AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 4
RUANGAN : NASIONAL

Penularan COVID-19

60 pulih, dua kali ganda berbanding kes baharu

Tiada pertambahan kematian akibat virus: Dr Noor Hisham

Kes baharu COVID-19 yang dilaporkan di negara ini menunjukkan trend bawah 50 kes sejak sembilan hari lalu.

Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, *Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan*

Putrajaya: Sebanyak 60 kes pulih daripada COVID-19 dilaporkan semalam, menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes pulih sebanyak 5,706 kes atau 81.4 peratus daripada jumlah keseluruhan kes.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata bilangan itu adalah hampir dua kali ganda berbanding 31 kes baharu yang dilaporkan sehingga jam 12 tengah hari semalam.

Beliau menjelaskan kes baharu COVID-19 yang dilaporkan di negara ini menunjukkan trend bawah 50 kes sejak sembilan hari lalu.

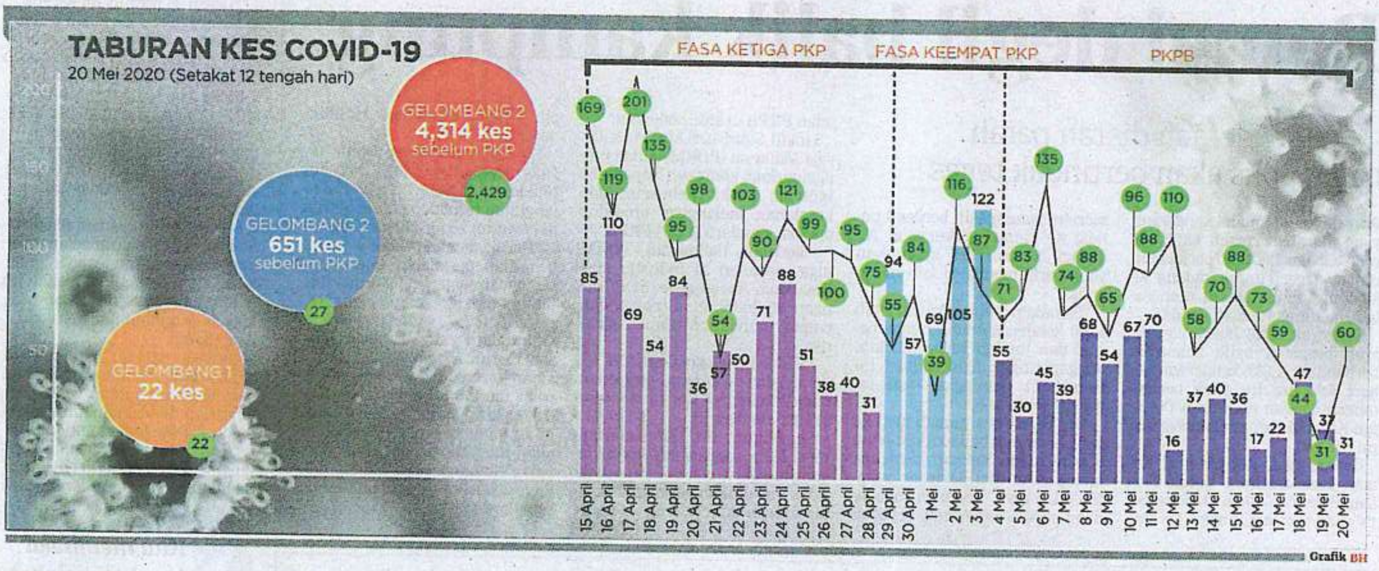
Katanya, pertambahan kes baharu itu menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes kepada 7,009 kes, manakala jumlah kes aktif dengan kebolehjangkitan COVID-19 adalah 1,189 kes.

"Ingin dimaklumkan daripada 31 kes baharu dilaporkan, 10 kes adalah kes import yang mendapat jangkitan di luar negara, manakala 21 kes adalah penularan tempatan yang mana 10 individu bukan warganegara Malaysia.

