

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 7

RUANGAN : LOKAL

Lelaki derma darah 200 kali

Anggota Rela jadi penderma tertinggi direkod Hospital Sultanah Nur Zahirah

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Kuala Terengganu

Seorang anggota Jabatan Sukarelawan Malaysia (Rela) Terengganu mencatat sejarah tersendiri apabila menjadi penderma darah tertinggi di negeri ini.

Lans Koperal Zakaria Omar, 44, dari Kampung Baru Tetambah menderma darah untuk kali yang ke-200 semalam sekali gus menjadi penderma darah tertinggi direkodkan Unit Tabung Darah (UTD) Hospital Sultanah Nur Zahirah (HSNZ).

Zakaria berkata, dia mula menderma darah sejak 1995 selepas mengikuti rakannya ke program derma darah ketika bekerja di Kuala Lumpur sebelum ia menjadi amalan rutinnya.

"Dalam setahun, saya



ZAKARIA menerima sijil penghargaan daripada Dr Azhani (tiga dari kanan) selepas menderma darah kali ke-200 di Unit Tabung Darah.

menderma darah empat kali iaitu dalam tempoh tiga bulan sekali sama ada pada program derma darah yang dianjurkan atau ke UTD HSNZ," katanya.

Turut hadir, Pakar Perubatan Transfusi HSNZ, Dr Azhani Azmin.

Beliau berkata, amalan kepuasan apabila membantu mereka yang memerlukan.

"Jika boleh menderma darah setiap bulan, saya buat de-

HSNZ tubuh Kelab Penderma Darah disertai 400 ahli

mikian dan berharap umur saya panjang supaya berpeluang menderma darah dengan lebih banyak pada masa akan datang.

"Sekurang-kurangnya sebelum saya meninggal dunia, hati teringin untuk menderma darah 300 kali,"

katanya yang turut menerima Sijil Penghargaan Penderma Tertinggi di UTD HSNZ.

Sementara itu, Dr Azhani berkata, 150 penderma tegar menderma darah di UTD HSNZ setiap bulan dengan purata kedatangan penderma di UTD setiap hari ialah anantara 10 hingga 15 orang.

"Kami menasarakan 30 penderma yang datang ke UTD menderma darah setiap hari tahun hadapan," katanya.

Katanya, pelbagai program dianjurkan dari semasa ke semasa bagi memberi kesedaran kepada masyarakat kepentingan menderma darah.

"Kami menubuhkan Kelab Penderma Darah HSNZ dan disertai 400 ahli. Hasrat kami melahirkan lebih ramai penderma darah tegar untuk menampung keperluan darah di UTD yang semakin meningkat," katanya.

AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 8

RUANGAN : NATION

'Vaccine-derived polio cases are rare'

Expert: Malaysians need not worry as current vaccination is completely safe

By LOH FOON FONG
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KUALA LUMPUR: The public can rest assured that vaccine-derived polio cases are rare and preventable, says consultant paediatrician and neonatologist Datuk Dr Musa Mohd Nordin.

Questions have been raised over whether people can get infected from polio vaccination after a three-month-old boy in Sabah was infected with a virus linked to oral polio vaccine (OPV).

Dr Musa said Malaysia had moved away from OPV, a mixture of live attenuated poliovirus strains, to using injectable polio vaccine (IPV).

"IPV is very safe and carries zero risk of causing polio as it is a dead virus. Those who receive IPV are fully protected," he said in an interview.

On Monday, Health Minister

Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said there were no vaccine-derived polio cases before this and all those reported in the past were due to wild poliovirus.

"The ministry would like to stress that IPV did not cause this vaccine-derived polio virus as it contains an inactivated polio virus," he said.

He said OPV was given from 1972 in Malaysia. IPV was introduced in 2008 and subsequently, OPV was phased out in 2016.

On Sunday, the ministry said a polio case was reported in Tuaran, 27 years after the last case was reported.

Malaysia was declared polio-free in 2000.

The Malaysian boy had been admitted to hospital after experiencing fever and weakness of limbs before being confirmed to be infected with vaccine-derived poliovirus

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Datuk Dr Musa Mohd Nordin

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type 1 (VDPV1) on Dec 6.

VDPV1 is classified as a circulating vaccine-derived poliovirus (cVDPV) type 1, which originates from the weakened OPV polio virus.

Test results showed that the virus which infected the boy has genetic links to the polio virus circulating in

the southern Philippines.

The Philippines declared a polio outbreak on Sept 19 caused by VDPV1.

Dr Musa urged parents to get their children immunised to ensure "herd immunity", which protects the whole community.

Asked whether weakened virus from OPV that Malaysia used in 2016 was still circulating in the environment, he said it was not possible.

OPV is excreted in the stools and the weakened virus can survive for 12 to 18 months in the environment, he said.

It can mutate and in very rare circumstances regain its neuro virulence and behave like the wild or naturally occurring virus, which is called VDPV.

"Three years after Malaysia stopped using OPV, the chain of transmission of vaccine-derived

polio vaccine would have been broken, which means it would not be in the environment anymore.

"The virus would have died and we need not worry about it," he said.

Dr Musa added that VDPV could only cause infection in a community which had low immunisation coverage and poor hygiene and sanitation levels.

Asked why some countries are still using OPV, he said it is cheap, easy to administer and protects the individual and the community.

"Since 2000, 10 billion doses of OPV have been used worldwide, preventing 13 million polio cases. Only fewer than 750 cases of VDPV have been reported.

"But the endgame strategy of polio eradication is to shift from OPV to IPV to reduce the risk of VDPV and vaccine-associated paralytic poliomyelitis to zero," he said.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 11

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

75 peratus tidak tunjuk gejala jangkitan

KUALA LUMPUR - Hampir 75 peratus daripada mereka yang dijangkiti virus polio tidak menunjukkan sebarang tanda gejala.

**JANGKITAN
POLIO**

Pakar Perunding Perubatan Kesihatan Awam, Kementerian Kesihatan, Dr Rohani Jahis berkata, sebaliknya hanya seorang daripada empat orang dengan jangkitan virus polio akan menunjukkan gejala seperti demam selesema.

"Hanya 0.5 peratus individu yang dijangkiti virus itu mengalami kelumpuhan. Maksudnya tidak semua orang lumpuh tetapi apabila kita dijangkiti virus ini, ia (virus) tetap akan dikeluarkan dalam najis.

"Jadi risiko untuk menjangkiti orang lain itu ada, apabila ia (virus) dikeluarkan dalam persekitaran," katanya ketika menjadi tetamu Ruang Bicara: Bahaya Polio di *Bername TV* semalam.

Pada 6 Disember lalu, seorang berusia bayi tiga bulan dijangkiti vaccine-derived poliovirus type 1 semasa dirawat di Unit Rawatan Rapi hospital pada 6 Disember lepas.

Kes polio ialah yang pertama, setelah Malaysia diisytiharkan bebas penyakit itu 27 tahun lalu.

Beliau berkata, virus polio sebenarnya belum lagi dibasmi di dunia ini dan terdapat tiga lagi negara yang masih endemik virus tersebut iaitu Nigeria, Afghanistan dan Pakistan.

Beliau menegaskan, langkah terbaik ketika ini ialah memastikan anak-anak menerima imunisasi dan komuniti dilindungi dengan imunisasi. - *Bername*



DR ROHANI