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RM1

SCAN ME



'Raise probability of being caught to curb drink-driving'

Expert says low enforcement, not weak laws, allowing errant motorists to keep driving.

Report on page 5

Delay may not help

Report on page 3

Postponement of GE16 under current circumstances prudent, but move does not guarantee easy win later if reform pledges not prioritised and delivered: Analysts



Health Ministry officials and pharmaceutical industry representatives are working together to monitor medication stock levels nationwide to detect any possible supply disruptions early. - ADIB RAHYA/THESUN

Report on page 2

Govt issues assurance on sufficient stocks of insulin and vaccines

Health Ministry officials and industry representatives to jointly monitor supply levels nationwide, says deputy DG.

Selangor fast-tracks nuclear plans to address potential energy crises

Plan involves collaboration with several agencies and international partners to diversify power sources.

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'Supply of critical medications, medical devices stable'

➤ Govt continuously monitoring situation to ensure sufficient stocks nationwide: Ministry

KUALA LUMPUR: The Health Ministry has assured the public that the supply of critical medications, including insulin and vaccines, remains stable and sufficient to meet needs for the time being.

Its deputy director-general of Health (Pharmaceutical Services) Dr Azuana Ramli said the government is continuously monitoring the situation to ensure that medication stocks nationwide stay stable.

"We have a task force consisting of ministry officials and industry representatives. We are discussing this issue and monitoring stock levels together," she said on

Thursday on Bernama TV's *Ruang Bicara* programme titled "National Drug Supply Security".

Azuana said under the mechanism, industry partners provide stock level information, allowing the ministry to detect any possible supply disruption earlier.

"We can see which critical stocks are at risk, such as those with only 60 to 90 days of supply left in the chain. Once we identify the problematic stocks, we can take action."

On insulin supply, Azuana said treatment of diabetes patients remains unaffected, given the wide range of therapies and alternative

medications available.

"Even if there is a shortage of insulin, diabetes patients can continue their treatment as they can switch to insulin analogs or tablet medications.

"There may be some supply chain disruptions, but we will take mitigation steps to ensure patients receive treatment by any means necessary."

Meanwhile, Medical Device Authority (MDA) CEO Dr P. Muralitharan said medical devices in Malaysia remain sufficient for now.

He said MDA is monitoring the situation closely as slight shortages are being seen in several categories of devices, Bernama reported.

"Among the affected devices are in-vitro diagnostic products such as test kits and laboratory reagents.

However, the shortage levels are not significant.

"This minor disruption also involves (items) like gloves, face masks, implants, surgical devices and materials for haemodialysis treatment."

He was speaking during an appearance on Bernama TV's *Ruang Bicara* programme titled "Special Access Pathway: Accelerating Supply to Ensure Safety".

He said the pathway allows suppliers to gain faster access to medical devices, adding that it is an interim approach that permits the use of devices that have not yet been fully registered, subject to strict quality and safety assessments.

"At the same time, this measure also aims to reduce the nation's reliance on imported medical devices."

LETTERS letters@thesundaily.com

Act now to stem silent exodus of our doctors

THERE is a quiet crisis unfolding in Malaysia's hospitals and it is not about equipment shortages or bed capacity. It is about people – our young doctors, fresh out of medical school, quietly choosing to leave.

This should stop you cold: only 529 out of 5,000 housemanship spots offered this January were accepted. That is just 10.5%. Nearly 4,500 young Malaysians said no to starting their medical careers at home – not because they don't love their country but because they don't see a future here.

And Singapore? They are watching and they are ready. With starting packages of around S\$110,000 (about RM385,000), plus permanent positions, pensions and clear career pathways, recruiters are already engaging students before they even graduate.

Our top medical schools are increasingly becoming feeder institutions for foreign systems. Why is this happening? Because our system keeps sending the wrong message: contract after contract, uncertainty after uncertainty. Young doctors are overworked, underpaid and undervalued.

Many burn out before they have even begun. Mentorship is limited, promotion pathways are unclear and there is barely a visible future to work towards. They are not asking for luxury; they are

asking for dignity. Ending the contract system, which the Health Ministry is reportedly considering, would be a step in the right direction. But it is only that – a first step.

We need permanent posts, clear career pathways and real institutional support. Housemanship should not feel like survival; it should be a foundation for learning and growth.

We cannot outpace Singapore but we can compete on something deeper: respect, purpose and that their work matters and they matter too.

Young doctors want balance. They want recognition, opportunities to specialise, to research and to grow without being broken by the system. Public service should feel like an honour, not a trap.

Forcing them to stay through bonds will not solve the problem. We must also engage the thousands of Malaysian doctors already working abroad, creating return pathways, recognising overseas experience and allowing them to come home without losing ground.

Our doctors are not leaving because they are disloyal; they are leaving because the system keeps failing them. If we do not act now, the outflow will continue.

K.T. Maran
Seremban

Baby thriving after womb surgery for spinal defect

KUCHING: A baby who underwent in-utero fetal surgery for spina bifida at Sarawak General Hospital (SGH) here last September is doing well, says the Health Minister.

Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said clinical assessment showed that the four-month-old is able to breathe, swallow and pass urine and stool normally.

“More remarkably, the baby’s legs are moving strongly, and the infant did not require a ventriculoperitoneal (VP) shunt after birth,” he said in a Facebook post yesterday, Bernama reported.

A VP shunt is a procedure to drain excess fluid from the brain to the abdomen, helping to relieve pressure and prevent damage caused by fluid build-up.