"Sehingga kini, 11 kes positif COVID-19 sedang dirawat di Unit Rawatan Rapi (ICU). Daripada jumlah berkenaan, tujuh memerlukan bantuan pernafasan," katanya dalam sidang media harian COVID-19 di sini, semalam.

BHTV

Dr Noor Hisham turut memaklumkan tiada pertambahan kes kematian berkaitan COVID-19 dan angkanya kekal 114 kes atau 1.63 peratus daripada jumlah keseluruhan kes.



Grafik BH

Tiada kes penyakit Kawasaki jangkiti kanak-kanak

Putrajaya: Tiada kes penyakit Kawasaki yang menjangkiti kanak-kanak positif COVID-19 di Malaysia setakat ini, kata Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah.

Beliau berkata, sindrom penyakit itu bukanlah kebiasaan, tetapi masyarakat perlu mengelakkan jangkitan terbabit kepada kanak-kanak dengan mematuhi prosedur operasi standard (SOP) Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Bersyarat (PKPB).

Katanya, ia bermakna mematuhi S atau syarat ditetapkan di bawah PKPB, O mewakili orang yang berisiko tinggi seperti kanak-kanak, bayi, warga emas dan orang kurang upaya perlu dilindungi, manakala P membabitkan penjarakan sosial yang perlu diamalkan setiap masa, iaitu sekurang-kurangnya satu meter.

"Pencegahan adalah lebih baik, kalau boleh kita cegah kanak-kanak daripada dijangkiti dengan mematuhi dan mengamalkan SOP dalam kehidupan seharian," katanya pada sidang media harian, di sini semalam.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, penyakit Kawasaki adalah keradangan saluran darah atau vaskulitis, terutama membabitkan kanak-kanak di bawah umur lima tahun.

"Kanak-kanak umur lima tahun ke bawah yang diserang sindrom ini akan mengalami gejala demam dan ruam di kawasan tertentu.

"Apabila virus menyerang saluran darah, jantung dan sebagainya ia akan melemahkan jantung serta saluran itu. Setakat ini di Malaysia tiada kanak-kanak yang direkodkan dengan penyakit itu," katanya.

Beliau mengulas laporan Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia (WHO) yang mendakwa terdapat sindrom seperti penyakit Kawasaki pada kanak-kanak yang positif COVID-19.

Sementara itu, Dr Noor Hisham berkata kes baharu COVID-19 yang direkodkan di Kedah semalam membabitkan seorang pelajar institut pengajian tinggi (IPT) yang disahkan positif ketika membuat saringan sebagai persediaan dihantar pulang ke negeri asalnya di Sabah.

Sehubungan itu, Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) mengenal pasti sembilan kontak rapat dengan pelajar berkenaan.

"Pelajar itu kini diasingkan dan kita masih menyiasat bagaimana individu itu boleh dijangkiti COVID-19," katanya.

Pada sidang media sama, Dr Noor Hisham berkata stok bekalan darah di Pusat Darah Negara dan Tabung Darah di seluruh negara ketika Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (PKP) menurun 40 peratus berbanding tahun lalu.

Jumlah kutipan darah sepanjang pelaksanaan PKP sejak Mac lalu, hanya 60 peratus dan jumlah berkenaan dilihat semakin berkurangan ketika PKPB bermula 4 Mei lalu, iaitu sekitar 57 peratus.

Katanya, penurunan kutipan darah itu amat membimbangkan memandangkan kini lebih banyak perkhidmatan elektif di hospital di bawah kementeriannya mula beroperasi, termasuk prosedur pembedahan.

"Selain itu, terdapat juga peningkatan kes kemalangan sebanyak lima hingga 10 peratus yang memerlukan rawatan di hospital.

"Menjelang sambutan Aidilfitri dan cuti perayaan lain yang bakal tiba, kebiasaannya didapati pola pendermaan darah adalah rendah," katanya.

