

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 6

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

Penularan COVID-19

# Dua kluster antara penyumbang pertambahan kes

Persidangan agama di Kuching, majlis kahwin di Bandar Baru Bangi dikenal pasti



**Janganlah kita stigmakan mereka. Apa yang penting, adalah membantu mengesan dan merawat jangkitan COVID-19 dalam kalangan mereka yang terbahit, keluarga dan kontak mereka.**

**Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah,**  
Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan

generasi kelima.

"Sehingga 6 April 2020, 88 kes telah disahkan positif COVID-19 daripada kluster ini, termasuk satu kes dirawat di ICU. Namun tiada kes kematian dilaporkan berkaitan dengan kluster ini," katanya.

Beliau berkata, kedua-dua kluster ini membabitkan jangkitan COVID-19 sehingga generasi kelima.

Untuk rekod dua kluster itu antara kluster terbesar berkaitan perhimpunan besar-besaran, se-

lepas kluster perhimpunan di Seri Petaling, Kuala Lumpur.

Sehubungan itu, Dr Noor Hisham meminta masyarakat supaya tidak menyalahkan atau mendiskriminasi pesakit atau kumpulan yang dikaitkan dengan kluster jangkitan COVID-19.

"Janganlah kita stigmakan mereka. Apa yang penting, adalah membantu mengesan dan merawat jangkitan COVID-19 dalam kalangan mereka yang terbahit, keluarga dan kontak mereka," katanya.

Sementara itu, Dr Noor Hisham memaklumkan penyebaran jangkitan COVID-19 kini sudah mula merebak dalam kalangan komuniti.

Kes pertama dikesan di Kuantan membabitkan seorang individu yang mempunyai kes Jangkitan Pernafasan Akut Teruk (SARI).

"Kes di Kuantan, dia tiada sejarah. Dia ada penyakit SARI dan apabila kita saring, dia positif. Apabila kita lihat semula sejarah, beliau ada hadir ke persidangan di Seri Petaling. Sekarang ada kes SARI pun positif," katanya.

Beliau berkata, penting ketika ini supaya arahan Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (PKP) diperkukuhkan bagi mengurangkan penyebaran COVID-19 dalam komuniti.

Katanya, keutamaan KKM adalah untuk mengurangkan kes jangkitan COVID-19 dalam masyarakat.

"Kita dalam PKP ini bukan hanya untuk tamatkan jangkitan virus, tapi matlamat utama adalah kurangkan kes. Jadi kita duk rumah akan dapat kurangkan kes. Kita tidak akan lihat kes meningkat mendadak," katanya.



Petugas barisan hadapan menjalankan ujian saringan COVID-19 terhadap penduduk Kampung Sungai Lui, Hulu Langat, semalam. (Foto BERNAMA)

## Jumlah pesakit pulih meningkat

**Putrajaya:** Situasi COVID-19 di negara ini menunjukkan perkembangan baik apabila jumlah pesakit yang pulih sepenuhnya dan dibenarkan discaj dari wad semakin mencatatkan jumlah kes pulih harian yang tertinggi iaitu 236 kes.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata jumlah kumulatif kes pulih dan dibenarkan keluar dari wad meningkat kepada 1,241 kes, iaitu 32.72 peratus daripada keseluruhan kes.

Bagaimanapun katanya, sebanyak 131 kes baharu COVID-19 dilaporkan setakat jam 12 tengah hari semalam, menjadikan jumlah kumulatifnya meningkat kepada 3,793 kes.

Sehingga kini katanya, 102 kes dirawat di unit rawatan rapi (ICU) dengan 54 daripadanya bergantung alat bantuan pernafasan.

"Terdapat pertambahan satu kematian akibat COVID-19, sekaligus menjadikan jumlah kumulatif meningkat kepada 62 kes. Ia membabitkan kes ke-3,663 iaitu seorang

lelaki tempatan berusia 67 tahun.

"Beliau mempunyai latar belakang penyakit kencing manis dan darah tinggi dan sejarah kontak rapat dengan beberapa kes indeks yang positif COVID-19 daripada perhimpunan di Seri Petaling, iaitu kes ke-1,265; ke-1,266; ke-1,267, ke-1,404 dan ke-2,549.

