notion that the security personnel had stopped well-wishers from shaking hands with the Prime Minister in view of the coronavirus situation.

"We were rushing as he had another appointment," he said.



AKHBAR : SUNDAY STAR

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : NATION

SUNDAY STAR, SUNDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2020

Nation 3

## Developer desperate to return from Wuhan

BEIJING: Real estate developer Datuk Richard Ang was emotionally shaken after he failed to get on the flight carrying Malaysians home from Wuhan.

"I felt abandoned, I did not know what to do," said the 60-year-old Selangor resident.

He has been stuck in China since Shishou city, where he is located, was placed on a lockdown two days after the same order was given to Wuhan.

Both cities in Hubei province are about 300km apart.

Ang said he had entered China on Jan 12 to spend Chinese New Year at his Chinese wife's hometown, and planned to return to Malaysia on Jan 30.

Just as he was celebrating the lockdown order came at 6pm on the



first day of the festival.

"The more I stay, the more worries I have. I dare not go anywhere," he said, adding that the only reason for him to go out was to head to a supermarket less than 2km away to refill his food stock.

"I desperately need to get back to Malaysia for work," he said, adding his business had come to a halt as many things could not be done

without his signature.

Ang said he was overjoyed when a friend back home told him that there was a process to evacuate Malaysians from Wuhan and passed him the phone number of the Malaysian Embassy here.

However, the embassy was closed for the Spring Festival holiday so no one answered his calls.

He did not know then that the embassy and consulate-generals had set up coronavirus hotlines for Malaysians in need of help.

"My instinct was I need to get to Wuhan so I went to the local authorities to get my pass to leave the city on Feb 3 and luck was on my side then, as the Chinese officer gave me the contact of a Malaysian who had also applied for the same document," he added.

Ang said the Malaysian, whom he does not know until today, later added him into a WeChat group where those to be repatriated from Wuhan would liaise with the embassy officials.

But it was too late.

The plane was scheduled to leave in a few hours and his name had not been submitted for approval to board the aircraft.

Ang said he hoped there would be another repatriation to end his ordeal.

On Feb 4, a flight carrying 107 Malaysians and their family members arrived safely in Kuala Lumpur.

Currently, some 60 Malaysian citizens, their spouses and children are still stranded in Hubei, the worst-hit province in the outbreak.

## Editor's pick

Effective learning by alleviating hunger  
> StarEdu pages 6&7



## Special pass for Chinese tourists

Visitors will need to be validated by the Chinese Embassy, says DG

KUALA LUMPUR: Chinese tourists in Malaysia with health issues or who have failed to get on flights out of the country will each be issued with a special pass, said Immigration director-general Datuk Khairul Dzaimée Daud today.

The special passes will only be issued after validation is received from the Chinese Embassy in Malaysia.

This follows the travel ban issued by the Malaysian government on Chinese visitors from Hubei province including Wuhan city where the 2019 novel coronavirus was first detected in December last year.

"The visas for all Chinese tourists who are still in the country will not be extended, except for those with health issues or those who have failed to get on flights out of the country.

"Effective Jan 27, they (tourists) are required to come to the immigration office with their departure flight tickets and validation received from the Chinese Embassy, to apply for the special pass," Khairul Dzaimée said at a press conference after an enforcement operation undertaken at an apartment block in Ara Damansara here.

He added that the special passes would be issued for a 14 or 30-day stay in Malaysia,

“The visas for all Chinese tourists who are still in the country will not be extended ...”

Datuk Khairul Dzaimée

based on respective departure flight dates.

In a previous statement, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail had said that the travel ban imposed on Chinese visitors from Hubei province including Wuhan city, would be extended to other provinces, following the lockdown on movement issued by the Chinese government on those areas.

Dr Wan Azizah, who is also National Disaster Management Committee chairman, said the measure had been decided upon because of the coronavirus infections.

She had also said that Malaysian immigration authorities would implement the travel ban as soon as the Chinese government declared a lockdown in a particular province.



Assuring words: Dr Wan Azizah (right) speaking to the media after her briefing at the Health Ministry. Looking on are (from left) Communication and Multimedia Minister Gobind Singh Deo and Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad. — Bernama

## DPM: Malaysia will not extend travel ban to whole of China

PUTRAJAYA: Malaysia will not extend its travel ban to the whole of China for now, said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail.

"The WHO (World Health Organization) has not given that guideline and we don't want to create panic.

"In Malaysia, the situation is still under control and we have to balance between our need to prevent the spread of infection and the economy of our country," she said at a briefing yesterday at the Health Ministry.

