

## KKM tunggu laporan kematian dua budak dijangkiti influenza A

**Kuala Lumpur:** Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) menunggu hasil laporan kematian dua kanak-kanak masing-masing berumur empat dan 11 tahun yang dijangkiti influenza A.

**Menterinya, Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad** berkata, ketika ini pihaknya sedang menjalankan proses semakan sistematis terhadap kes kematian yang berlaku untuk mengenal pasti punca sebenar kematian.

"Ada dua kes kematian yang ada terkait dengan influenza dikesan mengalami influenza A. Namun, apa yang dikatakan positif faktor atau sebab kematian itu perlu dapat dikenal pasti melalui *mortality review*."

"Ia akan tertakluk kepada satu yang akan diteliti betul apakah sebab kematian. Kedua-dua (kanak-kanak) adalah positif influenza A, tetapi kita masih dalam kajian dan penelitian punca sebenar kematian."

"Kedua-dua kes ini satu di Samarahan, (berumur) empat tahun dan juga di Terengganu (berumur) 11 tahun. Kedua-duanya lelaki. Jadi, kita masih tunggu atas punca sebenar kematian," katanya pada Waktu Pertanyaan-Pertanyaan Menteri (MQT) di Dewan Rakyat, semalam.

Beliau berkata demikian menjawab soalan tam-



**"Apa yang dikatakan positif faktor atau sebab kematian itu perlu dapat dikenal pasti melalui mortality review"**

*Dr Dzulkefly*

bahan (Suhaizan Kaiat) yang mahu KKM menjelaskan punca sebenar kematian dua kanak-kanak dijangkiti influenza.

Sebelum ini tular seorang kanak-kanak dari Kampung Sadong Jaya A di Samarahan, Sarawak dilaporkan meninggal dunia.

Pagi semalam, seorang-seorang kanak-kanak lelaki disahkan meninggal dunia di Dungun, Terengganu dipercayai akibat jangkitan influenza.



# Belum wajibkan pakai pelitup muka

**Kuala Lumpur:** Belum masa mewajibkan pemakaian pelitup muka bagi mengekang penularan jangkitan virus Influenza A di khalayak ramai.

Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad sebaliknya, menyarankan kanak-kanak atau individu yang bergejala perlu mengelakkan diri berada di tempat yang sesak.

“Sesiapa yang bergejala jangan keluar (rumah), elakkan berada di tempat sesak atau lokasi ada keramaian seperti di pusat beli-belah.

“(Buat masa ini) kita (KKM) tidak mewajibkan

(pelitup muka), kita hanya menggalakkan (pakai pelitup muka),” katanya pada sidang akhbar di Bangunan Parlimen di sini, semalam.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika menjawab pertanyaan adakah pemakaian pelitup muka akan diwajibkan di negara ini.

Dari segi jumlah kumulatif influenza, Dr Dzulkefly memaklumkan Selangor merekodkan kes tertinggi membabitkan 174 kluster.

Beliau berkata, ini diikuti Wilayah Persekutuan dan Putrajaya 103 kluster dan Johor 51 kluster.



# KKM tunggu laporan dua budak mati dijangkiti influenza A

**Kementerian** Kesihatan (KKM) sedang menunggu hasil laporan kematian dua kanak-kanak masing-masing berusia empat dan 11 tahun yang dijangkiti influenza A.

Menterinya, Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad, berkata ketika ini pihaknya sedang menjalankan proses semakan sistematik terhadap kes kematian yang berlaku bagi mengenal pasti punca sebenar kematian.

“Ada dua kes kematian terkait dengan influenza dikesan mengalami influeza A. Namun apa yang dikatakan positif faktor atau sebab kematian itu perlu dikenal pasti melalui ‘mortality review’ (penilaian mortaliti).

“Ia tertakluk kepada satu yang akan diteliti betul apakah sebab kematian (influenza A). Kedua-dua (kanak-kanak) adalah positif influenza A, tetapi kita masih dalam kajian dan penelitian punca sebenar kematian.

“Kedua-dua kes ini satu di Samarahan, (berusia) empat tahun dan juga di Terengganu (berusia) 11 tahun. Kedua-duanya lelaki. Jadi kita masih tunggu atas punca sebenar kematian,” katanya pada Waktu Pertanyaan-Pertanyaan Menteri (MQT) di Dewan Rakyat, semalam.

Beliau berkata demikian menjawab soalan tambahan Suhai-zan Kaiat (PH-Pulau) yang meminta KKM menjelaskan punca sebenar kematian dua kanak-kanak dijangkiti influenza itu.

Sebelum ini tular seorang kanak-kanak dari Kampung Sadowg Jaya A di Samarahan, Sarawak dilaporkan meninggal dunia.

Pagi semalam, seorang kanak-kanak lelaki disahkan meninggal dunia di Dungun, Terengganu dipercayai akibat jangkitan influenza.

Sementara itu, Dr Dzulkefly berkata, semua fasiliti dan petugas kesihatan KKM sudah bersiap sedia sekiranya berlaku lonjakan kes luar jangka mem-babitkan penularan influenza.

