

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 7

RUANGAN : LOKAL

## Masyarakat digalak jadi penderma sel stem darah

**Kuala Lumpur:** Masyarakat di negara ini digalak menjadi penderma sel stem darah dalam usaha membantu pesakit antaranya penghidap leukemia dan limfoma untuk sembuh, kata Menteri Kesihatan Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad.

Beliau berkata pihaknya dalam usaha meningkatkan kesedaran umum mengenai pemindahan sel stem darah kerana tahap kesedaran masyarakat untuk menderma kini belum memuaskan.

"Kita harap tahap kesedaran umum dapat ditingkatkan supaya mereka menjadi penderma bagi menyelamatkan nyawa pesakit lain," katanya kepada pemberita selepas merasmikan 20 Tahun Perkhidmatan Pemindahan Sel Stem Darah di Hospital Ampang dan Sambutan World Marrow Donor Day 2019, semalam. - Bernama

AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 18

RUANGAN : NATION

# Stem cell therapy holds promise

## Dzulkefly: Number of donors, however, is small and restricts compatibility

By SIRA HABIBU  
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**KUALA LUMPUR:** While stem cell therapy holds a lot of promise for curing blood cancer and other disorders, the number of registered donors is still very low, said the Health Ministry.

Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said Malaysian Stem Cell Registry (MSCR), that was established 19 years ago, only had 28,291 donors so far.

"With this small number in the registry, matching donors were found in 16 cases," he said when opening the inaugural World

Marrow Donor Day celebration at the Ampang Hospital here yesterday.

Among diseases that could be cured through stem cell therapy are thalassaemia, leukaemia, bone marrow disorder, lymphoma and multiple myeloma.

Dr Dzulkefly noted that Asians only made up 15% of the 34 million registered stem cell donors worldwide, with the bulk of Asian donors being Chinese.

"Hence, the chances of a Chinese patient finding a matching donor in the global registry is higher compared to Malays, Indians, as well as the Sabah and Sarawak

bumiputras, and other races," he said.

Dr Dzulkefly noted that 70% of global stem cell donors were Caucasian, although 88% of the global population were non-Caucasians.

He lauded the Ampang Hospital's Haematology Department for taking the initiative to organise the first World Marrow Day celebration in Malaysia to raise awareness on the need to increase the pool of public donors.

"Perhaps many people are not aware that stem cell donation can also be made by just donating blood," said Dr Dzulkefly, who

added that up until 2018, the Ampang Hospital had performed 2,111 cases of stem cell transplants.

Of this, 797 cases involved donors from relatives, 53 involved matching donors from non-relatives, 49 cases involved unmatched donors from among relatives (haploidentical), and 10 cases involved stem cells from the umbilical cord.

"Most of the stem cells from matching non-relative donors were sourced from abroad," he said, adding that the government could not afford to absorb the high cost involved in sourcing and importing matching stem cells, which is why it is important to

establish a large pool of local donors.

However, the declining fertility rate in Malaysia since 2013 has also made it increasingly difficult to find matching donors from among close relatives, he said.

Dr Dzulkefly said only a few hospitals in Malaysia have the expertise to carry out stem cell transplant to treat blood disorders.

"Ampang Hospital is the biggest centre, with 60% of stem cell transplants in the country carried out there," he said.

Other hospitals that can do the same are the Penang Hospital and Johor's Sultanah Aminah Hospital.



AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 8

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

## Isu tunggakan gaji doktor PPM dan PHM selesai

SEREMBAN - Masalah tunggakan gaji seramai 33 doktor di Pusat Perubatan Mawar (PPM) dan Pusat Hemodialisis Mawar (PHM) membabitkan jumlah keseluruhan RM7.5 juta telah selesai.

Seramai 17 daripada 33 doktor pakar, doktor residen dan doktor luar yang berkhidmat di situ menerima bayaran tunggakan gaji mereka semalam yang keseluruhannya berjumlah RM4.5 juta.

Pengerusinya, Datuk Lee Tian Hock berkata, bayaran berkenaan sebagai menunaikan janjinya selepas permohonan untuk mendapatkan lesen operasi telah diluluskan Kementerian Kesihatan pada 12 September lalu.

"Pengurusan lama di bawah syarikat

Entelek Ceria Sdn Bhd telah menjelaskan 40 peratus pembayaran tunggakan sebanyak RM3 juta sebelum ini.

"Hari ini (semalam) di bawah pengurusan baharu menerusi anak syarikat Matrix Concept Holding Berhad iaitu Matrix Medicare Sdn Bhd, kita selesaikan bakinya RM4.5 juta. Ini bermakna segala tunggakan gaji doktor kita telah selesai," katanya pada sidang media di PPM di sini semalam.

Pada 15 Januari lalu, KKM membatalkan lesen pusat perubatan terbabit selepas didapati melanggar ketetapan Akta Kemudahan dan Perkhidmatan Jagaan Kesihatan Swasta 1998 (Akta 586).



Tian Hock (tiga dari kanan) melihat pesakit yang menerima rawatan hemodialisis di PHM di Seremban semalam.



AKHBAR : THE SUN

MUKA SURAT : 2

RUANGAN : NEWS WIITHOUT BORDER

# Ministry probes medical data breach claims

BY KEVIN DAVASAGAYAM  
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**PUTRAJAYA:** The Health Ministry has initiated an investigation into claims that the medical records of close to 20,000 Malaysians are among millions of those freely accessible on computer servers worldwide.

Its minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said in a statement yesterday a special meeting was held with the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission and the National Cyber Security Agency to identify the source of the leak.

"This can happen at any health facility, including private hospitals and medical centres," he said. "Possible remedial measures were being looked into."

He said these measures included exposure mapping at all health centres and reviewing risk of data breach at hospitals that use picture archiving and communications systems (PACS) to continuously improve features and security applications and information technology infrastructure at these facilities.

A report yesterday cited Germany-based security firm Greenbone Networks as saying it had identified at least 52 countries, including Australia, China, Japan, the United Kingdom, France, the US, Russia and Brazil being affected



Dzulkefly at the World Marrow Donor Day celebration at the Ampang Hospital. – **BERNAMAPIX**

by the breach.

The report said the medical records of 19,922 Malaysians were publicly accessible from three archival systems, along with 1.2 million images associated with these records.

Personal data, such as the full name, date of

birth and date of medical examination were available, along with images of X-rays, CT and MRI scans.

Earlier yesterday, Dzulkefly launched the inaugural World Marrow Donor Day celebration in Malaysia at the Ampang Hospital.