Dzulkefly said that during his visit to SGH, he met the team of specialists who had made national history by performing the surgery, the first of its kind in Malaysia.

Dzulkefly said that through expert intervention while the mother is still pregnant, the baby’s spinal cord can be protected from damage, while life-threatening respiratory complications can be prevented.

UM denies claims linking PET-CT facility to radiation risk

By **JAAYNE JEEVITA**
newsdesk@thestar.com.m

PETALING JAYA: Universiti Malaya (UM) has denied allegations that its Positron Emission Tomography - Computed Tomography (PET-CT) imaging facility is linked to harmful radiation exposure.

UM said in a statement that all PET-CT scanning operations at the University Malaya Medical Centre (UMMC) are conducted under strict safety standards.

“The safety, health and well-being of every employee and member of the public remain a priority at PPUM.

“Radiation exposure levels are in accordance with set standards and are controlled. All radiation workers are required to wear personal dosimeters.

“Official records show that staff radiation exposure is significantly lower and remains below the gazetted dose limits,” the statement said.

It added that regular health screenings are also conducted according to a fixed schedule.

UM said UMMC operates in full compliance with standard operating procedures for radiation protection programmes, as well as the Atomic Energy Licensing Act 1984 (Act 304), Atomic Energy Licensing Regulations (Basic Radiation Safety Protection) 2010, and Atomic Energy Licensing Regulations (Radioactive Waste Management) 2011.

“Radioactive waste handling is closely monitored and carried out only with approval from the relevant authorities,” it said.

UM also noted that inspections by the Health Ministry’s medical radiation control division in October 2025 found no violations, confirming full compliance with all prescribed regulations.

“UMMC remains fully prepared for inspections by the authorities to ensure continued compliance with all safety regulations and standards.

“The management assures that all radiation-related work environments are safe and constantly monitored by certified regulatory bodies, and urges all parties not to spread unfounded speculation that could cause public concern,” it added.

STRICT SAFETY STANDARDS

UM refutes PET-CT scan radiation cancer claims

KUALA LUMPUR: Universiti Malaya has refuted claims linking radiation from a PET-CT machine at UM Medical Centre (UMMC) to cancer cases among several staff members.

"The safety, health and well-being of all staff and the public remain a priority at UMMC. In response to allegations linking the PET-CT scanning facility to harmful radiation risks, the management wishes to stress that the claims are untrue," it said in a statement yesterday.

UM said PET-CT scan operations were conducted according to strict safety standards, and radiation exposure levels were controlled within established limits.

It added that all radiation workers were required to wear personal dosimeters, which measure exposure to ionising radiation.

"Official records show that

workers' radiation exposure is significantly lower than the gazetted dose limits."

It added that periodic medical check-ups were also conducted according to a fixed schedule.

UM said it complied with the Radiation Protection Programme standard operating procedures, the Atomic Energy Licensing Act 1984 and the relevant 2010 and 2011 radiation protection and waste management regulations.

"Radioactive waste management is closely monitored and implemented with the approval of relevant authorities.

"An inspection by the Health Ministry's Medical Radiation Regulatory Division in October 2025 found no procedural violations, confirming that UMMC complied with all set regulations."

Annual licence inspection vis-

its by the division's enforcement officers were also carried and UM said it remained ready for further inspections.

Earlier, the group #ReformIPT called for a probe into alleged radiation safety breaches at UMMC, claiming negligence led to staff developing chronic illnesses.

The group alleged that improper installation of PET-CT scanners at the hospital's Nuclear Medicine Unit resulted in personnel contracting lung, blood, and breast cancer.

In a list of 10 demands, #ReformIPT called for an independent safety audit, mandatory dosimetry records for all staff and full medical compensation for the affected families.

The group also issued a 14-day ultimatum to the hospital administration to provide a formal response to their list of demands.

EMERGING PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERN

MMA: Plastic particles have been detected in air, too

KUALA LUMPUR: Microplastics should be treated as an emerging public health concern in Malaysia, with growing evidence showing the particles are present not just in food and water, but also in the air people breathe.

Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) president Datuk Dr R. Thirunavukarasu said microplastics are now present across multiple exposure pathways, making population-wide exposure increasingly difficult to avoid.

"From a public health standpoint, microplastics should be viewed as an emerging environmental risk that is now unavoidable."

He said scientific evidence shows exposure is occurring in everyday environments.

"Scientific evidence shows they are present in our water, food and air, meaning population-wide exposure is already occurring."

While studies have confirmed that microplastics can enter the human body through ingestion and inhalation, he said evidence on long-term health effects in humans remained limited.

He added that laboratory and animal studies suggested that the effects could include inflammation, oxidative stress and immune responses, although "direct causal evidence in humans is still lacking, especially long-term outcomes".

"More robust epidemiological studies are needed."

Dr Thirunavukarasu said the absence of conclusive evidence should not be interpreted as absence of risk, given the persistence of microplastics in the environment.

He urged a precautionary approach, including stronger monitoring, reduced exposure where possible and expanded research as the science develops.

"At present, data on human exposure and health impacts of microplastics globally and in Malaysia remain limited."

He said most monitoring currently focused on environmental levels rather than direct human exposure, calling for improved surveillance and research capacity.

"Monitoring tends to focus on environmental levels rather than actual human biological exposure."

He said a coordinated national response was needed, cutting across health, environment and industry sectors.

"A dedicated inter-ministerial committee or parliamentary mechanism would help align policies and ensure a science-based response," he added. **By Ahmad Mukhsein Mukhtar**



Dr Dzulkefly (second right) being briefed on equipment used at the CRM.