She also said that a Chinese national from Wuhan was the latest case here to be tested positive for novel coronavirus.

"The 67-year-old woman was confirmed to carry the virus on Feb 7. She is currently being warded at the Kuala Lumpur Hospital. "Her condition is stable. This makes it the

16th positive case, with four being Malaysians," she said.

She is the mother of a friend of the 14th patient.

Dr Wan Azizah also noted that the fourth patient – a 40-year-old Chinese national – was administered an antiviral Kaletra after he developed pneumonia and he had responded well to the treatment.

Three tests had been conducted on him which showed that he was cleared of the virus. He has been discharged yesterday.

Contact tracing on 69 people that had contact with the first Malaysian patient had all come back negative as well.

Watch the video  
thestartv.com





# Big plans for healthcare travel

A five-year blueprint will be unveiled in early April to make the country a top destination for healthcare travellers worldwide.

Stories by YUEN MEIKENG and CHRISTINA CHIN  
sunday@thestar.com.my

MALAYSIANS may be having fewer babies nowadays, but that hasn't stopped our country from becoming a top destination for foreigners seeking fertility treatments.

In fact, such treatments are a big draw in getting medical tourists to come to Malaysia to seek affordable and good quality services.

Statistics from the Malaysia Healthcare Travel Council (MHTC) show that clinical pregnancy is successful in one in two fertility patients in Malaysia.

With such high success rates, the MHTC plans to make Malaysia the fertility hub of Asia.

It also aims to promote two other popular types of treatment: cardiology and oncology services.

This year will be the first time Malaysia will be launching an international healthcare travel campaign, namely the Malaysia Year of Healthcare Travel 2020 to bring medical tourists here.

Anchored by the MHTC, the year-long campaign also coincides with the nation's tourism initiative, Visit Malaysia 2020.

While the recent novel coronavirus outbreak does pose a challenge, the MHTC is confident that Malaysia will persevere through it, with a strong healthcare system in place.

"We trust that with Malaysia's quality healthcare offerings and warm hospitality, we will continue to see an encouraging inflow of healthcare travellers," MHTC chief executive officer Sherene Azli tells *Sunday Star*.

Come April, a blueprint is expected to be unveiled, charting a five-year plan to make Malaysia a choice destination for medical tourists.

But for now, the council is working on the Malaysia Healthcare Industry Blueprint (2020-2025), which will strengthen public and private collaboration in medical tourism.

"The purpose of the blueprint is to provide a roadmap to enhance Malaysia's position in the region as a choice destination for healthcare



travellers," says Sherene. The blueprint aims to increase the revenue generated from healthcare travellers to a minimum of RM4.2bil by 2025 with a growth that is sustainable.

"This will translate into an impact of more than RM12bil on the economy in 2025," Sherene adds.

To reach out to more medical tourists, the MHTC is also working with the Health Ministry's Medical Advertising Board on how regulations on advertising and promotional activities can work in favour of getting more health travellers to come here.

In 2016, *Sunday Star* highlighted how our hospitals and healthcare facilities not only win awards and meet international standards, but they do so at rates cheap enough to have foreigners flocking here to use them.

Malaysians, however, are going overseas for medical and aesthetic procedures as many are unaware of the world-class healthcare treat-

ments available within our borders.

And now, medical tourists are being lured away by neighbouring countries where information and testimonials are easily available online.

Four years on, our doctors and hospitals are still bound by the same stifling regulations.

## High demand for services

Nevertheless, Malaysia receives high demand for key areas like fertility and cardiology services, and the MHTC aspires to make the country a centre for these treatments.

"There is high demand, especially from within our current focus countries like Indonesia, China, India, Vietnam and Myanmar," Sherene explains.

Fertility treatments here are popular thanks to our well-regulated healthcare system.

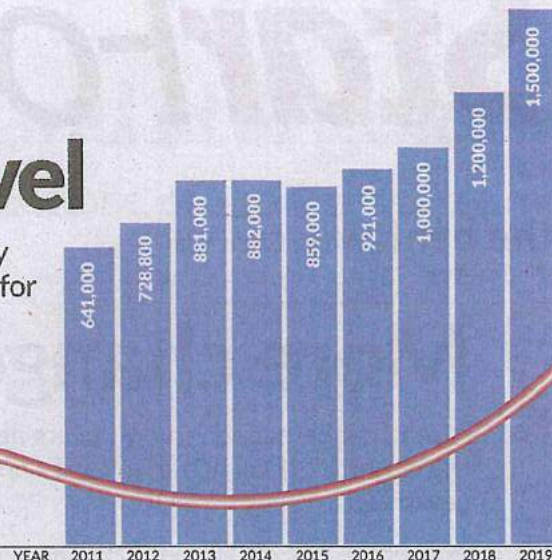
They are also affordable here, with each in vitro fertilisation cycle costing between US\$4,000 and US\$5,000 (RM16,500 and RM20,600).

