



PRESS STATEMENT MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA

UPDATES ON THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION IN MALAYSIA 22 July 2020

Current Status of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Who Have Recovered

The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **four (4) cases** have recovered and discharged well today. **Cumulatively, 8,566 confirmed COVID-19 cases have been discharged** (96.9% of total cumulative cases).

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

22 July 2020, 12 pm – A total of **16 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **8,831 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 142 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have all been isolated and given treatment.

Of the 16 additional cases reported today, eight (8) are imported cases who were **infected overseas**, involving four (4) Malaysians and four (4) non-Malaysians (permanent residents or allowed to enter Malaysia for work). The eight (8) imported cases were travellers from:

- India – 2 cases
- Russia – 2 cases
- Saudi Arabia – 1 case
- China – 1 case
- Indonesia – 1 case

- South Korea (1 case)

Of the eight (8) **local transmission** cases, seven (7) cases are among Malaysians and one (1) case is a non-Malaysian, from a pre-departure screening before leaving the country. The case was asymptomatic and has been admitted into Sungai Buloh Hospital, Selangor.

Details of the local transmission COVID-19 cases among **Malaysians** (7 cases) are as follows:

- Sarawak – 7 cases:
 - 3 cases: From the Stutong Cluster.
 - 1 case: From the Sentosa Cluster.
 - 1 case: From the Melbourne PUI Cluster, as detailed below.
 - 1 case: Screening of close contacts of a confirmed COVID-19 case (Case 8,695), who is a family member.
 - 1 case: Screening prior to returning back to work in a school. The case was asymptomatic and has been admitted into Sarawak General Hospital.

Currently, only **five (5) confirmed COVID-19 cases** are receiving treatment **in intensive care units** (ICUs), and one (1) patient is on ventilation support.

No additional COVID-19 death was reported to the National CPRC MOH today. Cumulatively, there are now **123 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.39% of total cumulative cases).

Two New COVID-19 Clusters Reported Today

MOH would like to inform that two (2) new clusters have been identified today:

1. The Hyde Park Cluster

This cluster was detected on a ship in Port Klang, Selangor. The index case of this cluster (Case 8,769) is non-Malaysian (Russian national) ship

crew. He has a history of travelling to Egypt and India. This cluster was identified following the COVID-19 screening of crew members prior to returning to their country of origin.

As of 22 July 2020, 12 pm, a total of 24 individuals have been screened and tested:

- Four (4) confirmed COVID-19 cases
- 20 individuals tested negative

All of the confirmed cases in the cluster are non-Malaysians. They are currently treated in Sungai Buloh Hospital; while all negative close contacts are quarantined on the ship. This cluster therefore does not carry any risk of infection transmission to the community because it is an isolated imported cluster on a ship.

Infection prevention and control measures such as cleaning and disinfection have been carried out on the ship.

2. The Melbourne PUI Cluster

The index case for this cluster is a Malaysian student (Case 8,749) who returned from Australia on 15 July 2020. The case boarded two flights, firstly from Melbourne to Kuala Lumpur, followed by a connecting flight from Kuala Lumpur to Kuching. At the Kuching port of entry, the case was brought to the quarantine centre, where he was tested positive for COVID-19 on 17 July 2020. The case was asymptomatic and was admitted into Sarawak General Hospital.

Subsequently, active case detection was conducted. Another confirmed COVID-19 case was then detected in this cluster. This second case had boarded the same flight as the index case for the Kuala Lumpur to Kuching journey.

As of 22 July 2020, 12 pm, there are two (2) confirmed COVID-19 cases in this cluster. A total of 21 close contacts, consisting of passengers from the same flight and related public transport, have been screened and are

awaiting results. The cause of infection for this cluster is still under investigation.

Visiting Hours and the Number of Visitors Allowed at MOH Hospitals during the Recovery Movement Control Order Period

MOH would like to inform that the visiting hours and the number of visitors allowed at MOH hospitals during the Recovery Movement Control Order (RMCO) period remains the same as during the Movement Control Order (MCO) period, i.e.:

- Visitors are only allowed into the ward for emergencies or critical cases, or under exceptional circumstances.
- Visiting hours are shortened, as determined by each hospital.

For clinic appointments, only one companion or carer is allowed, except for paediatric patients or patients requiring assistance, or emergency cases, or in exceptional circumstances.

This policy is necessary to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 infection in hospitals, as well as to break the continuous transmission of COVID-19 infection. It is important for us to protect patients and healthcare workers from being infected with the COVID-19 virus. In addition, it can also reduce hospital congestion and allows social distancing to be practiced in hospitals.

Revisions to this guideline will be made from time to time, and any changes are subject to the current situation of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Health Advisory on COVID-19

MOH advises the public not to be complacent and to continue to remain vigilant; and to always practice all of the health advisories issued by the MOH. The advisories that should be incorporated as the new normal include:

- Avoid the **3Cs**: Avoid **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
 - Seek early treatment if symptomatic
 - Stay at home and avoid from visiting others
 - Regularly clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces in common areas

In addition to the SOPs, continue to adhere to **THIS**:

- **T**: Terms set under the Recovery Movement Control Order (RMCO)
- **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

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

22 July 2020 @ 5.00 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 22 July 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Perlis	0	18
Kedah	0	100
Pulau Pinang	0	121
Perak	1 (1)	261
Selangor	3 (3)	2,112
Negeri Sembilan	0	1,028
Melaka	0	258
Johor	1 (1)	717
Pahang	0	365
Terengganu	0	114
Kelantan	0	158
Sabah	0	383
Sarawak	9 (2)	628
WP Kuala Lumpur	2 (1)	2,453
WP Putrajaya	0	98
WP Labuan	0	17
Total	16 (8)	8,831

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 case