Sarawak a major hub for clinical research — Minister



Samuel Aubrey

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KUCHING: The Sarawak branch of Clinical Research Malaysia (CRM) is touted as the largest in the country, with a workforce of 34, following the opening of its new office at Kozi Square.

In a Facebook post, Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said the expansion reflected the government's strong commitment to strengthening clinical research capacity in the state.

"In fact, the allocation of RM6.5 million per year specifically allocated to Sarawak reflects our serious commitment to developing local research manpower and facilities," said the federal minister, who was in Kuching to officiate at the opening of the new CRM Sarawak office on Friday, which also held the launch of CRM's Annual Report 2025 and an IQVIA White Paper.

The white paper, titled 'Malaysia: The New Destination for Early Phase Trials', highlights the country's growing readiness in infrastructure and expertise at the international level.

Adding on, Dr Dzulkefly said Sarawak General Hospital (SGH) had emerged as a leading oncology research centre in Malaysia, driven by its success in conducting first-in-human (FIH) clinical studies.

According to the CRM Annual Report 2025, 46 per cent of sponsored clinical trials have been successfully carried out

at Health Ministry facilities, reflecting steady progress in expanding research capabilities nationwide.

"The expansion of research sites is crucial as it enables greater access for the public to innovative treatments and therapies, especially for critical illnesses," said Dr Dzulkefly.

He later visited the Clinical Research Centre (CRC) at SGH, which he described as the country's only fully integrated clinical research facility designed for a wide range of studies, including medical devices, drug delivery systems and artificial intelligence (AI)-based innovations.

Dr Dzulkefly commended the CRC team for having advanced the Phase 1 (FIH) studies since 2023, particularly in the development of next-generation cancer treatments.

During the visit, he was briefed on the use of Vave Wireless Ultrasound technology, an AI-powered device that connects directly to smartphones to enable rapid scans of the heart, lungs and abdomen, as well as monitoring of pregnant women.

"This technology allows early health screening to be conducted."

Meanwhile, Deputy Premier Datuk Amar Dr Sim Kui Hian described the selection of the CRC at SGH as the launch venue for both the CRM Annual Report 2025 and the IQVIA White Paper as a strong endorsement of Sarawak's clinical research capabilities.

The CRC at SGH has been recognised as the top clinical research site in Malaysia for four consecutive years, from 2022 to

2025," said Dr Sim, who was the first head of the CRC from 2003 to 2011.

He added that the centre had grown significantly from being the third such facility under the Health Ministry to one of 36 nationwide today.

Dr Sim also highlighted CRM's growth since its establishment in 2012 as a wholly owned entity of the ministry, noting that it had expanded from handling 173 clinical trials to 2,800 sponsored studies by last year.

"This has contributed a cumulative gross national income of RM1.86 billion and created 3,252 skilled jobs in clinical research," he said.

Dr Sim also thanked the federal government for allocating RM950,000 to upgrade the CRC at SGH, as well as RM1.5 million for ultrasound machines to support advanced procedures, including intrauterine operations for spinal bifida.

On another matter, Dr Dzulkefly also had the opportunity to meet the team of specialists who successfully executed Malaysia's first in-utero (prenatal) spina bifida repair surgery at SGH in September last year.

The pioneering procedure was carried out by a multidisciplinary team of specialists comprising maternal fetal medicine expert Dr Tan Lee Na, anaesthesiologist Dr Teo Shu Ching, neonatologist Dr Amita Vivehanantham, and neurosurgeon Dr Low Peh Hueh.

He said the surgery, conducted on a 26-week-old foetus, marked a significant leap in the country's capability in advanced and specialised surgical care.

BDU 2026 boosts access to dermatology care in rural S'wak

MIRI: The recent Borneo Dermatology Update (BDU) 2026 brought together 350 healthcare professionals from Sabah, Sarawak, Labuan and Brunei to improve access to specialised skin care in rural areas.

Held at Miri Hospital and the Meritz Hotel here, the conference focused on decentralising dermatology services to bridge the healthcare gap between urban and rural communities across Borneo.

The event was jointly organised by the Dermatology Departments of Sarawak General Hospital, Miri Hospital and Sibu Hospital, together with the Malaysian Dermatological Society, in collaboration with Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Kota Kinabalu.

A key highlight was the

expansion of dermatology services across Sarawak, aimed at bringing specialist care closer to patients in district-level facilities.

State dermatologist and organising chair Dr Tang Min Moon said visiting specialist services had been extended to Sri Aman Hospital and Siburan Health Clinic since January this year, complementing an existing teledermatology network serving several health clinics and Betong Hospital.

"Similar expansions are underway statewide, including services from Sibu Hospital to Sarikei and Kapit, and from Miri Hospital to Limbang, with plans to extend to Lawas by July," he added.

Meanwhile, the newly-established Dermatology Unit at Bintulu Hospital is expected to

expand its services to Mukah in the coming months.

Officiating at the event on behalf of Sarawak Health Department director Dr Veronica Lughah, deputy director (public health) Dr Azlee Ayub hailed strengthening district-level capabilities as key to ensuring equitable access to healthcare.

"No patient should have to travel for days just to receive a simple injection," he said.

"By bringing these services closer to communities, we are not only improving access but also preserving the dignity and quality of life of our patients."

Dr Azlee added that enabling district facilities to administer advanced treatments, including biological injections, reflected the state's commitment to inclusive, patient-centred healthcare.

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Home

MMA: Allowance review for specialist nurses urgent

Churchill Edward

KUCHING: The Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) has called for an urgent review of the long-standing RM100 monthly post-basic allowance for specialist nurses, describing it as a test of national leadership and commitment to the healthcare system.