"Beliau dirawat di Hospital Sultanah Nur Zahirah, Terengganu pada 29 Mac lalu dan disahkan meninggal dunia pada jam 10.22 pagi, semalam (kelmarin). KKM (Kementerian Kesihatan) mengucapkan takziah kepada ahli keluarganya," katanya pada sidang media harian semalam.

### Fakta Nombor

# 1,241 kes

jumlah kumulatif kes pulih dan dibenarkan keluar wad

## Basuh tangan selepas sentuh haiwan peliharaan



Pemilik haiwan peliharaan dinasihat membasuh tangan kerana dibimbangi haiwan terbahit dijangkiti COVID-19. (Foto BERNAMA)

**Putrajaya:** Orang ramai dinasihat membasuh tangan selepas menyentuh haiwan peliharaan kerana dibimbangi haiwan terbahit dijangkiti COVID-19.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata adalah penting untuk menjaga kebersihan termasuk ketika mengendalikan haiwan terbahit.

"Basuh tangan anda sebelum dan selepas mengendalikannya. Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) akan bekerjasama dengan Jabatan Veterinar untuk nasihat lanjut

mengenai perkara ini," katanya di Twitter, semalam.

Terdahulu, menerusi sidang media, Dr Noor Hisham berkata sekiranya haiwan terbahit dijangkiti COVID-19, virus berkenaan boleh menjangkiti pemiliknya.

Selain itu, Dr Noor Hisham berkata ada tujuh jenis coronavirus yang boleh menjangkiti haiwan dan manusia antaranya, Sindrom Pernafasan Akut Teruk (SARS), Sindrom Pernafasan Virus Korona Asia Barat (MERS-CoV) dan terbaru ialah COVID-19.

Sebelum ini, media melaporkan seekor harimau malaya di Zoo Bronx, New York disahkan positif COVID-19 selepas mengalami batuk dan kurang selera makan. Harimau yang dinamakan sebagai Nadia itu berkemungkinan menjadi kes haiwan pertama yang jatuh sakit susulan dijangkiti coronavirus daripada manusia.

Selain itu, beberapa anjing peliharaan di Hong Kong serta seekor kucing di Belgium dilaporkan dijangkiti COVID-19 daripada pemilik mereka.



AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 7

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

## x Pelarian Rohingya jalani kuarantin di Langkawi

**Kuala Lumpur:** Sekumpulan pelarian Rohingya yang ditemui di atas sebuah kapal di sekitar Pulau Langkawi akan menjalani proses kuarantin.

Menteri Kanan (Keselamatan), Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob, berkata kerajaan menetapkan etnik Rohingya itu akan dikuarantin di Pulau Langkawi.

Beliau berkata, Kementerian Luar, Agensi Pengurusan Bencana Negara (NADMA) dan Jabatan Imigresen akan ditugaskan untuk menyelesaikan perkara itu.

“Oleh kerana mereka telah berada di negara atau perairan negara, maka menjadi tanggungjawab untuk jaga kepentingan mereka.

“Oleh itu, mereka akan dikuarantin di (Pulau) Langkawi,” katanya pada sidang media selepas Mesyuarat Khas Menteri-Menteri Berkenaan Pelaksanaan Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (PKP) di Putrajaya, semalam.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, pada sidang media semalam

berkata, pihaknya sedang menjalankan pengesanan kontak dan saringan kesihatan terhadap pendatang tanpa izin berkenaan.

Dalam isu berkaitan, Ismail Sabri berkata, rakyat Malaysia yang bekerja di Singapura tidak dibenarkan pulang ke negara ini sehingga kedua-dua kerajaan selesai berunding mengenai perjanjian awal yang pernah dipersetujui sebelum ini.

Ismail Sabri berkata, pihaknya maklum ada puluhan ribu rakyat Malaysia ingin pulang ke negara ini, namun menegaskan terdapat sedikit perubahan terhadap perjanjian awal antara Malaysia-Singapura yang perlu diselesaikan.

