



## **PRESS STATEMENT MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA**

### **UPDATES ON THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION IN MALAYSIA**

#### **Current Status of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Who Have Recovered**

19 April 2020 – The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **95 cases** have fully recovered and discharged well today. **Cumulatively, 3,197 confirmed COVID-19 cases have fully recovered and discharged well** (59.32% of total cumulative cases). As seen lately, the number of cases discharged well is more than the number of additional cases reported today.

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

19 April 2020, 12 pm – A total of **84 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **5,389 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 2,103 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have been isolated and provided treatment.

Currently, **46 confirmed COVID-19 cases are receiving treatment in intensive care units (ICU)**, and of these, 26 cases are on ventilation support.

Regretfully, **one (1) additional COVID-19 death** was reported to the National CPRC MOH. Cumulatively, there are now **89 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.65% of total cumulative cases):

1. **Death #89:** Case 4,769 is a 51 year-old Malaysian man with a history of diabetes, hypertension, heart disease and kidney disease. He was a close contact to a confirmed COVID-19 case (Case 2,726). He was admitted into Enche' Besar Hajjah Khalsom Hospital, Johor on 13 April 2020 and was pronounced dead on 18 April 2020 at 6.47 pm.

MOH conveys condolences to the family members.

### **Temboro-Magetan Cluster from Indonesia**

A new cluster was detected at an international port of entry, where positive cases were found amongst Malaysians returning from Indonesia via the Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KLIA) on 16 April 2020. This cluster comprised of 43 students returning from Temboro, a locality declared as a red zone in the district of Magetan, Indonesia. There are several more cases awaiting results.

Of these 43 cases, 34 cases were quarantined in Melaka and nine in the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya. This shows that the Government had taken the right action in instituting screening and compulsory quarantine for all Malaysians returning from overseas. This is to prevent the spread of imported cases in the community.

### **Malaysia's Participation in the World Health Organization's "Solidarity Trial"**

As announced in a joint statement by MOH and the World Health Organization (WHO) on 6 April 2020, the "Solidarity Trial" launched by WHO will see Malaysia's involvement in an international multi-centre drug trial for the treatment of COVID-19. This worldwide WHO-coordinated research is on the efficacy and safety profiles of four treatment regimens using a combination of Remdesivir, Lopinavir/Ritonavir, Interferon beta, Chloroquine and Hydroxychloroquine.

In this regard, MOH will soon embark on this clinical trial whereby the nine (9) MOH hospitals identified to participate in the WHO Solidarity Trial are ready to begin recruitment of study participants amongst the COVID-19 patients who meet the study criteria.

The Medical Research and Ethics Committee (MREC) has worked closely with the National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency (NPRA), MOH that acts as the regulatory body responsible for approving the use of the drugs in this clinical trial. The evaluation done was based on three key aspects i.e. safety, quality and early efficacy of the drug based on the data submitted.

Recognising the importance of this clinical drug trial in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic, MREC and NPRA have successfully approved the research protocol and the Clinical Trial Import License (CTIL) for Remdesivir within a short time period (i.e. only four working days) while concurrently maintaining the quality of the evaluation based on international procedural and regulatory requirements.

This fast-tracked approval was achieved through the high commitment of MREC committee members, eight NPRA reviewers and top management, which ensured a high-quality review process and within the required timeline. In addition, the cooperation by the applicants i.e. Clinical Research Centre, Ampang Hospital and the WHO in providing the documents required by the MREC and NPRA in the short timeframe also facilitated the approval process.

Malaysia's participation in this worldwide clinical drug trial is expected to assist in the search for life-saving drugs for COVID-19 through the assessment of their safety and efficacy.

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

In line with our continuous effort in fighting the pandemic, MOH strongly urges all Malaysians to fulfil their duties as responsible citizens by:

1. Complying to the Movement Control Order
2. Maintaining a high level of personal hygiene at all times, such as regular hand washing with water and soap
3. Practicing social distancing of at least one (1) metre from others

MOH will continue to monitor the development of the COVID-19 situation based on all available information, and the public will be continuously updated on the latest information.

Thank you.

**Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah**  
Director General of Health Malaysia

19 April 2020 @ 5.00 pm

## Appendix 1

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

State	No. of New Cases	Cumulative
Perlis	0	18
Kedah	0	94
Pulau Pinang	0	119
Perak	0	252
Selangor	3	1,343
Negeri Sembilan	0	405
Melaka	37	185
Johor	3	642
Pahang	5	269
Terengganu	0	109
Kelantan	0	155
Sabah	3	306
Sarawak	5	408
WP Kuala Lumpur	19	1,004
WP Putrajaya	9	64
WP Labuan	0	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>5,389</b>