MMA president Datuk Dr Thirunavukarasu Rajoo said the allowance for highly trained nurses in critical care areas had remained unchanged for 17 years despite increasing responsibilities and rising living costs.

He hailed these nurses, serving in intensive care units (ICU), emergency and trauma departments, dialysis centres, oncology wards and neonatal care units, as 'essential to



Datuk Dr Thirunavukarasu Rajoo

the effective functioning of hospitals'.

"Without them, ICU beds are not usable, surgeries cannot proceed safely and dialysis services cannot continue. This is no longer just a matter of fairness. It is a matter of system integrity," he said in a statement.

According to the MMA, Malaysia is currently facing a nursing vacancy rate of nearly 18 per cent in the public healthcare system, with more than 14,700

positions unfilled out of 84,000 as at September last year.

"Shortages are particularly critical among post-basic nurses in specialised fields requiring advanced training and experience."

In this regard, Dr Thirunavukarasu warned that continued attrition of experienced nurses from the public sector would result in a loss of expertise that could take years to rebuild, further straining the healthcare system.

"Most nurses are women balancing demanding shift work with family responsibilities, while contributing to serve with dedication," he added.

While acknowledging that remuneration structures fall under the Public Service Department and the Ministry of Finance, he said the matter would

ultimately require a decision at the highest level.

"At this stage, it is no longer about process or timing within a budget cycle. It is about whether a decision is made," he said.

The MMA is calling for the allowance to be increased to a minimum of RM500 per month, along with a structured mechanism for periodic review.

"This does not require another study. It requires resolve. Our nurses have stood by Malaysians in our most vulnerable moments. The question now is whether national leadership will stand by them," added Dr Thirunavukarasu, whose comments were made in response to the Malayan Nurses Union's call for the Health Ministry to review the RM100 allowance, which had remained unchanged for 17 years.

DARI RIBA KE PENJARA

Pemandu bas kena setahun, teman wanita 6 bulan

Mukasurat 10

Keputusan akhir kes Ebit Lew diketahui 30 April ini

Mukasurat 11



Undang Luak Sungei Ujong diberhentikan ikut adat - MB

Mukasurat 22



KEMBALIKAN STATUS BEBAS CUKAI LANGKAWI

Anwar junjung titah Sultan Kedah, arah kaji semula

Mukasurat 7

SUARA RAKYAT

Sinar Harian



Radiasi mesin scan cetus kluster kanser?

UM nafi dakwaan, tegas PET-CT selamat

SEORANG bekas juru X-ray mendakwa berlaku pelanggaran serius prosedur keselamatan radiasi di Unit Perubatan Nuklear Pusat Perubatan Universiti Malaya (PPUM) sehingga mencetuskan kebimbangan terhadap kesihatan kakitangan dan pesakit, termasuk kewujudan kluster kanser dalam kalangan staf.

Nur Fauzia Abdul Razak, yang kini menghidap kanser limfoma Hodgkin's tahap empat, mendakwa tiga staf disah-

kan menghidap kanser manakala empat lagi mengalami masalah tiroid selepas pemasangan mesin PET-CT beberapa tahun lalu di hospital pengajar berkenaan.

Bagaimanapun, Universiti Malaya menafikan dakwaan tersebut dan menegaskan fasiliti imbasan PET-CT adalah selamat serta pematuhan terhadap prosedur keselamatan sentiasa menjadi keutamaan.

Mukasurat 2 & 3



Nur Fauzia (empat dari kanan) pada sidang akhbar di Kuala Lumpur pada Jumaat.

APA ITU PENYAKIT LIMFOMA?

- Limfoma merupakan sejenis kanser yang melibatkan limfosit dalam sistem imunisasi manusia.
- Terdapat dua kategori limfoma iaitu Hodgkin dan Non-Hodgkin.
- Antara faktor risiko yang boleh menyebabkan bertakunya limfoma ialah keturunan, penyakit yang merendahkan imuniti tubuh dan pendedahan kepada bahan-bahan kimia berbahaya seperti benzene.

ANTARA SIMPTOM



Benjolan di leher,
ketiak atau
pangkal paha



Kelelahan
berterusan



Demam
berpanjangan



Berpeluh
pada waktu
malam



Kehilangan
berat
badan



Hilang
selera
makan



Gatal-
gatal
kulit

• Sumber: Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM)

MESIN PET-CT

Mesin Positron Emission Tomography (PET) dan Computed Tomography (CT) adalah gabungan teknologi yang membolehkan doktor menilai keadaan pesakit bukan sahaja dari segi struktur anatomi, tetapi juga fungsi dan aktiviti sel di dalam badan dengan lebih tepat.

Teknologi PET:

Mengesan perubahan metabolik dan aktiviti sel. Kawasan yang menunjukkan aktiviti sel tidak normal dapat dikenal pasti dengan lebih jelas, sekalligus membantu penentuan tahap penyakit dan pemantauan keberkesanan rawatan.

Teknologi CT:

Memberi imej anatomi yang terperinci menggunakan sinar-X, membolehkan lokasi sebenar kawasan yang dikesan oleh PET dikenal pasti dengan tepat.

- Secara keseluruhan, mesin PET-CT direka untuk meningkatkan ketepatan diagnostik, mempercepatkan proses imbasan serta meningkatkan keselesaan pesakit.



• Sumber: Pusat
Pengimejan Diagnostik
Nuklear UPM



Nur Fauzia (dua dari kiri) bersama
peguamnya, Siti Nur Sabrina
Mohammad (tengah) ketika sidang
akhbar di Kuala Lumpur pada Jumaat.