Bagi menyelesaikan hal itu, beliau berkata, Kementerian Luar Malaysia dan Singapura akan mengadakan rundingan bagi menentukan syarat baharu dalam perjanjian berkenaan.

“Kita dimaklumkan semalam hanya tiga orang merentasi sempadan (Singapura-Johor). Arahan



Sebahagian pelarian Rohingya ditemui atas kapal dikuarantin di Pulau Langkawi.

daripada kita adalah mereka tidak boleh pulang selagi tidak mendapat kelulusan bahawa mereka bebas COVID-19 daripada Singapura kerana ini (terkandung) dalam perjanjian awal kita dengan Singapura.

“Pada perjanjian itu bahawa sebelum pulang mesti buat saringan. Itu perjanjian awal dan ke-

luar surat mereka selepas saringan atau negatif COVID-19.

“Tetapi, kita ada sedikit perubahan dari segi perjanjian itu dan kita telah meminta Kementerian Luar yang mana mereka mempunyai jawatankuasa kerja antara Kementerian Luar Singapura bersama wakil Kementerian Sumber Manusia untuk berunding dari se-

gi syarat baharu.

“Insya-Allah, saya percaya mesyuarat pada pagi esok (hari ini), Kementerian Luar akan maklum syarat dipersetujui. Setakat ini, kita tak benarkan rakyat kita masuk (balik) sebelum selesai rundingan Malaysia, Singapura dan kerajaan Johor juga terbabit,” katanya.



AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : LOKAL

## 236 pesakit pulih

**Kuala Lumpur:** Sejumlah 236 kes pulih sepenuhnya daripada Covid-19 direkodkan setakat April 2020 menjadikan jumlah kumulatif dan dibenarkan discaj daripada wad adalah 1,241 kes (32.72 peratus daripada jumlah keseluruhan kes).

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, bagaimanapun satu kematian berkaitan jangkitan Covid-19 dilaporkan kepada Pusat Kesiapsiagaan dan Tindak Cepat Krisis Kebangsaan (CPRC) setakat 12 tengah hari, semalam.

Katanya, pertambahan itu menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes kematian akibat jangkitan wabak berkenaan sebanyak 62 kes.

Dalam perkembangan sama, Noor Hisham berkata, 131 kes baharu positif Covid-19 dilaporkan sehingga kini.

"Ini menjadikan kes terkumpul 3,793 di seluruh negara.

"Daripada jumlah itu, 102 pesakit dirawat di Unit Rawatan Rapi (ICU) termasuk 54 pesakit memerlukan bantuan alat pernafasan," katanya pada sidang media khas Covid-19 di Putrajaya, semalam.

Kes kematian ke-62 (kes ke-3,663) adalah lelaki warganegara Malaysia berumur 67 tahun dan mempunyai latar belakang penyakit kencing manis dan darah tinggi.



DR Noor Hisham menunjukkan plakad kes yang discaj pada sidang media, semalam.

## 2 lagi kluster berkait perhimpunan besar

**Kuala Lumpur:** Persidangan keagamaan di gereja Kuching, Sarawak dan majlis perkahwinan di Bandar Baru Bangi, Selangor menjadi dua lagi kluster Covid-19 yang berkait rapat dengan perhimpunan besar-besaran.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, setakat ini, 83 orang disahkan positif Covid-19 daripada kluster persidangan keagamaan di gereja apabila terdapat dua kes kematian membabitkan kes ke-358 dan 2,471.

"Selain itu, lima kes kritikal di Unit Rawatan Rapi (ICU), 50 kes dirawat di

hospital, 25 kes bawah pemerhatian di pusat kuarantin dan satu kes discaj yang pulih sepenuhnya.

"Perkahwinan di Bandar Baru Bangi pula satu kluster jangkitan Covid-19 yang kemudian membentuk jangkitan hingga generasi kelima.

"Hingga 6 April 2020, 88 kes disahkan positif Covid-19 daripada kluster ini termasuk satu kes dirawat di ICU.

"Setakat ini, tiada kes kematian dilaporkan berkaitan kluster ini," katanya.