Berikutan itu, KKM meminta orang ramai untuk datang menderma darah di Pusat Darah Negara dan Tabung Darah seluruh negara supaya bekalan darah adalah berterusan dan mencukupi.

"Operasi perkhidmatan Pusat Darah Negara dan juga Tabung Darah di setiap negeri sudah dilanjutkan sehingga jam 9 malam sepanjang Ramadan bagi memudahkan orang ramai untuk menderma selepas berbuka puasa," katanya.

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 5
RUANGAN : NASIONAL

Penularan COVID-19

Ubat China perlu jalani pelbagai penyelidikan

Penghasilan masih pada peringkat awal

Putrajaya: Ubat yang didakwa mampu memulihkan pesakit COVID-19 tanpa menggunakan vaksin yang dibangunkan sebuah makmal di China, perlu menjalani pelbagai penyelidikan sebelum ia disahkan berkesan.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata pihaknya sudah dimaklumkan mengenai perkara itu namun penghasilan ubat berkenaan masih pada peringkat awal.

"Apa yang pasti mereka perlu jalani pelbagai penyelidikan bagi memastikan ubat berkenaan benar-benar berkesan," katanya pada sidang media harian, di sini semalam.

Sebelum ini, media melaporkan ubat berkenaan diuji oleh saintis di Universiti Peking, China bukan hanya memendekkan tempoh masa penyembuhan, malah 'menawarkan' imuniti jangka pendek daripada dijangkiti virus itu, demikian menurut penyelidik.

Pengarah Pusat Inovasi Lanjutan untuk Genomik Universiti Beijing, Sunney Xie dilaporkan berkata, ubat berkenaan berjaya pada peringkat ujian ke atas haiwan.

Ubat itu menggunakan antibodi peneutralan yang dihasilkan sistem imun manusia untuk menghalang virus daripada menjangkiti sel di mana sebanyak 60 darah pesakit pulih dikumpul.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 2
RUANGAN : MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19

KKM siasat kes ibu mengandung positif Covid-19 di Kelantan

PUTRAJAYA - Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) kini sedang menjalankan siasatan bagi mengesan punca jangkitan seorang ibu hamil dari Kuala Lumpur yang pulang bercuti ke Kuala Krai, Kelantan yang disahkan positif Covid-19.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, ketika ini pesakit berkenaan telah diasingkan dan diberi rawatan sepatutnya.

"Kita juga sedang menjalankan tindakan seterusnya untuk mengenal pasti kontak rapat dan mengesan dari mana jangkitan itu didapati sama ada dari kawasan zon merah atau sebaliknya," kata beliau pada sidang media semalam.

Menurutnya, Kelantan dan Kedah yang menikmati lebih daripada 30 hari bebas koronavirus (Covid-19) kini terpaksa menerima hakikat bahawa negeri tersebut sekali lagi dilanda wabak berkenaan.

"Mengikut data yang dikeluarkan oleh KKM, kedua-dua negeri tersebut masing-masing merekodkan satu kes baharu.

"Pertambahan kes itu menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes di Kelantan sebanyak 156 kes manakala 96 kes di Kedah," katanya.

Beliau berkata, Kelantan menjadi negeri kedua bebas Covid-19 selepas Perlis apabila tiada kes baharu direkodkan sejak 29 April manakala sehari kemudian, Kedah pula diisytiharkan bebas Covid-19.

"Di Kedah, salah seorang pelajar yang bakal dihantar pulang ke Sabah atau Sarawak disahkan positif selepas KKM melakukan saringan terhadap 271 pelajar.

"Selain Kedah dan Kelantan, Terengganu dan Sabah juga masing-masing merekodkan satu kes baharu positif Covid-19," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, menjawab soalan mengenai isu rentas negeri yang melibatkan pesakit dari zon merah ke zon hijau, Dr Noor Hisham berkata, ketika ini kerajaan menyekat perjalanan rentas negeri dan orang ramai tidak dibenarkan keluar sempadan negeri.