Bekas juru X-ray mahu saman PPUM

Dakwa hidap limfoma kerana pelanggaran SOP radiasi di unit hospital berkenaan

KUALALUMPUR - Seorang bekas juru X-ray di Pusat Perubatan Universiti Malaya (PPUM) di sini mahu mengambil tindakan undang-undang terhadap hospital terbabit selepas dia disahkan menghidap kanser limfoma Hodgkin tahap empat.

Nur Fauzia Abdul Razak, 35, bercadang berbuat demikian selepas mendakwa berlaku pelanggaran serius terhadap prosedur operasi standard (SOP) berkaitan keselamatan radiasi di Unit Perubatan Nuklear hospital berkenaan.

Menurut Nur Fauzia, dia terpaksa dibersarakan awal kerana tidak lagi mampu bekerja serta masih menjalani rawatan kemoterapi.

"Setakat ini saya menjalani lebih 20 kitaran kemoterapi selepas disahkan menghidap kanser pada Mac 2023.

"Bahagian Kawalan Radiasi dan

Perubatan (BKR) Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) mengesahkan penyakit yang saya hadapi ini berpunca daripada kesan pendedahan radiasi jangka panjang atau dikenali sebagai *stochastic effect*," katanya dalam satu sidang akhbar bersama peguamnya di sini pada Jumaat.

Nur Fauzia berkata, perkara itu turut menimbulkan kebimbangan terhadap kesihatan dalam kalangan kakitangan dan pesakit.

Dakwanya, selepas pemasangan mesin *Positron Emission Tomography-Computed Tomography (PET-CT)* di Menara Selatan PPUM beberapa tahun lalu, statistik kakitangan yang jatuh sakit dengan penyakit berkaitan pendedahan radiasi menunjukkan peningkatan mendadak.

Sehingga kini, katanya, seramai tiga kakitangan telah disahkan menghidap kanser paru-paru, kanser darah dan kanser payu dara.

"Selain itu, terdapat empat kakitangan lain disahkan menghidap penyakit tiroid. Lebih membimbangkan, salah

seorang pesakit kanser payu dara yang dimaksudkan terpaksa menjalani pembedahan *Caesarean Section (C-Section)* untuk melahirkan anak secara pramatang.

"Prosedur itu perlu dijalankan sebelum menjalani pembedahan pembuangan keseluruhan tisu payu dara bagi tujuan rawatan kanser.

"Kesemua kakitangan yang terlibat adalah daripada Jabatan Radiologi dan bekerja di tingkat lima menara berkenaan," ujarinya.

Nur Fauzia berkata, satu laporan rasmi juga sudah diserahkan kepada BKR namun berdasarkan dokumen rasmi yang dikeluarkan, terdapat perenggahan maklumat antara dapatan siasatan dan maklum balas yang diberikan oleh pihak berkenaan.

"Saya percaya telah berlaku manipulasi data serta laporan teknikal bagi tujuan menutup kes ini daripada pengetahuan umum.

"Saya juga percaya pihak PPUM sendiri telah gagal mematuhi prosedur keselamatan serta tanggungjawab yang ditetapkan oleh pihak bertanggungjawab," ujarinya.

LAPORAN
MUKA
DEPAN

Peguam dakwa ada tujuh mangsa terdedah radiasi di PPUM

KUALA LUMPUR - Peguam kepada bekas juru X-ray Pusat Perubatan Universiti Malaysia mendakwa terdapat seramai tujuh individu berdepan risiko kanser dan tiroid akibat terdedah kepada mesin radiasi di hospital berkenaan.

Siti Nur Sabrina Mohammad daripada firma guaman Tetuan Aimee & Zaim Arif berkata, adalah sesuatu yang pelik apabila kesemua pengadu mendakwa mereka sudah mendapat kesan sampingan dalam tempoh yang singkat.

"Biasanya jika ada (pendedahan radiasi) pun, jarak sekurang-kurangnya tujuh hingga 10 tahun. Tetapi dalam masa terdekat ini, sudah ada tujuh orang.

"Jadi, jumlah yang sangat banyak itu sepatutnya pihak pusat perubatan menjalankan siasatan," katanya ketika dihubungi *Sinar Harian* pada Jumaat.

Sehubungan itu, beliau berkata, terdapat kemungkinan berlaku pelanggaran serius pro-

sedur keselamatan radiasi yang dipercayai mendedahkan kakitangan serta pesakit kepada risiko kesihatan.

Ujar beliau, walaupun pendedahan radiasi merupakan risiko yang wujud dalam bidang perubatan tersebut, namun ia sepatutnya dikawal dengan prosedur operasi standard (SOP) yang ketat.

"Risiko itu memang ada, tetapi pihak pusat perubatan terbabit tidak membuat SOP sewajarnya. Sepatutnya peralatan tersebut diasingkan, tetapi ia ditempatkan dalam bangunan yang sama bersama pesakit lain dan ahli keluarga.

"Kakitangan radiologi juga sepatutnya diasingkan daripada kakitangan lain, tetapi ia disekalikan. Jadi, pendedahan terhadap radiasi itu menjadi banyak," jelas beliau.

Selain itu, Siti Nur Sabrina turut mempersoalkan percanggahan antara laporan kesihatan yang menyatakan tiada pelanggaran

SOP dengan bukti serta testimoni mangsa.

"Ini bercanggah dengan bukti, keadaan mangsa dan juga video yang menunjukkan unit tersebut kecil, sempit dan sesak sehingga boleh membahayakan pesakit serta kakitangan," ujar beliau.

