



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

8 March 2020 – The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that Case 41 has fully recovered and discharged well from Kuala Lumpur Hospital. Cumulatively, 24 confirmed cases have fully recovered and discharged well.

Current Status in Malaysia

8 March 2020, 12 pm – A total of **six (6) additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH. They have all been identified and isolated for further management. Investigation and identification of close contacts for testing are currently ongoing. All the additional cases reported today are close contacts of the COVID-19 cluster relating to Case 26. **They were all identified during contact tracing activities and have been admitted to the isolation ward in hospitals for further management. Investigation and contact tracing activities are still ongoing to identify the source of infection.**

With these additional six (6) cases, cumulatively there are now **99 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Of these, 18 cases were amongst Patients Under Investigation (PUI), 79 cases amongst close contacts, and two (2) amongst evacuees of the Humanitarian Assistance missions. Of all confirmed cases, two (2) cases were reported to require ventilation support and treatment in intensive care units. They were also given antiviral medications.

Of all confirmed cases reporting during this second wave of COVID-19 infection in Malaysia (Cases 23 to 99), only five (5) cases were reported amongst PUI with histories of travelling overseas. **Whereas the remaining**

cases were from a cluster of close contacts or history of close contact with each other.

MOH is also conducting COVID-19 surveillance to detect sporadic and local cases in Malaysia through patients with influenza-like-illness (ILI) and severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARI) with no history of travelling to affected countries or contacts with confirmed COVID-19 cases. As of 8 March 2020, a total of 567 samples have been tested and none were found to be positive for COVID-19. **Currently there is no sporadic COVID-19 cases that have been detected by this surveillance.**

Health Advisory

1. Individuals who are instructed to undergo home surveillance **must comply to the rules specified under the Observation and Surveillance Order**. The Observation and Surveillance Order is an order contained in the Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases Act 1988 (Act 342).
2. MOH advises all Malaysians to **postpone all travels overseas**, particularly to provinces or cities declared with COVID-19 outbreaks in the People's Republic of China, Republic of Korea, Japan, Italy and Iran (as announced previously).
3. The public is also advised to constantly **maintain a high level of personal hygiene**, wash hands frequently with soap and water, or use hand sanitisers. Please seek early medical treatment for symptoms of respiratory tract infection e.g. fever, cough and/or difficulty breathing.
4. Individuals with symptoms are also advised not to visit crowded public places. Maintain a distance of at least 1 metre from other individuals.
5. The public is also reminded not to share or disseminate unverified news or information on COVID-19, particularly of **specific areas or locations with alleged COVID-19 infection**.

MOH will continue to monitor the development of the COVID-19 situation and the public will be updated on the latest information. The official information on

the latest development on COVID-19 can be obtained from the MOH's website;
www.moh.gov.my.

Thank you.

DATUK DR NOOR HISHAM ABDULLAH
Director General of Health Malaysia

8 March 2020 @ 4 pm