Katanya, hanya rentas sempadan daerah yang dibenarkan dan dikuatkuasakan oleh Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM) termasuk perjalanan melibatkan kawasan zon merah ke zon hijau.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 6
RUANGAN : MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19

Malaysia catat 7,009 kes positif

60 kes sembuh, 31 kes baharu dicatatkan semalam

PUTRAJAYA

Kes positif Covid-19 di negara ini kini melebihi 7,000 apabila Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) merekodkan 31 kes baharu.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, daripada 31 kes baharu, 10 merupakan kes import yang mendapat jangkitan di luar negara, manakala 21 kes adalah penularan tempatan.

"Seramai 10 orang warga asing disahkan positif dalam penularan tempatan tersebut," katanya pada sidang akhbar di sini semalam.

Menurutnya, pertambahan kes baharu tersebut menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes positif Covid-19 di negara ini sebanyak 7,009 kes.

"Seramai 1,189 kes masih dirawat di hospital dengan 11 kes di unit rawatan rapi dan tujuh daripadanya memerlukan bantuan pernafasan," katanya.

Beliau berkata, seramai 60 pesakit Covid-19 telah pulih dan dibenarkan pulang semalam.

"Ini menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes pulih 5,706 bersamaan dengan 81.4 peratus daripada jumlah keseluruhan kes.

"Justeru, bilangan kes pulih adalah hampir dua kali ganda kes baharu dilaporkan," katanya.

Beliau turut memaklumkan, kes kematian berkaitan Covid-19 kekal sebanyak 114 kes selepas Pusat Kesiapsiagaan dan Tindak Cepat CPRC Kebangsaan tidak merekodkan kes baharu.

Sementara itu, Dr Noor Hisham menasihatkan umat Islam di negara ini agar mematuhi prosedur operasi standard (SOP) yang telah ditetapkan sepanjang sambutan Hari Raya Aidilfitri nanti.

FOTO: BERNAMA

Dr Noor Hisham pada sidang akhbar di Putrajaya semalam.

Katanya, walaupun kerajaan telah membenarkan ziarah dan kunjung mengunjung, namun orang ramai masih perlu menjaga penjarakkan sosial dan elakkan daripada bersentuhan serta bersalaman.

"Ini adalah cara untuk kita elakkan jangkitan kerana jika mereka yang positif datang ke rumah dan bila bersalaman dengan kita mungkin kita akan dijangkiti.