Siti Nur Sabrina sehubungan itu berkata, pihaknya sudah mengemukakan tuntutan awal termasuk gesaan supaya satu audit kesihatan dijalankan terhadap fasiliti berkenaan.

Tegas beliau, kes tersebut bukan sekadar melibatkan individu tertentu, malah demi kepentingan awam.

"Apa yang kita mahukan sekarang adalah untuk masa depan supaya kakitangan dan pesakit selepas ini lebih selamat daripada pendedahan radiasi," katanya.

Beliau turut menggesa pakar dan orang ramai yang mempunyai pengetahuan atau maklumat untuk tampil bagi membantu dalam kes tersebut.

PPUM nafi dakwaan kaitkan fasiliti PET-CT dengan risiko radiasi berbahaya

KUALA LUMPUR - Universiti Malaysia (UM) menafikan dakwaan yang mengaitkan fasiliti imbasan *Positron Emission Tomography-Computed Tomography* (PET-CT) di Unit Perubatan Nuklear Pusat Perubatan Universiti Malaysia (PPUM) dengan risiko radiasi berbahaya.

UM dalam satu kenyataan berkata, pihaknya mengambil maklum kebimbangan berhubung isu kesihatan membabitkan warga kerja, bagaimanapun rekod rasmi menunjukkan bahawa dedahan radiasi pekerja adalah jauh lebih rendah dan berada di bawah had dos yang diwartakan.

"Operasi imbasan PET-CT dilaksanakan mengikut piawaian keselamatan yang ketat dan tahap pendedahan radiasi adalah mengikut standard yang ditetapkan serta terkawal.

"Semua pekerja sinaran diwajibkan me-

LAPORAN MUKA DEPAN

makai dosimeter peribadi dan rekod rasmi menunjukkan dedahan radiasi pekerja adalah jauh lebih rendah serta berada di bawah had dos yang diwartakan.

"Pemeriksaan kesihatan berkala juga dijalankan mengikut jadual yang ditetapkan," kata kenyataan itu pada Jumaat.

Kenyataan tersebut turut memaklumkan bahawa PPUM mematuhi sepenuhnya prosedur operasi standard (SOP) Program Perlindungan Sinaran, Akta Perlesenan Tenaga Atom 1984 (Akta 304) serta peraturan berkaitan perlindungan sinaran keselamatan asas dan pengurusan sisa radioaktif.

"Pemeriksaan oleh Bahagian Kawalselia Radiasi Perubatan (BKRP) Kementerian

Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) pada Oktober 2025 mendapati tiada pelanggaran prosedur dan PPUM mematuhi peraturan yang ditetapkan.

"Lawatan pemeriksaan lesen secara tahunan oleh pihak penguat kuasa BKRP turut dilaksanakan mengikut keperluan," jelasnya.

Tambah kenyataan itu, keselamatan, kesihatan dan kesejahteraan warga kerja serta orang ramai sentiasa menjadi keutamaan di PPUM.

"Justeru, UM memberi jaminan persekitaran kerja yang melibatkan radiasi adalah selamat dan sentiasa diawasi oleh badan kawal selia bertauliah, selain menyeru orang ramai agar tidak menyebarkan spekulasi tidak berasas," kata kenyataan itu.

Dedahan radiasi pekerja jauh lebih rendah



UM memberi jaminan persekitaran kerja yang melibatkan radiasi di PPUM adalah selamat.

Pendedahan kepada radiasi masih dikira 'hazard' di tempat kerja



DR MOHAMED RUSLI

SHAH ALAM - Pendedahan kepada radiasi dalam kalangan pekerja masih merupakan 'hazard' pekerjaan yang diiktiraf di pelbagai sektor termasuk penjagaan kesihatan, penyelidikan, industri dan bidang berkaitan nuklear.

Presiden Persatuan Pakar Perubatan Kesihatan Awam Malaysia (PPPKAM), Profesor Dr Mohamed Rusli Abdullah berkata, berjuta-juta pekerja di seluruh dunia secara rutin terdedah kepada radiasi pengionan sebagai sebahagian tugas profesional, sama ada melalui peralatan perubatan, sumber industri atau radiasi semula jadi seperti gas radon, menurut Agensi Tenaga Atom Antarabangsa (IAEA).

Dari sudut kesihatan pula, kata beliau, pendedahan terhadap radiasi pengionan boleh mengakibatkan pelbagai kesan bergantung kepada dos, tempoh dan jenis.

"Pada tahap tinggi, radiasi boleh menyebab-

kan kesan kesihatan akut seperti kecederaan kulit atau sindrom radiasi akut.

"Bagi tahap rendah atau pendedahan berpanjangan, kebimbangan lebih tertumpu kepada kesan jangka panjang seperti kerosakan tisu dan organ serta peningkatan risiko keadaan kesihatan kronik.

"Kesan ini selalunya tidak berlaku serta-merta dan mungkin mengambil masa bertahun-tahun untuk muncul," jelasnya kepada *Sinar Harian* pada Jumaat.

Beliau berkata demikian dalam satu jawapan bertulis umum bersama tiga lagi ahli PPPKAM iaitu Dr Mohd Fikri Rosely, Profesor Madya Dr Anita Abd Rahman dan Dr Ahmad Riadz Mazeli.

Sementara itu, Dr Mohamed Rusli berpandangan, mengaitkan secara langsung mengenai kesan kesihatan dengan pendedahan radiasi pekerjaan adalah sesuatu yang mencabar.