Katanya, Jabatan Kecemasan dan Trauma (A&E) di semua hospital KKM telah melaksanakan pengasingan laluan bagi pesakit penyakit berjangkit dan tidak berjangkit bagi mengelakkan penularan dalam kalangan pesakit, serta mencegah berlakunya jangkitan yang diperoleh di hospital.



**Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad**



# Influenza cases surge, schools hit by cluster outbreaks

BY KIRTINEE RAMESH  
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**PETALING JAYA:** Malaysia is seeing a sharp rise in influenza cases, with hundreds of schools and kindergartens nationwide hit by cluster outbreaks since September, the Health Ministry revealed.

Its minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said although the situation remains under control, the rapid spread of infections through educational institutions – from preschools to universities – warrants close attention.

He was replying to Suhaizan Kalai (Pulai), who asked about the severity of the influenza situation, its impact on schools and measures to curb the spread.

Dzulkefly explained that influenza, or seasonal flu, is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses, mainly types A and B.

"Most individuals recover within a week, but high-risk groups such as children, the elderly and those with chronic illnesses are vulnerable to serious complications such as pneumonia or encephalopathy," he said.

He added that the ministry monitors influenza through its Influenza-Like Illness and Severe Acute Respiratory Infections surveillance systems, with outbreaks managed by the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre.

In 2025, consultation rates have climbed from 7.4% in Epidemiological Week 40 (Sept 28 to Oct 4) to 9.2% in Week 41 (Oct 5 to Oct 11), a moderate rise compared with 2024, when cases peaked at 9.6% in late July and early August before stabilising at about 8%.

Although the current figures remain slightly below last year's peak, Dzulkefly said the upward trend since late September indicates the need for continued vigilance.

From Epidemiological Week 1 to 41, influenza cluster outbreaks have

been reported across 535 institutions, with schools accounting for the majority.

Breakdown of clusters:

- schools at 352 (65.8%);
- kindergartens at 96 (17.9%);
- colleges/institutions at 35 (6.5%);
- private homes at 33 (6.2%);
- workplaces at 10 (1.9%);
- care centres at six (1.1%); and
- prisons/rehabilitation centres at three (0.6%).

He said the number of school clusters surged from eight in Week 39 to 111 in Week 40, peaking at 202 in Week 41 before easing to 56 in Week 42.

He added that secondary schools recorded the steepest increase, from one cluster in Week 39 to 47 in Week 40 and 65 in Week 41.

"Primary schools showed a similar trend, rising from three to 26 (clusters) and then 72 clusters during the same period. Vocational colleges, private schools and childcare centres also reported smaller but notable spikes."

To prevent further transmission, the Health Ministry has issued several guidelines for parents, teachers and schools.

Among the key measures are:

- parents should keep children with fever, cough or cold at home and seek medical attention;
- teachers should advise symptomatic students to avoid classes and obtain treatment promptly; and
- schools must reinforce health education, encourage mask-wearing and hand hygiene, and report suspected outbreaks early to the district health office.

Temporary school closures may be considered in consultation with the health office if clusters become widespread.

"The cooperation of parents, teachers and health authorities is essential in preventing further spread of the influenza virus," he said, adding that the ministry will continue to monitor the situation closely.



## INFLUENZA A OUTBREAK

## Health Ministry awaiting reports on deaths of 2 boys

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Health Ministry is awaiting the results of investigations into the deaths of two children who were infected with Influenza A, the Dewan Rakyat was told yesterday.

Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said the ministry was reviewing both cases to determine whether Influenza A was the direct cause of death.

He said this in response to a supplementary question from Suhaizan Kaiat (PH-Pulai), who asked about the cause of death of the two children.

Dzulkefly said the cases involved a 4-year-old boy from Samarahan in Sarawak, and an 11-year-old boy from Terengganu.

He said any decision to close schools or educational institu-

tions was not based solely on the number of reported cases but on a comprehensive public health risk assessment.

He said assessments were conducted by the district health offices, with decisions made after evaluating key indicators.

"Among the factors we take into account are the outbreak among students, the absenteeism rate of both students and teachers, evidence of active transmission within the community and the school's capacity to implement control measures.

"All these factors must be considered collectively."

Dzulkefly also clarified that Section 18 of the Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases Act 1988 that allowed for premis-

es closures was not applicable in the case of influenza outbreaks.

"This is because influenza does not meet the definition of infectious disease as outlined in Section 2 of the same act."

However, Dzulkefly said control measures, including the temporary closure of schools, could still be recommended through consultation and cooperation between the Health Ministry and the respective schools.

Dzulkefly said 83 per cent of the Influenza A outbreaks were recorded in schools and kindergartens.

"Of the total reported cases, about 65.8 per cent were in schools and 17.9 per cent in kindergartens."



*Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad says influenza does not meet the definition of infectious disease.*

Dzulkefly added that Selangor, Kuala Lumpur, Putrajaya and Johor had the highest number of cases.