Menurutnya, kedua-dua kluster itu membabitkan jangkitan Covid-19 hingga generasi kelima.



AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19

# 236 pesakit pulih

Kes tertinggi discaj setakat semalam, 1 kematian dicatat

Oleh **TUAN BUQHAIRAH TUAN MUHAMAD ADNAN**

**PUTRAJAYA**

**K**ementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) merekodkan kes pulih tertinggi semalam sejak wabak Covid-19 melanda negara iaitu 236 kes.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, ini menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes yang telah pulih sepenuhnya daripada Covid-19 dan telah discaj dari wad ialah sebanyak 1,241 kes.

"Ini adalah kes pulih tertinggi dengan peningkatan peratusan sebanyak 32.72 peratus daripada jumlah keseluruhan kes positif," katanya pada sidang media perkembangan terkini Covid-19 di kementeriannya di sini semalam.

Menurutnya, kematian berkaitan Covid-19 pula mencatatkan satu kes yang menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan sebanyak 62 kes.

"Kes kematian ke-62 merupakan kes ke-3,663 positif Covid-19 melibatkan lelaki berumur 67 tahun serta mempunyai penyakit kronik.

"Pesakit mempunyai sejarah kontak rapat dengan beberapa kes indeks positif Covid-19 daripada perhimpunan di

Sri Petaling iaitu kes ke-1,265, kes ke-1,266, kes ke-1,267, kes ke-1,404 dan kes ke-2,549.

"Dia telah dirawat di Hospital Sultanah Nur Zahirah, Terengganu pada 29 Mac 2020 dan disahkan meninggal dunia jam 10.22 pagi semalam (kelmarin)," katanya.

Beliau berkata, sehingga jam 12 tengah hari semalam, sebanyak 131 kes baharu dilaporkan menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan positif 3,793 kes.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, sebanyak 102 kes dirawat di unit rawatan rapi (ICU).

"Daripada jumlah itu, 54 kes memerlukan bantuan pernafasan," katanya.

Sementara itu, menurutnya, KKM sedang melakukan pengesanan kontak dan ujian saringan terhadap 222 pelarian Rohingya yang tiba di Langkawi kelmarin.

Katanya, kesemuanya telah diasingkan dan pihaknya akan melakukan saringan terhadap pihak terlibat.

Dalam perkembangan lain, Dr Noor Hisham menasihatkan orang ramai

agar tidak mengambil topong muka dan ceair pembasmi kuman di fasiliti kesihatan.

"Sekiranya barang itu diambil untuk kegunaan sendiri, dia kena fikir bukan dia seorang yang perlu pakai.

"Nasihat saya, jangan ambil topong penutup muka dan hidung, ceair pembasmi kuman mahupun sarung tangan kerana ia adalah kegunaan penting untuk barisan hadapan," katanya.

Sebelum ini, tular di media sosial, seorang wanita yang dipercayai kakitangan hospital berkongsi gambar beberapa kotak topong penutup hidung dan mulut yang dikatakan diambil dari hospital.

Dr Noor Hisham menunjukkan bilangan kes discaj terbaharu pesakit yang telah pulih dan tertinggi sehingga semalam pada sidang media harian berkaitan jangkitan Covid-19 di Kementerian Kesihatan semalam.



## Virus wujud dalam komuniti

**PUTRAJAYA** - Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah mengakui bahawa coronavirus (Covid-19) telah pun wujud dalam komuniti di negara ini.

Menurutnya, perkara itu dikesan apabila terdapat pesakit Covid-19 yang tidak mempunyai kaitan dengan mana-mana kluster dan tidak mempunyai sejarah perjalanan ke luar negara.

"Ada pesakit *influenza-like-illness* (ILI) dan *severe acute respiratory infection* (SARI) dikesan dijangkiti Covid-19," katanya.

Beliau berkata, virus berkenaan tidak dikesan pada fasa pembendungan awal.

"Sekarang ini kita lihat ada kes SARI dan ILI pun positif Covid-19.

"Ia bererti virus berkenaan sudah ada dalam komuniti kita, bukan lagi diimport dari luar negara," katanya.