"Malaysia is also reputable in cardiology treatments due to the collaborative efforts between the National Heart Association of Malaysia and the Health Ministry.

"The partnership resulted in development, research and maintenance of

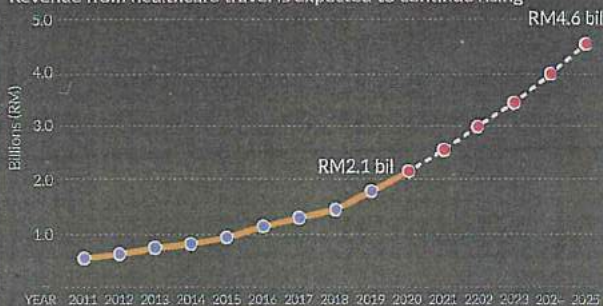
## Medical tourism in Malaysia

The number of foreign patients in Malaysia is on the rise



## Revenue projection towards 2025

Revenue from healthcare travel is expected to continue rising



Sources: Malaysia Healthcare Chronicles 2009-2019, Malaysia Healthcare Travel Council

quality in cardiology-related treatments and medical services," says Sherene.

She says MHTC will also be promoting Malaysia as a centre of excellence for oncology, or cancer, treatment.

Such services are highly sought after by medical tourists from China, Indonesia and Myanmar.

According to the Health Ministry's Pharmacy Services Division, a discussion was held on Sept 11 last year with the MHTC. Among the issues raised were promotional and advertising activities by private hospitals looking to attract foreign medical tourists.

"Currently, private hospitals are still bound by Section 4a (bb) of the Medicines (Advertisement and Sale) Act 1956," a spokesperson from the division tells *Sunday Star*.

Private hospitals wishing to advertise or promote any healthcare services will still need approval from the Medicines Advertisements Board.

The board can fix conditions or terms of advertisement approval as stated under Regulation 5 (3) Medicines Advertisements Board Regulations 1976.

The administration guide for healthcare facilities and services issued by the board is constantly being updated. This is done during meetings. Decisions made have included allowing medical practitioners to include their name, qualifications and fields of expertise in an advertisement approved by the board.



AKHBAR : SUNDAY STAR

MUKA SURAT : 15

RUANGAN : FOCUS

**EFFORTS** to promote Malaysia as a healthcare travel centre are welcomed.

But some experts in the field are hoping the government will allow patient testimonials to be included in advertisements for medical services.

The Association of Private Hospitals of Malaysia hopes the Medicines (Advertisement and Sale) Act 1956 will be reviewed as part of the blueprint being developed by the Malaysia Healthcare Travel Council (MHTC).

Testimonials of treatment outcome by the patients should be allowed, says association president Datuk Dr Kuljit Singh.

He explains that the blueprint would only be effective in attracting medical tourists if they know what our doctors are capable of.

"Medical tourists who come here for treatment do so because of word of mouth.

"If testimonials are still not allowed, Malaysia as a medical tourism destination will continue to be at a disadvantage compared with Singapore and Thailand although our fees are much cheaper," he says, adding that medical tourists today are much savvy, more sceptical and have many options available.

Although the majority of Malaysian doctors are very professional, speak English fluently and are trained abroad, their professional abilities and quality of care are not known because patient testimonials are not allowed in advertisements, unlike in other countries.

"As it is, the Health Ministry will have to approve every hospital advertisement we run so there are already safeguards in place to protect the patient.

"There may be some bad apples who oversell themselves but if we have guidelines in place, doctors and hospitals will know what can and cannot be said in a testimonial," he says.

# Patient testimonials should be allowed in promoting medical tourism



“If testimonials are still not allowed, Malaysia as a medical tourism destination will continue to be at a disadvantage.”

Datuk Dr Kuljit Singh

Welcoming the healthcare industry blueprint, Malaysian Medical Association president Dr N. Ganabaskaran says this country is one of the best places to seek medical treatment.

"The cost of treatments is very affordable and we have some of the best specialists in the region.

"We welcome all medical tourists and at the same time, they can take the time to sightsee and partake in our delicious local food," he says.

Dr Ganabaskaran also hopes there can be more promotional work to inform overseas patients of what Malaysia has to offer.

"If there are no advertisements, people will not know of our strengths. Some hospitals in Singapore and Thailand are famous because they spent a lot of money on marketing.

