



**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

3 May 2020 – The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **87 cases** have fully recovered and discharged well today. **Cumulatively, 4,413 confirmed COVID-19 cases have fully recovered** (70% of total cumulative cases).

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

3 May 2020, 12 pm – A total of **122 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **6,298 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 1,780 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have been isolated and provided treatment.

Of these 122 additional cases reported today, **52 are imported cases**. The remaining 70 cases are due to local transmission whereby 24 cases are from Enhanced Movement Control Order clusters.

Currently, **27 confirmed COVID-19 cases are receiving treatment in intensive care units (ICU)**, and of these, 13 cases are on ventilation support.

Regretfully, **two (2) additional COVID-19 deaths** were reported to the National CPRC MOH today. Cumulatively, there are now **105 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.66% of total cumulative cases):

1. **Death #104:** Case 5,539 is an 82 year-old Malaysian man with a history of hypertension and heart disease. He was admitted into Sungai Buloh Hospital on 22 April 2020 and was pronounced dead on 2 May 2020 at 6.29 pm.
2. **Death #105:** Case 5,837 is a 64 year-old Malaysian man with a history of diabetes, hypertension and kidney disease. He was admitted into Tuanku Ja'afar Hospital, Negeri Sembilan on 27 April 2020 and was pronounced dead on 3 May 2020 at 9.46 am.

MOH conveys condolences to all the family members.

COVID-19 and Older Adults

As previously mentioned, older adults are more affected by COVID-19, with a higher number of infections and COVID-19 deaths amongst individuals age 60 years and over. Older adults are a high-risk group for complications and deaths due to COVID-19 because of the age factor as well as pre-existing chronic diseases. This is a global issue faced by all countries affected by this pandemic.

Based on data from the mortality review on 99 out of the 105 deaths reported in Malaysia, the age-group with the highest COVID-19 deaths is the 61 to 70 years (32 cases, or 32.2%), and the second highest age-group is the 71 to 80 years (19 cases, or 19.2%).

Although we do not yet fully understand the COVID-19 infection, what is clear is that the risk of infection increases with age, and individuals with chronic or non-communicable diseases (NCDs; such as diabetes, hypertension, heart disease, kidney disease and cancer) and NCD risk factors (such as smoking and obesity) are at greater risk of developing more severe COVID-19 infection symptoms and death.

Health Advisory on COVID-19

Considering the above statistics, it is evident that older adults are a high-risk group that must be protected against COVID-19 infection by all parties. Compliance and social responsibility of the public is very important in ensuring the safety and health of older adults.

We must keep in mind that this virus is not visible to the naked eye. For family members, it is the responsibility of the adult children or caregivers living with the older adults to ensure that they are cared for and protected from the spread of the COVID-19 infection. Family members (including children) are encouraged to constantly take preventive and precautionary measures against COVID-19 as they can potentially spread COVID-19 infection to their older parents or grandparents. In addition, family members must ensure that older adults seek early treatment if they are unwell, have adequate supply of medications and attend treatment follow-up appointments.

Following the Conditional Movement Control Order (CMCO) that will commence on 4 May 2020, MOH urges that all older adults must continue to comply to the Movement Control Order (MCO) and refrain from leaving the house except for unavoidable important matters. Please avoid the 3Cs: Crowded places; Confined spaces; and Close (face-to-face) conversations.

If out in crowded public areas, older adults are encouraged to wear face masks as well as take precautionary measures. The practice of high levels of personal hygiene must be continued, for example by regular hand washing with water and soap or using hand sanitisers; and practising safe social distancing of at least 1 metre from others.

For any health advice, older adults and the general public can contact the Virtual Health Advisory via the MOH portal from 8.30am to 5.00 pm daily.

Older adults requiring follow-up treatment for their chronic diseases in health clinics are advised to attend their follow-ups on the date and time of their appointments. To reduce the attendances and congestion at health clinics for repeat medication prescriptions, MOH has provided

pharmacy Value Added Services such as Medication through Post (*Ubat Melalui Pos* or UMP), Locker2U, Integrated Drug Dispensary System (*Sistem Pendispensan Ubat Bersepadu* or SPUB) and Drive-through Pharmacy (*Farmasi Pandu Lalu*) at selected MOH hospitals and health clinics based on the suitability for the availability of these services.

As older adults are considered a high-risk group for COVID-19 infection, MOH has decided to conduct COVID-19 screening tests for employees and residents of elderly-care centres. This screening will be conducted in phases, starting with the 17 facilities (*Rumah Sri Kenangan* and *Rumah Ehsan*) under the supervision of the Social Welfare Department (*Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat*). The screening will then be conducted at 357 elderly-care centres registered under Act 506 and 26 nursing homes registered under Act 586.

MOH is aware that there are nearly 1,000 private elderly-care centres not registered under any Acts. The District Health Offices have been directed to identify all private elderly-care centres, including religious-affiliated centres (*institusi pondok agama*) in their respective districts to ensure comprehensive coverage of COVID-19 screening. As such, the operators of all private elderly-care centres are encouraged to contact the nearest District Health Office.

MOH will continue to monitor the development of the COVID-19 situation in Malaysia. The public are advised to continue to stay at home and leave the house only for essential matters and business. The public must also maintain high levels of personal hygiene at all times, such as regular hand washing with water and soap, and practice safe social distancing of at least 1 metre away from others. These measures are important to break the transmission chain of COVID-19 infection in the community.

Thank you.

Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah
Director General of Health Malaysia

3 May 2020 @ 4.30 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 3 May 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Perlis	0	18
Kedah	0	95
Pulau Pinang	0	121
Perak	0	253
Selangor	11	1,529
Negeri Sembilan	71 (50)	592
Melaka	3	204
Johor	0	667
Pahang	0	305
Terengganu	0	110
Kelantan	0	155
Sabah	1	316
Sarawak	5	523
WP Kuala Lumpur	30 (1)	1,308
WP Putrajaya	1 (1)	86
WP Labuan	0	16
Total	122 (52)	6,298

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 cases