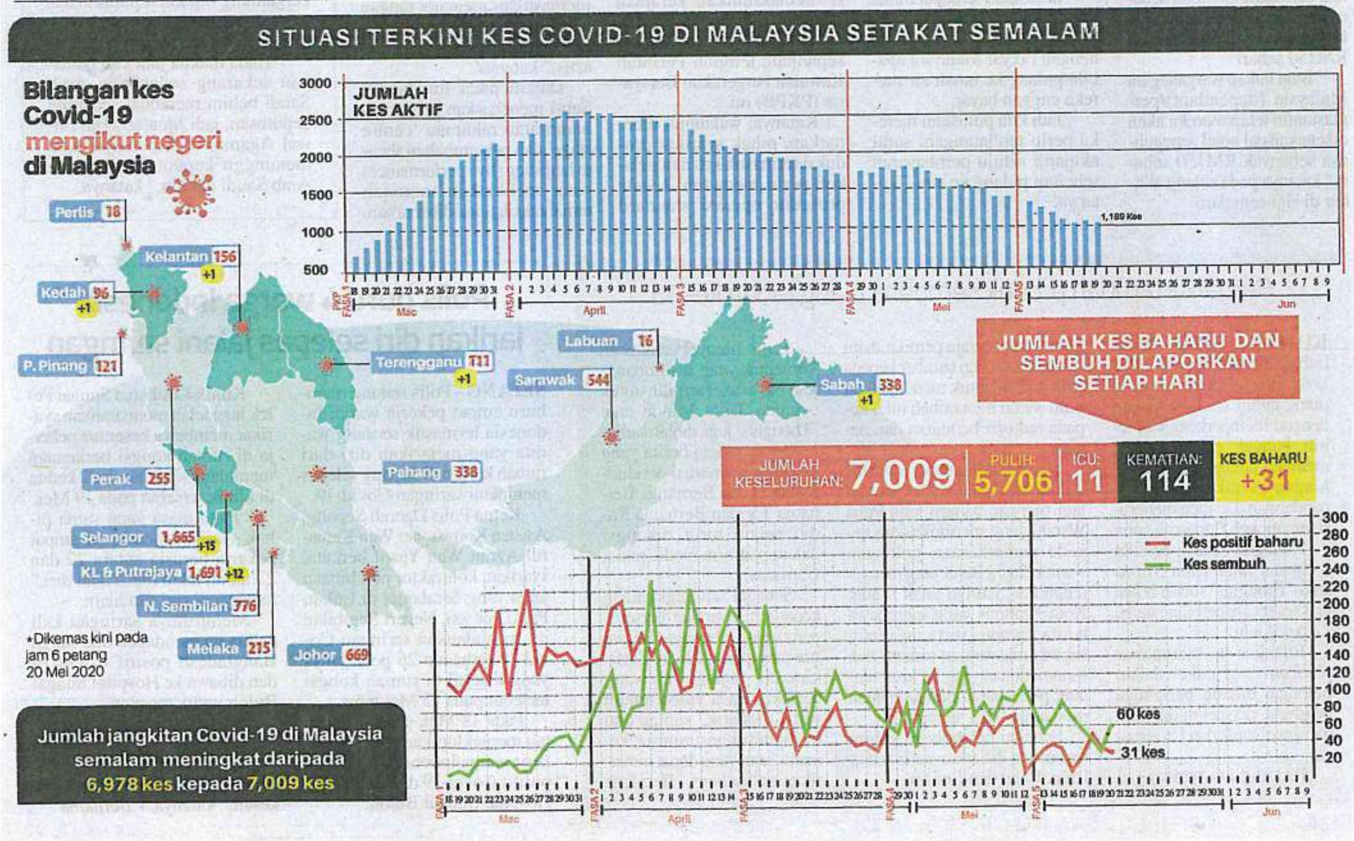
"Jadi kalau boleh kita elakkan daripada bersalaman dan juga amalkan penjarakkan serta kerap cuci tangan, setiap rumah yang kita pergi pastikan kita cuci tangan dan Kalau boleh elakkan juga perhimpunan di satu-satu kawasan yang sempit," katanya.

Mengulas lanjut, beliau berkata, orang ramai juga perlu memastikan jarak dan mengelakkan berada terlalu dekat ketika bersembang atau bertutur.

Katanya, jika boleh dan adalah lebih baik sekiranya amalan kunjung-mengunjung dapat dielakkan selain sentiasa menjaga kebersihan diri.

"Malah cuba elakkan untuk pulang ke kampung sekiranya kita dari zon merah ke zon hijau. Jika perkara-perkara ini dapat dielakkan, maka kita juga dapat elakkan jangkitan khususnya kepada kanak-kanak dan juga warga emas.

"Kita bimbang mungkin berlaku peningkatan kes selepas hari raya nanti jika kita tidak mematuhi SOP yang telah ditetapkan. Kalau boleh elakkan daripada menziarahi kubur, kunjung-mengunjung dan menyambut hari raya pada kali ini dengan tertutup," katanya.



AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES
MUKA SURAT : 3
RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION

Woman in Kelantan who tested positive is from Ampang

PUTRAJAYA: A pregnant woman who tested positive for Covid-19 in Kelantan had travelled from a red zone area.

