



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

20 May 2020 – The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **60 cases** have fully recovered and discharged well today. **Cumulatively, 5,706 confirmed COVID-19 cases have fully recovered** (81.4% of total cumulative cases). The number of cases recovered is almost twice the number of additional cases reported today.

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

20 May 2020, 12 pm – A total of **31 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **7,009 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 1,189 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. Of the 31 additional cases reported today, ten (10) are imported cases who were infected overseas, while 21 cases are local transmission involving ten (10) non-Malaysians.

Currently, **11 confirmed COVID-19 cases are receiving treatment in intensive care units (ICU)**, and of these, seven (7) cases are on ventilation support.

Fortunately, **no additional COVID-19 death** was reported to the National CPRC MOH today. Cumulatively, there are now **114 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.63% of total cumulative cases).

Blood Donation During Month of Ramadan and Festivities Season

Blood transfusion is an important component of the management of patients in healthcare facilities such as hospitals, especially for accident victims, pregnant mothers with bleeding complications, premature infants, cancer patients and thalassemia patients, as well as patients undergoing major surgery. Blood supply is needed constantly, and therefore it should always be sufficient.

Blood use rates during the period of the Movement Control Order (MCO) from 18 March 2020 to 3 May 2020 were found to have decreased. This may be due to the decreased rate of road traffic accidents requiring hospitalisation i.e. a reduction of 60 to 70% during the MCO enforcement in same time period.

During the MCO enforcement, blood supply at the National Blood Centre and other Blood Centres throughout the country has decreased by 40% compared to previous years. For example, blood collection during March 2018 to May 2018 was 111,328 bags, however from March 2020 to May 2020 there were only 67,135 bags.

It was found that the total blood collection during the MCO enforcement period was only 60% of the target. Despite various promotional activities carried out by MOH and media partners, the status of blood collection throughout the Conditional MCO (CMCO) to date has not been satisfactory, reaching only 57% of the target.

The decline in blood collection is very alarming as more elective services in MOH hospitals have resumed, including surgical procedures (which increased usage from an average of 9,000 bags of blood a week to 13,076 bags during CMCO weeks). There were also a 5 to 10% increase in accident cases requiring hospitalisation. Ahead of the Hari Raya Aidilfitri celebrations and other upcoming festive celebrations, it is common to see low blood donation rates.

Therefore, MOH urges the public to donate blood at the National Blood Centres and other Blood Centres throughout the country so that the blood

supply would be continuous and adequate. Operations of the National Blood Centres and other Blood Centres have been extended until 9 pm throughout the month of Ramadan to enable individuals to donate after breaking fast.

The public can find more information on blood donation on the National Blood Centre website www.pdn.gov.my, National Blood Centre Facebook page, MOH website or refer to the Blood Centres in each state.

Health Advisory on COVID-19

MOH advises the public to take social responsibility in the fight against COVID-19 pandemic in Malaysia, by continuing to adhere to **THIS**:

- **T: Terms** and SOPs set under the CMCO
- **Hi: High-risk** groups such as children, infants, older adults and the disabled must be protected, and if unwell with symptoms, to seek early treatment
- **S: Safe** social distancing is practiced at all times, of at least 1 metre away from others

The public is also advised to adhere to the 3Cs and 3Ws as recommended by MOH:

- Avoid the **3Cs**: **C**rowded places; **C**onfined spaces; and **C**lose conversations
- Practice the **3Ws**: **W**ash hands frequently with water and soap; **W**earing facemasks are strongly encouraged in public areas or if symptomatic; **W**arn self and others for the following, in line with MOH's advisories:
 - Avoid shaking hands or touching others
 - Practice good coughing and sneezing etiquette
 - Disinfect frequently touched surfaces
 - Stay at home and go out only for important matters
 - Seek treatment if symptomatic

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 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

20 May 2020 @ 4.30 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 20 May 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Perlis	0	18
Kedah	1	96
Pulau Pinang	0	121
Perak	0	255
Selangor	15 (5)	1,665
Negeri Sembilan	0	776
Melaka	0	215
Johor	0	669
Pahang	0	338
Terengganu	1	111
Kelantan	1	156
Sabah	1	338
Sarawak	0	544
WP Kuala Lumpur	10 (3)	1,598
WP Putrajaya	2 (2)	93
WP Labuan	0	16
Total	31 (10)	7,009

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 cases