



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

24 April 2020 – The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **121 cases** have fully recovered and discharged well today. **Cumulatively, 3,663 confirmed COVID-19 cases have fully recovered and discharged well** (64.4% of total cumulative cases). The number of cases discharged today is more than the number of additional cases reported.

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

24 April 2020, 12 pm – A total of **88 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **5,691 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 1,932 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have been isolated and provided treatment.

Currently, **41 confirmed COVID-19 cases are receiving treatment in intensive care units (ICU)**, and of these, 18 cases are on ventilation support.

Regretfully, **one (1) additional COVID-19 death** was reported to the National CPRC MOH. Cumulatively, there are now **96 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.69% of total cumulative cases):

1. **Death #96:** Case 2,978 is a 61 year-old Malaysian man with a history of diabetes, hypertension and kidney disease. He was a close contact to a confirmed COVID-19 case (Case 1,345 who has a history of travelling to Indonesia). He was admitted into Sungai Buloh Hospital on 31 March 2020 and was pronounced dead on 24 April 2020 at 2.29 am.

MOH conveys condolences to the family members.

Extension of the Movement Control Order (MCO); Phase 4

As announced by the Prime Minister last night, the Movement Control Order (MCO) will be extended into Phase 4 from 29 April 2020 until 12 May 2020. During the implementation of Phase 3 of the MCO, the number of additional confirmed COVID-19 cases reported daily have been relatively stable without any sudden increase. This has assisted MOH in maintaining health system capacity, both in the field and the hospital, to continue to identify, screen, isolate and treat COVID-19 cases.

Therefore, MOH welcomes the announcement by the Prime Minister for the additional two-week extension of the MCO. This will provide the Government with further opportunity to prevent and control the spread of COVID-19 infection more aggressively, prior to a re-evaluation of the effectiveness and current COVID-19 situation in the country. MOH will continue all measures, as well as intensify efforts to further reduce COVID-19 cases through a targeted approach. Such measures can be implemented more effectively under the MCO as well as the Enhanced MCO (EMCO). For example, implementation of the EMCO in eight (8) localities have so far identified a total of 618 COVID-19 cases (10.9% of the total cumulative COVID-19 cases).

As such, all Malaysians would need to adapt to the new normal in our daily lives, including:

- Comply with the MCO

- “Stay at home” except for those working in essential and permissible sectors, as well as for permissible urgent matters
- Maintain high personal hygiene at all times by regularly washing hands with water and soap
- Practice social distancing is at least 1 metre away from others

As announced, Phase 4 of the MCO will see some flexibility in movement control in a gradual manner for several sectors, including the economic sector. In this regard, it is very important for employers and employees in these sectors to practice preventive and precautionary measures in their respective workplaces at all times, including:

- Avoid **crowded spaces**
- Avoid **confined spaces** with many people at the same time (e.g. pantry at workplace)
- Keep a distance of 1 metre during **close conversation** (talking face-to-face)

Food Safety During the Month of Ramadan

MOH recommends that everyone involved with the online food business, including business owners, food operators and food delivery providers to constantly maintain good personal hygiene and comply to all guidelines issued by the MOH (<http://fsq.moh.gov.my/v6/xs/index.php>). This is to ensure that the food provided to consumers are safe. In addition, they are also advised to practice social distancing during food delivery.

In 2019, a total of 516 food poisoning incidents involving 16,583 cases were reported, resulting from unhygienic and unsafe food handling. Of these, 34 food poisoning incidents involving 1,032 cases occurred in the month of Ramadan 2019. Therefore, the public should always ensure food safety during purchasing or preparation of meals at home for self and family members.

MOH also advises the public to constantly maintain good hygiene in the preparation of meals at home to prevent food poisoning. Everyone must always practise the concept of “Look, Smell and Taste” during the month

of Ramadan before enjoying the food and drinks when breaking fast and for pre-dawn meals (*sahur*) to ensure that the food is safe to eat.

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

24 April 2020 @ 4.30 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 24 April 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Perlis	0	18
Kedah	0	95
Pulau Pinang	0	119
Perak	0	252
Selangor	18 (2)	1,387
Negeri Sembilan	2	433
Melaka	3 (2)	192
Johor	4 (3)	655
Pahang	1	287
Terengganu	0	110
Kelantan	0	155
Sabah	2	311
Sarawak	9 (6)	468
WP Kuala Lumpur	49	1,115
WP Putrajaya	0	78
WP Labuan	0	16
Total	88 (13)	5,691

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 cases