Health director-general Datuk Seri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said the woman tested positive when she went for a check-up at a health clinic in Kelantan.

He said the woman had travelled from Ampang, which is a red zone, to Kelantan, which is a green zone.

"The woman planned to give birth at her hometown," he said yesterday.

He said she had been isolated and was receiving treatment.

"We are working on acute case detection, as well as contact tracing," he said, adding that an investigation was ongoing to find the source of infection.

He reminded people to refrain from crossing state borders during Hari Raya Aidilftiri, which was expected to fall on Sunday.

"Seek immediate medical assistance at the nearest clinic or hospital for Covid-19 screening should you have symptoms."

It was reported that a new case in Kuala Krai, Kelantan, involved a pregnant woman who travelled from Kuala Lumpur.

With the new case, Kelantan is back with one new active Covid-19 case after more than a month of being free from the virus.

State Local Government, Health and Housing Committee chairman Dr Izani Husin, who confirmed this, said the woman was 32 weeks pregnant.

"Based on current information, only she tested positive and her other family members tested negative. Nevertheless, all other family members have been placed under quarantine.

"This is what we fear about interstate travels. The patient returned to her hometown when interstate travels were allowed recently. The patient is receiving treatment at Raja Perempuan Zainab II Hospital," he said after an executive council meeting yesterday.

He said contract tracing was underway.

On the daily Covid-19 update, the Health Ministry registered 31 new Covid-19 cases up to noon yesterday, bringing the tally of infections in the country to 7,009.

Dr Noor Hisham said the new cases raised the total number of active cases to 1,189.

"Of the total 31 new cases, 10 are imported cases and 21 are local transmission. Of the new cases, 10 are foreigners."

He said 60 patients had recovered and were discharged yesterday, raising the total number of recovered cases to 5,706, or 81.4 per cent.

He added that there were 11 Covid-19 cases being treated at Intensive Care Unit, with seven requiring breathing assistance.

He said no new deaths were reported and the number of Covid-19 fatalities remained at 114 (1.63 per cent).

He cautioned that there would be a possible increase in the number of Covid-19 cases after Hari Raya Aidilfitri if people failed to comply with the standard operating procedures (SOP) during the festive season.

He said although the government had decided to allow visits on the first day of Hari Raya, people must adhere to the SOP.

"Please ensure social distancing at all times and avoid touching and shaking hands. Should a person who is positive for Covid-19 (and have not realised it) visit us, we all might be infected.

"Therefore, refrain from shaking hands and always wash them," he said, adding that people should also avoid crowded places when visiting relatives.

Dr Noor Hisham, however, said it was best to refrain from visiting others and have a closed-door Hari Raya instead.

"If possible, refrain from visiting graves and relatives. Just celebrate Hari Raya with your immediate family members.

"Refrain from travelling from the red to the green zone. If we can do so, we can prevent the elderly and children from being infected. However, this is just an advice and not a policy."

On a new Covid-19 case involving a tertiary student in Kedah, Dr Noor Hisham said the student tested positive during a screening of more than 271 students before they were allowed to return to Sabah and Sarawak.

He said the student had been isolated and health authorities had identified nine close contacts.

"We are investigating how the students got infected because Kedah is a green zone.

"Maybe it was due to close proximity with friends, but let us investigate before we come up with an announcement," he said.