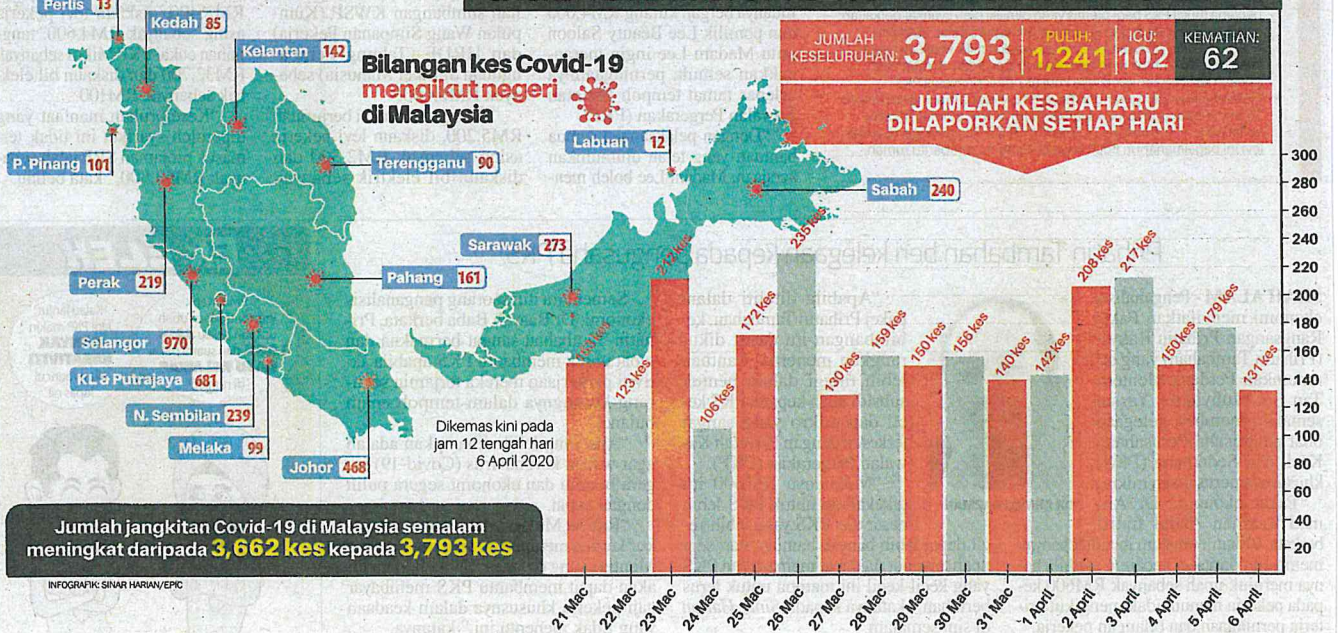
Dr Noor Hisham berkata, disebabkan itu kerajaan mengambil langkah mengekalkan Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (PKP) bagi memutuskan rantaian jangkitan virus berkenaan.

Menurutnya, matlamat utama PKP adalah untuk mengelakkan peningkatan mendadak.

"Jika kes tidak meningkat secara mendadak, hospital dan klinik dapat memberikan perkhidmatan terbaik kepada pesakit.

"Bayangkan sekiranya ada pertambahan 2,000 kes sehari ke wad, bererti kemampuan kita di hospital dan unit rawatan rapi mungkin tidak mencukupi dan pesakit tidak dapat diberikan rawatan terbaik," katanya.

## SITUASI TERKINI KES COVID-19 DI MALAYSIA SETAKAT SEMALAM





AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 5

RUANGAN : MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19



**KKM akan mengeluarkan garis panduan cara mengendalikan haiwan peliharaan ketika wabak Covid-19.**

## KKM, DVS akan keluar garis panduan pengendalian haiwan

**SHAH ALAM** - Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) akan bekerjasama dengan Jabatan Veterinar (DVS) untuk mengeluarkan garis panduan baharu mengenai pengendalian haiwan berkaitan dengan wabak Covid-19.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, adalah penting untuk menjaga kebersihan yang baik pada setiap masa termasuk apabila bersentuhan dengan haiwan dan binatang peliharaan.