Ujar beliau, banyak keadaan kesihatan dipengaruhi oleh gabungan faktor termasuk gaya hidup, pendedahan persekitaran atau masalah sedia ada.

"Oleh itu, penilaian pakar diperlukan dalam mana-mana situasi yang melibatkan potensi pendedahan. Dalam konteks situasi semasa, maklumat tersedia masih terhad mengenai tahap dan sifat pendedahan yang berlaku.

"Justeru, terlalu awal untuk membuat sebarang kesimpulan. Siasatan menyeluruh diperlukan bagi menentukan sama ada piawaian keselamatan telah dipatuhi selain menilai sebarang implikasi kesihatan terhadap pekerja yang terlibat," katanya.

Dr Mohamed Rusli bagaimanapun tidak menafikan penggunaan radiasi memberikan manfaat yang besar kepada masyarakat dan industri moden.

Empat klinik di Batu Pahat terima peruntukan RM3.42j

FOTO: BERNAMA

Dr Dzulkefly (kiri) beramah mesra bersama kakitangan kesihatan sempena lawatan kerja ke fasiliti kesihatan di Klinik Kesihatan Tongkang Pechah pada Jumaat.



BATU PAHAT - Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) mengumumkan peruntukan khas RM3.421 juta bagi menaik taraf fizikal dan perolehan aset perubatan di empat klinik kesihatan di sini.

Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad berkata, peruntukan itu meliputi RM500,000 untuk Klinik Kesihatan Parit Raja, Klinik Kesihatan Sri Gading (RM950,000), Klinik Kesihatan Parit Yaani (RM1.268 juta) dan RM685,000 untuk Klinik Kesihatan Tongkang Pechah.

"Seiring dengan kepesatan dan pertambahan populasi ini, kita mahu memastikan fasiliti kesihatan awam sentiasa berada dalam keadaan baik serta terus ditambah baik bagi memenuhi keperluan semasa pesakit dan penduduk setempat.

"Ini bagi memastikan perkhidmatan ini tidak hanya tertumpu kepada daerah besar, sebaliknya memastikan pengagihan sumber dilakukan secara saksama sehingga ke peringkat akar umbi," katanya selepas melawat Klinik Kesihatan Tongkang Pechah di sini pada Jumaat.

Turut hadir Timbalan Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan (Kesihatan Awam), Dr Ismuni Bohari; Pengarah Kesihatan negeri, Dr Mohtar Pungut dan Ahli Parlimen Sri Gading, Aminolhuda Hassan.

Beliau berkata, fasiliti kesihatan di daerah ini penting kerana kini menampung populasi hampir 500,000 penduduk dan merupakan sebuah daerah yang pesat membangun dari sudut pendidikan dan kesihatan. - *Bernama*

Penampilan sopan, rapi cerminan warga beradab

Rashdan Rafi,
Rahang, Negeri
Sembilan

Isu kehadiran orang awam ke fasiliti Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) bukan sekadar soal mendapatkan rawatan, tetapi turut mencerminkan tahap kesedaran sivik, adab dan tanggungjawab sosial masyarakat.

Mutakhir ini, semakin ketara segelintir pesakit atau ahli keluarga hadir ke klinik atau hospital dengan penampilan tidak sopan, kusut malah ada yang langsung tidak menjaga kebersihan diri.

Memang tidak dinafikan tujuan utama ke fasiliti kesihatan adalah untuk mendapatkan rawatan, termasuk rawatan susulan. Namun, alasan itu tidak seharusnya dijadikan tiket mengabaikan aspek kesopanan dan kesusilaan apabila berada di tempat awam.

Hadir untuk mendapatkan perkhidmatan kesihatan dengan berseluar pendek yang tidak sesuai, pakaian mencolok mata atau penampilan seperti baru bangun tidur tanpa sebarang usaha merapikan diri, jelas tidak mencerminkan adab segelintir rakyat Malaysia ketika berada di premis kerajaan seperti KKM.

Lebih membimbangkan, terdapat individu yang hadir dalam keadaan kurang bersih sehingga menimbulkan ketidakelesaan kepada pesakit lain. Perkara ini bukan sekadar menyentuh soal penampilan, tetapi turut berkait rapat dengan aspek kebersihan dan kesihatan di tempat awam.

Fasiliti KKM misalnya adalah ruang bersama menempatkan pelbagai kategori pesakit, termasuk golongan berisiko tinggi. Justeru, menjaga kebersihan diri sebelum hadir mendapatkan rawatan adalah satu tanggungjawab moral yang tidak boleh dipandang ringan.

Pada masa sama, kita harus menghormati pesakit lain yang hadir dalam keadaan bersih, kemas

dan mematuhi etika berpakaian. Sikap sambil lewa segelintir pihak mengabaikan aspek merapikan diri boleh menjejaskan keselesaan serta imej keseluruhan fasiliti kesihatan awam.

Patuhi garis panduan kod etika berpakaian

Perlu diingat, setiap premis kerajaan, termasuk klinik dan hospital mempunyai garis panduan atau kod pakaian tertentu. Walaupun mungkin tidak dikuat kuasa secara ketat di semua tempat, ia wajar dipatuhi sebagai tanda hormat institusi awam dan masyarakat sekeliling.

Sehubungan itu, masyarakat diseru supaya lebih peka dan bertanggungjawab dalam hal ini. Datang ke fasiliti kesihatan dengan penampilan sopan, bersih dan rapi.

Itu bukan sahaja mencerminkan keperibadian individu malah menunjukkan rasa hormat terhadap orang lain dan institusi memberi perkhidmatan kepada kita.