"Malaysian hospitals should be allowed to advertise to attract more medical tourists," he says.

On whether the novel coronavirus outbreak will affect medical tourism, Dr Ganabaskaran says it isn't a huge cause for concern as



Malaysia has the necessary means to control its spread.

"The ministry and our healthcare facilities will take the necessary precautions," he says.

Some believe the government's priority should be to boost healthcare for Malaysians, instead of promoting healthcare tourism.

Federation of Malaysian Consumers Associations CEO

Datuk Paul Selvaraj feels that the government should focus more on improving public healthcare.

He says more healthcare tourists would result in many of the country's top specialists flocking to join the private sector.

"As it is, there are more specialists in the private sector compared with government hospitals.

"Specialists in the private sector cater to a much smaller population whereas their public sector counterparts are overburdened with a never-ending stream of patients to see daily.

"Growing healthcare tourism could result in that burden becoming even greater.

"The government won't be able to pay specialists as

much as the private sector and they will end up leaving," he says, adding that some 65% of Malaysians seek treatment at government hospitals but 70% of the country's specialists are in the private sector.

Malaysian Association of Hotels CEO Yap Li Seng says a main concern to be addressed is the country's domestic healthcare needs.

"Domestic medical tourism is a huge untapped market," he points out.

"The blueprint has to ensure that locals do not lose out, and that medical tourism should be

affordable for locals while being competitive internationally."

The Malaysia Healthcare Industry Blueprint (2020-2025) should address our medical tourism's carrying capacity, taking into consideration possible collaborations with other industry stakeholders such as hotels, he says.

"We can complement each other and grow the medical tourism sector."

Malaysian Association of Tour and Travel Agents (MATTA) president Datuk Tan Kok Liang says the MHTC should work closely with its members, particularly in the planning of transfers and tours.

"The blueprint should make MATTA's role clear - leave this service to us. It's our forte.

"MHTC must ensure that uncensored tour and transport operators are dealt with in the blueprint so that medical tourists feel safe and secure. This is necessary to protect the country's image and reputation."

He says the blueprint should also address technological advances such as artificial intelligence and big data to improve the patient's overall experience.

"To boost medical tourism, we need innovation.

"From the utilisation of social media to promote the country and facilitate travel arrangements, to providing more accurate diagnostics and easy transfer of medical records, digital solutions can play a bigger role.

"Hopefully the blueprint encourages the use of technology among all stakeholders."

However, promotions of skills, knowledge and experience are still not allowed.

"Medical practitioners must still adhere to the Malaysian Medical Council's professional code of ethics," the division rep says, adding that patient testimonials about treatments or diagnoses received are still not allowed.

Testimonials are allowed if they do not touch on the medical treatment and instead mention things like the comfort of the hospital, the service standard, and its facilities

and transportation.

## Growing competition

While Malaysia is equipped with good healthcare services, there are some challenges that lie ahead.

By 2022, the global healthcare travel market is estimated to be worth US\$20bil (RM82.7bil).

"All global competitors will be aggressive in claiming their share of the pie," says Shereene.

Malaysia has faced challenges in visibility around South-East Asia, as

many are unaware of the nation's healthcare services.

"We have also faced challenges in building and maintaining brand and visibility momentum due to industry-wide budget setbacks.

"However, we have risen above these challenges.

"Once dubbed as the 'Hidden Jewel of Asia', Malaysia has been recognised as the 'Destination of the Year' by the *International Medical Travel Journal* for three years in a row from 2015 to 2017," she says, adding that Malaysia also received

two highly commended acknowledgements in 2018 and 2019.

Shereene believes healthcare travellers have more confidence in Malaysia's private healthcare as the results speak for themselves.

Rapidly evolving of healthcare traveller demands require fast, personal and effective responses.

"Due to this external pressure, Malaysia's private healthcare sector has been constantly improving their facilities.

"This includes equipping their facilities with cutting-edge medical

technology, investing in devices and enhancement of infrastructure, hiring skilled medical staff and making strategic investments to strengthen infrastructure," she says.

Although many more regional players are jumping onto the bandwagon, Malaysia remains a resolute player.

"This is due to our key value proposition of world-class quality care which is affordable and accessible, as well as not easily emulated by others," Shereene adds.

## Top medical treatments in Malaysia

ORTHOPAEDICS

CARDIOLOGY

ONCOLOGY

FERTILITY TREATMENT

NEUROLOGY

HEALTH SCREENING



## Top healthcare travellers in Malaysia



INDIA



SINGAPORE



JAPAN



BANGLADESH



PHILIPPINES



AUSTRALIA



USA



BRITAIN



CHINA



INDONESIA