



**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

11 May 2020 – The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **88 cases** have fully recovered and discharged well today. **Cumulatively, 5,113 confirmed COVID-19 cases have fully recovered** (76% of total cumulative cases).

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

11 May 2020, 12 pm – A total of **70 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today, of which **31 cases are amongst non-Malaysians**. In addition, of these 70 cases, **13 are imported cases**.

Cumulatively there are now **6,726 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 1,504 active and infective COVID-19 cases**.

Currently, **20 confirmed COVID-19 cases are receiving treatment in intensive care units (ICU)**, and of these, seven (7) cases are on ventilation support.

Regretfully, **one (1) additional COVID-19 death** was reported to the National CPRC MOH today. Cumulatively, there are now **109 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.62% of total cumulative cases):

1. **Death #109:** Case 6,657 is a 63 year-old Malaysian man who has a history of diabetes and liver cancer. He was admitted into Kuala Lumpur Hospital on 8 May 2020 and was pronounced dead on 10 May 2020 at 5.15 am.

MOH conveys condolences to the family members.

Use of Antibody Rapid Test Kits (RTKs) Not Recommended as COVID-19 Confirmatory Tests

MOH is aware of issues raised by several parties on the use of Antibody Rapid Test Kits (RTKs) in private clinics for screening of workers returning to work. As MOH has repeatedly stated, COVID-19 virus detection test is either an antigen-based Real-time Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction (rRT-PCR) test or an Antigen RTK.

Both tests require obtaining Nasopharyngeal Swab (NPS) samples by trained healthcare workers (HCWs) using appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) and laboratory equipment such as the Biological Safety Cabinet (BSC) when processing the samples taken.

By comparison, serological Antibody RTKs using finger-prick blood samples cannot be used as a confirmatory test. This is because the presence of antibodies cannot confirm active infection. In addition, negative antibody results do not guarantee that the individual is not infected with COVID-19.

However, the Antibody RTK can be used for the purpose of conducting a prevalence study of COVID-19 infection in the community or among target populations (such as amongst workers). This is in line with the World Health Organization's (WHO) recommendation that Antibody RTKs can be used in surveillance activities and epidemiological studies.

There are currently no solid scientific studies that have shown that people who have recovered from COVID-19 and have antibodies are protected from a second infection.

Health Advisory on COVID-19

MOH advises the public to continue to take COVID-19 infection prevention measures and to adopt the new norms:

1. Avoid leaving the house, except for important matters
2. Practice safe social distancing of at least 1 metre away from others
3. Maintain optimal levels of hygiene at all times, such as frequent hand washing with water and soap or with hand sanitisers
4. It is recommended to wear face masks in public areas or crowded places

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.

Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah
Director General of Health Malaysia

11 May 2020 @ 4.30 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 11 May 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Perlis	0	18
Kedah	0	95
Pulau Pinang	0	121
Perak	0	255
Selangor	3	1,607
Negeri Sembilan	16 (8)	742
Melaka	1	211
Johor	0	667
Pahang	4	312
Terengganu	0	110
Kelantan	0	155
Sabah	10	327
Sarawak	0	543
WP Kuala Lumpur	35 (4)	1,458
WP Putrajaya	1 (1)	89
WP Labuan	0	16
Total	70 (13)	6,726

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 cases