AKHBAR : THE STAR
MUKA SURAT : 6
RUANGAN : NATION

Covid-19: Current situation globally
(As of 7pm May 20, 2020)

Malaysia	New cases	Total cases	Total deaths	Total recovered
	31	7,009	114	5,706

Asean+	India	China	Singapore	Indonesia	Japan	Philippines	S. Korea	Thailand	Vietnam	Myanmar	Brunei	Cambodia	Laos
Confirmed cases	106,886	82,965	29,364	19,189	16,367	13,221	11,110	3,034	324	193	141	122	19
Deaths	3,303	4,634	22	1,242	768	842	263	56	0	6	1	0	0
Recovered	42,309	78,244	10,365	4,575	11,564	2,932	10,066	2,888	263	104	136	122	14

Global Top 10	US	Russia	Spain	Brazil	UK	Italy	France	Germany	Turkey	Iran
Confirmed cases	1,571,131	308,705	278,803	271,885	248,818	226,699	180,809	177,842	151,615	126,949
Deaths	93,558	2,972	27,778	17,983	35,341	32,169	28,022	8,193	4,199	7,183
Recovered	361,227	85,392	196,958	106,794	N/A	129,401	62,563	156,900	112,895	98,808

'Prevent Hari Raya cluster'

Adham urges those celebrating to adhere to Covid-19 guidelines

PUTRAJAYA: The Health Ministry has urged caution over the upcoming Hari Raya festivities after a new Covid-19 case was detected in Kelantan.

Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba said it was important for those celebrating Hari Raya to adhere to the ministry's Covid-19 guidelines to prevent a "Hari Raya cluster" from happening.

"Hari Raya is very important for Muslims. But the government has already decided that it should only be celebrated among family members.

"Those celebrating must practise a high standard of hygiene. Always clean your hands with water or sanitiser, and also disinfect your homes.

"The police too are on duty to stop those without approval from crossing borders between states.

"As for those in 'green zones', they must act as a community and protect their village or district from the spread of the virus," he told reporters after the Sponsored Research Awards 2020 presentation ceremony here.

Dr Adham was asked to comment on a new infection in Kelantan, believed to involve someone who had crossed borders to get into the state recently.

The ministry is tracing the patient's contacts.

"Kelantan has been a green zone for quite some time. But now it has a new case.

Proud moment: Dr Adham presenting the Clinical Trial Site of the Year Award to Dr Siti Aisah Hassan from Sultan Ismail Hospital during the award presentation ceremony in Putrajaya.

"With Hari Raya coming up, we are worried about a 'Hari Raya cluster'," said Dr Adham.

Based on trends, he said infections were more likely to happen when there was a mass gathering or mass movement.

"We are always prepared for any eventuality. This is a concern and we pray it does not happen," he said.

Earlier, Dr Adham presented the Sponsored Research Award 2020 to several recipients.

Among them were Dr Voon Pei Jye from Sarawak General Hospital (Top Recruiter Award), Dr Lily Wong from Queen Elizabeth Hospital (Investigator of the Year Award), Sultan Ismail Hospital (Clinical Trial Site of the Year Award), Merck Sharp & Dohme (Sponsor of the Year Award) and IQVIA Malaysia (CRO of the Year Award).

In his speech, Dr Adham said that since 2012, the clinical research industry had brought in a cumulative gross national income of RM527mil in contract value, as well as created more than 2,000 skilled jobs in clinical research.

"My appreciation goes out to sponsors and contract research organisations which have always worked hard to bring innovative treatments to Malaysia.

"With the continuous efforts of all stakeholders, I am confident clinical research can be a significant contributor to the economy in the near future," he said.

31 new infections, 10 of them imported ones

PUTRAJAYA: Malaysia has recorded 31 new Covid-19 infections, keeping the number of cases below 50 for the ninth day.

Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said 10 of them were imported ones involving Malaysians returning from abroad.

"Four of the cases were of those returning from the United States, two were from Singapore and one case each from Egypt, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Qatar," he said.

There was also no fatality yesterday, which means the country's Covid-19 death toll remains at 114.

At present, there are 1,189 active cases which are being treated at health facilities in the country.

Dr Noor Hisham also said that 60 more patients had been discharged, which means 5,706 patients have recovered since the outbreak began.

Malaysia's Covid-19 recovery rate is now at 81.4% out of the total number of positive cases.

There are still 11 patients being treated at the intensive care unit with seven on ventilator support.