JOHOR

By YEE XIANG YUN

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JOHOR is stepping up efforts to weed out vape traders after they were found openly selling such products in shopping centres in the city.

Despite the sale of vape being banned in Johor, some traders are brazenly selling them, said state health and environment committee chairman Ling Tian Soon.

He said an operation by the state Health Department at a mall here recently seized more than 1,900 vape-related items.

"The vape products were found in clear display cases at stalls selling electronic items such as portable fans and mobile phone accessories.

"The items seized included disposable vapes, vape devices and flavoured liquids.

"The products mostly have modern packaging and come in a variety of flavours, which appeal to younger consumers," said Ling.

From the operation, 10 notices were also issued against the traders for violating the law.

The vape ban has been enforced in Johor since 2016.

"Traders in Johor must remember that this ruling is still in force across all 16 local councils statewide," said Ling.

"The state government will work closely with the Health

# Johor to weed out vape traders

## Over 1,900 products seized from stalls in mall, 10 notices slapped on sellers for law violation



Ling (left) joining Health Department officers in the raid on stalls displaying vape products in a shopping mall in Johor Baru.

Department and related government agencies to clamp down on the sale of vape in Johor," he said.

"The vape issue is not a trivial matter and should be taken seriously by all," he added.

He also urged the public to

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**"The vape issue is not a trivial matter and should be taken seriously by all."**

Ling Tian Soon

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report sale of vape and e-cigarettes, whether at malls or premises, to the local authorities.

On Sept 26, Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said the ministry was targeting the middle of next year to ban vape products nationwide.

He said the move emphasised the ministry's commitment against the smoking habit.

# Commission proposed to address insurance problems

AN INDEPENDENT private health-care commission should be established to tackle long-standing medical insurance problems, the Dewan Rakyat was told.

Sim Tze Tzin (PH-Bayan Baru) said the commission could help resolve persistent issues such as patients being denied treatment or facing delays in private hospitals due to insurance clauses and the slow issuance of guarantee letters.

"Currently, the government has set up an inter-ministerial committee on medical and healthcare costs.

"But this committee is temporary in nature, and attention is still needed to address core structural issues.

"This is where the commission can step in to assist," he said during the debate on the motion of thanks on Budget 2026 in the Dewan Rakyat yesterday.

Sim cited reports of patients struggling to access private healthcare due to insurance-related complications.

"I propose that a national task force be formed by the Health Ministry, Bank Negara and the police to investigate the issues raised in the report.

"The specialists concerned should also be called in to have their statements recorded," he said, adding that the report alleged interference by the insurance industry in private health-care matters.

Sim also raised concern over the worsening brain drain among doctors and nurses, citing a recruitment advertisement by Singapore's Health Ministry in August as an example.

"This is not an isolated case. Many of our medical officers and specialists have migrated to Singapore for work," he said.

Sim urged Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad to outline measures to stem the outflow of Malaysian medical professionals.



# 'Schools are hotspots for Influenza A outbreaks'

TS 17/10/2025 MS/10

OVER 80% of the recent Influenza A cases so far were detected in schools and kindergartens, says Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad.

While the disease is a seasonal virus, he said the ministry is monitoring the situation following an increase of cases in recent weeks, including the deaths of male pupils in Terengganu and Sarawak.

"A total of 83% of cases were reported in schools and kindergartens.

"Of this, 65.8% were in schools while about 17% were in kindergartens," he told Suhaizan Kaiat (PH-Pulau).

Later at a press conference, Dzulkefly said 535 Influenza A clusters had been detected since the beginning of this year.

This included 352 clusters in schools (65.8%), 35 clusters in colleges and education centres (6.54%), 33 clusters in private residences (6.1%), six clusters at daycare centres (1.1%), 10 clusters at workplaces (1.9%) and three clusters in prison institutions (0.56%).

He added that Selangor recorded the highest number of clusters over the past two weeks with 174, followed by Putrajaya (103) and Johor (51).

"The week between Oct 12 and 16 saw the number of clusters dropping to 56," he noted.

"However, the spread of infections is still ongoing."



**Latest updates:** Dzulkefly speaking during Question Time in Parliament. — Bernama

He said the current H3N2 strain results in flu-like symptoms which can affect the respiratory system and result in encephalitis in serious cases.

Dzulkefly said there are no plans for now to order schools to be closed or students to wear face masks.

He added that the closure of a school will only be carried out upon advice of the district health authorities after taking into account several factors.

"This includes the seriousness of the outbreak, the number of absentees and whether teaching will be disrupted," he said.

Dzulkefly also said the district health authorities will hold talks with the schools in question and issue advisories on actions to be taken.

He advised parents not to send their children to school if they have flu-like symptoms and to adopt good hygiene protocols to prevent the spread of the flu.

As a precaution, Dzulkefly said the ministry is preparing plans for the creation of disaster zones in the event that the flu outbreaks worsen.

Regarding the recent deaths of two 11-year-old children in Sarawak and Terengganu, Dzulkefly confirmed that they had both contracted the Influenza A strain.

He said more tests are being done to determine the actual cause of death.