"Basuh tangan anda sebelum dan selepas mengendalikannya. Sementara itu, KKM akan bekerjasama dengan Jabatan Veterinar untuk mendapatkan nasihat lanjut mengenai perkara ini," katanya dalam ciapan di Twitternya semalam.

Kelmarin, *BBC News* melaporkan seekor Harimau Malaya betina berusia empat tahun yang ditempatkan di Zoo The Bronx, New York disahkan dijangkiti Covid-19.

Haiwan diberi nama Nadia itu dipercayai mendapat jangkitan virus itu daripada penjaga di zoo berkenaan.

Sebelum ini, terdapat dua kes positif Covid-19 melibatkan anjing peliharaan di Hong Kong selepas pemiliknya disahkan positif wabak berkenaan.

Jangkitan itu mewujudkan kebimbangan bahawa manusia boleh dijangkiti wabak itu melalui haiwan peliharaan mereka.



AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 12

RUANGAN : MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19

## KKM perkukuh keupayaan fasiliti petugas barisan hadapan

**PETALING JAYA** - Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) terus memperkasakan dan memperkukuhkan keupayaan semua fasiliti, kelengkapan dan pasukan petugas di barisan hadapan untuk memutuskan rantaian penularan koronavirus (Covid-19).

Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba berkata, usaha itu melibatkan penambahan kakitangan barisan hadapan, kelengkapan, peralatan dan meningkatkan kapasiti makmal ujian sampel saringan dan pengesanan Covid-19 di seluruh negara.

Menurutnya, langkah itu selaras dengan peningkatan jumlah saringan yang perlu dilaksanakan oleh petugas barisan hadapan.

Dr Adham berkata, beliau sendiri melakukan tinjauan lapangan ke hospital dan makmal untuk memastikan matlamat itu tercapai.

"Kementerian Pengajian Tinggi dan Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi juga bekerjasama dengan KKM. Mereka sudah mula bantu kita membuat ujian terhadap



**Dr Adham (kanan)** mengadakan lawatan kerja di Pusat Penyelidikan dan Pendidikan Penyakit Berjangkit Tropika (Tidrec) Universiti Malaya di Petaling Jaya semalam.

sampel yang diambil daripada pesakit," katanya ketika mengadakan siri tinjauan lapangan ke Pusat Penyelidikan dan Pendidikan Penyakit Berjangkit Tropika (Tidrec) Universiti Malaya di sini semalam.

Lawatan itu bertujuan melihat sendiri pelaksanaan aktiviti pusat saringan Covid-19 dan juga makmal biokeselamatan tahap 3 di mana kerja-kerja pengendalian patogen tahap 3 dijalankan.

Antara tempat dilawati ialah Fakulti Perubatan, Jabatan Mikrobiologi Perubatan, Makmal Surveilan dan

Makmal Biokeselamatan Tahap 3.

Minggu lepas, beliau juga telah melawat Institut Biologi Molekular UKM (UMBI) dan makmal Jabatan Patologi Hospital Kuala Lumpur (HKL) selepas melakukan tinjauan lapangan ke Hospital Sungai Buloh, Hospital Putrajaya, Hospital Selangor, Pusat Kesihatan Daerah Kluang, Kompleks Imigresen, Kastam dan Kuarantin (CIQ), Bangunan Sultan Iskandar (BSI) dan Lapangan Terbang Antarabangsa Kuala Lumpur (KLIA) sejak mengangkat sumpah sebagai Menteri Kesihatan.



AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 8

RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION



Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah (centre) showing the number of patients who recovered from Covid-19 for the day at a press conference in Putrajaya yesterday. PIC BY MOHD FADLI HAMZAH

HIGHEST NUMBER

## 236 PATIENTS DISCHARGED

131 new cases reported, with one death, says Health director-general

### PUTRAJAYA

**M**ALAYSIA recorded the highest number of daily Covid-19 recovered patients yesterday, with 236 discharged, bringing the total number of discharged cases to 1,241.

Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said there was one death reported yesterday, bringing the toll to 62.

"Up until noon today (yesterday), there were an additional 131

new cases, bringing the total to 3,793 cases.