Rakyat usah bersikap remeh terhadap penampilan dan kebersihan diri walaupun sedang sakit. Sebaliknya, dalam keadaan itulah nilai kesopanan dan tanggungjawab perlu lebih dititikberatkan.



Penampilan yang kemas dan sopan seiring kod etika berpakaian di premis KKM amat dituntut demi keselesaan bersama. (Foto hiasan)

lokal

ELAUN PASCA ASAS KEJURURAWATAN

**RM100 SEJAK
17 TAHUN LALU**

Oleh Suzalina Halid
am@hmetro.com.my

Kuala Lumpur

Persatuan Perubatan Malaysia (MMA) menggesa kerajaan menaikkan elaun pasca asas kejururawatan kepada sekurang-kurangnya RM500 sebulan berbanding RM100 kini dengan mekanisme semakan berkala yang tersusun.

Presidennya Datuk Dr R Thirunavukarasu berkata, sudah tiba masanya elaun itu dinaikkan selepas 17 tahun kadarnya masih sama.

Beliau berkata, negara kini berdepan kadar kekosongan jururawat hampir 18 peratus dalam sistem kesihatan awam membabitkan lebih 14,700 kekosongan daripada 84,000 ja-

watan yang diluluskan setakat September lalu.

"Maka perlu ada usaha untuk menggalakkan mereka kembali kepada sistem kesihatan awam.

"MMA maklum bahawa struktur imbuhan membatinkan Jabatan Perkhidmatan Awam (JPA) dan Kementerian Kewangan.

"Berikutan agensi ini beroperasi dalam kerangka pentadbiran negara dan melapor kepada Perdana Menteri, isu ini akhirnya memerlukan keputusan yang jelas di peringkat kepimpinan tertinggi," katanya melalui kenyataan, semalam.

Pada masa sama, Dr Thirunavukarasu berkata, kenaikan elaun itu bukan lagi soal proses, kajian, atau masa dalam kitaran belanjawan.

Sebaliknya beliau berkata, ia adalah mengenai sa-

ma ada satu keputusan akan dibuat.

"Sebarang penangguhan lanjut menghantar isyarat yang jelas bukan sahaja kepada jururawat kita, tetapi kepada keseluruhan sistem kesihatan mengenai di mana keutamaan sebenar diletakkan.

"Jururawat kita berdiri bersama rakyat Malaysia dalam saat paling rapuh.

Persoalannya kini ialah sama ada kepimpinan negara akan berdiri bersama mereka," katanya.

Beliau berkata, jururawat berpengalaman kini semakin meninggalkan sistem perkhidmatan awam dan apabila mereka berbuat demikian, kepakaran turut hilang.

Katanya, sedangkan usaha membina semula kapasiti terbabit memerlukan masa bertahun-tahun.

Kuala Lumpur: Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) memberi jaminan bekalan ubat-ubatan kritikal di negara ini termasuk insulin dan vaksin berada pada tahap stabil dan mencukupi bagi menampung keperluan rakyat buat masa ini.

Timbalan Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan (Perkhidmatan Farmasi) Dr Azuana Ramli berkata, kerajaan melaksanakan pemantauan berterusan menerusi penubuhan pasukan petugas memastikan tahap ketersediaan stok ubat-ubatan di seluruh negara stabil.

"Sekarang kita sudah ada jawatankuasa yang ahlinya terdiri daripada pegawai-pegawai kementerian dan juga pihak industri. Kita membincangkan isu ini dan memantau paras stok secara bersama," katanya semalam.

Dr Azuana berkata melalui mekanisme ini, pihak industri menyalurkan maklumat tahap stok bagi membolehkan KKM mengenal pasti sebarang gangguan bekalan dengan lebih awal.

"Kita dapat lihat stok

Bekalan ubat kritikal berada pada tahap stabil

mana kritikal contohnya mungkin dalam rantaian itu bekalan kita tinggal 60 hari ke 90 hari. Jadi bila kita tahu stok yang mana ada isu, kita boleh ambil tindakan," katanya.

Mengenai isu bekalan insulin, Dr Azuana berkata rawatan untuk pesakit diabetes tidak terjejas kerana terdapat pelbagai jenis rawatan dan pilihan ubat alternatif di pasaran.

"Walaupun berlaku kekurangan insulin, rawatan pesakit diabetes tetap diteruskan kerana pesakit boleh beralih kepada insulin analog atau ubat tablet.

"Jadi sebab itu bekalan ubat-ubatan stabil dan terkawal. Mungkin ada gangguan rantaian namun kita akan ambil langkah mitigasi bagi memastikan pesakit mendapat rawatan dalam apa cara sekalipun" katanya.

Sementara itu, Ketua

Pegawai Eksekutif Pihak Berkuasa Peranti Perubatan (MDA) Dr P. Muralitharan berkata setakat ini peranti perubatan di Malaysia masih mencukupi dan terkawal meskipun dunia berdepan konflik di Asia Barat.

Bagaimanapun, katanya, MDA sentiasa memantau situasi semasa memandangkan terdapat beberapa kategori peranti yang mula mengalami sedikit kekurangan bekalan.

"Antara peranti yang terkesan termasuklah peranti diagnostik makmal (IVD) seperti kit ujian dan reagen makmal, namun tahap kekurangannya tidak signifikan.

"Gangguan kecil ini juga melibatkan barangan pakai buang seperti sarung tangan, pelitup muka, implan, peranti pembedahan, serta bahan untuk rawatan hemodialisis," katanya. - BERNAMA