At the daily Covid-19 press conference, Dr Noor Hisham revealed that Kelantan's first case since April 28 was a woman who was 35 weeks' pregnant and had travelled from Ampang, Selangor – which is a red zone.

With the Hari Raya Aidilfitri celebrations coming up, the Health Ministry is concerned about people travelling from Covid-19 red zones to green zones.

"The government's policy right now is that we block people from leaving the state borders.

"We are particularly concerned about those who are from red zones travelling into green zones," said Dr Noor Hisham.

"People from red zones, where there are active cases, might not know if they have the virus, especially if they are asymptomatic.

"So if we return to our hometown, we have a high chance of infecting our own family members," he said.

Thus, the ministry's advice to those in red zones is not to return to their hometown or village, if possible.

"Stay at home and celebrate Hari Raya in a closed setting and avoid visiting from house to house," said Dr Noor Hisham.

National Blood Centre sends out SOS

By LOH FOON FONG
and JOSEPH KAOS JR
newsdesk@thestar.com.my

KUALA LUMPUR: The National Blood Centre has sent out an urgent appeal to those with blood types A and AB to step forward.

The centre said its stock of blood types A and AB are not at a satisfactory level.

"Please make an effort to donate soon," the centre said in a message on its Facebook page yesterday.

The graphic in the post showed as of yesterday blood types O and B were adequate, but types A and AB were at moderate levels.

Echoing the same appeal, Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah also called on the public to respond to the blood shortage that usually happens during Ramadan, though this one is made worse by the movement control order (MCO).

"During the enforcement of the MCO, blood supply at the National Blood Centre and other centres throughout the country decreased by 40% compared to previous years.

"For example, blood collection from March to May 2018 was 111,328 bags.

"However, the collection for the corresponding period this year was only 67,135 bags.

"Despite various promotional activities, the status of blood collection has not been satisfactory to date, reaching only 57% of the target," he said at his daily Covid-19 media briefing in Putrajaya yesterday.

Dr Noor Hisham said that to mitigate the situation, operations of the National Blood Centre and other blood centres throughout the country have been extended until 9pm during Ramadan.

Various other collection points such as malls and community centres are also open. The centre's Facebook page showed at least eight malls in the Klang Valley having blood collection activities today.

The National Blood Centre added that those who have recovered from Covid-19 must wait for at least 28 days before donating blood.

Those who have been in close contact with a Covid-19 patient or those under investigation for Covid-19 are not allowed to donate until 28 days after the date of contact.

Those who have returned from countries with Covid-19 cases also have to wait for 28 days before donating.

More information can be found at *pdn.gov.my*, Facebook (Pusat Darah Negara Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia), or the respective blood centres in each state.

AKHBAR : THE SUN
MUKA SURAT : 4
RUANGAN : NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS

Student among 31 new Covid-19 patients

PETALING JAYA: A student is among 31 new Covid-19 patients infected with the virus as of noon yesterday.

He was among 271 students who were screened before they were allowed to return home to Sabah and Sarawak.

"The student has been isolated but we also found nine people who had been in close contact with him," Health Director-General Datuk Seri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said at a media briefing yesterday.

He said investigations were under way to determine how he was infected, given that he was in Kedah, which has been declared a "green zone".

"It could have been due to close proximity with friends but we will investigate before making an announcement," he said.

The government recently announced that students held up at campuses would be allowed to return home.

Of the 31 new cases reported yesterday, 10 were Malaysians returning from abroad. Of the remaining 21 who caught the virus through local transmissions, 10 were foreigners.

This brings the total number of cases to 7,009. The death toll remains at 114.

Noor Hisham said 60 patients were discharged yesterday, bringing the total number of those who have recovered to 5,706.

"That is a recovery rate of 81.4%," he added.

Eleven patients are still in intensive care with seven needing ventilator support. – *by* ***Elly Fazaniza***