"There are 102 Covid-19 positive patients in Intensive Care Units (ICUs). Of this, 54 patients need breathing aid," he told a press conference here yesterday.

Dr Noor Hisham said the 62nd patient who died on Sunday morning was a 67-year-old Malaysian with a history of diabetes and hypertension.

"He was in close contact with several Covid-19 positive cases from the Masjid Jamek Seri Petal-

ing cluster," he said, referring to the gathering of tabligh members at the mosque last month.

The gathering became the largest Covid-19 cluster in Southeast Asia and, according to Dr Noor Hisham, that was not the only cluster in the country that involved mass gatherings.

A three-day religious gathering at a church in Kuching, Sarawak, led to two deaths. Five people are still in the ICU and 83 have tested positive for Covid-19.

Another mass gathering involved a wedding reception in Bandar Baru Bangi, where 88 people had tested positive and one person was in the ICU.

"The Health Ministry has said before that mass gatherings will bring a dramatic impact on infection cases in Malaysia," said Dr Noor Hisham.

"Every individual must play their role in helping the government break the chain of infection by adhering to the Movement Control Order."

He advised pet owners to take necessary precautions by minimising contact with all animals.

He said since the virus was commonly found in animals, it would be practical for people to avoid close contact with animals, including pets.

"What is important now is that we are telling people to try and

avoid close contact with animals because there's a possibility that when humans have close contact with animals and if it is infected with Covid-19, then the virus may infect humans, too.

"For animal lovers, pets are considered as part of their family. If we are unable to keep a distance from animals and pets, it is important to keep good hygiene at all times, including when in contact with animals and pets. Wash your hands before and after handling them.

"The Health Ministry will work closely with the Veterinary Department for further advice on this matter."

On pets whose owners are Covid-19 positive patients, he said the animals should be referred to a veterinarian.

He said a veterinarian would have to do the necessary checks on the pet to find out if there was a need to euthanise it.

It was reported that a 4-year-old female Malayan tiger named Nadia at the Bronx Zoo, New York City, the United States, tested positive for Covid-19. Nadia, along with six other big cats, was thought to have been infected by an asymptomatic zookeeper.

The cats started showing symptoms, including dry cough, late last month after exposure to the employee, who was not identified.



AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 5

RUANGAN : NATION

# Highest number of recovery per day

## 236 patients discharged yesterday bringing total recovery rate to 1,241

By JOSEPH KAOS Jr  
joekaosjr@thestar.com.my

**PUTRAJAYA:** Malaysia recorded the highest number of Covid-19 recoveries in a single day, with 236 patients discharged yesterday.

This brings the cumulative total of patients who have recovered from the disease to 1,241.

Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said the country's recovery rate now stood at 32.7% out of the total number of confirmed cases.

He said there were 131 new cases reported yesterday, compared to 179 cases on Sunday.

He also announced one new death – a 67-year-old Malaysian man – who was treated at the Sultanah Nur Zahirah Hospital in Kuala Terengganu since March 29.

"The patient had close contact with several Covid-19 patients who attended the tabligh gathering in Sri Petaling.

"He has a history of diabetes and



high blood pressure, and died at 10.22am on April 5," he said at the ministry's daily Covid-19 briefing.

The country's death toll now stands at 62.

Dr Noor Hisham said the ministry had identified two large clusters, involving a church gathering and a wedding ceremony, prior to the implementation of the movement control order (MCO).

The church gathering which occurred in Kuching, Sarawak, from Feb 26-28, saw a total of 83 people testing positive.

There were two deaths from this cluster, including the 60-year-old pastor, who died on March 17, and



was one of the country's first fatalities.

Dr Noor Hisham said currently, 50 cases were being treated at hospital while 25 were being monitored at quarantine centres.

Only one patient from the Kuching church cluster has been discharged so far.

On the wedding cluster, Dr Noor Hisham said the event at Bandar Baru Bangi, Selangor, on March 6

saw a total of 88 confirmed cases.

"One of the cases is being treated at the intensive care unit. As of now, there are no deaths from this cluster. Both clusters involved at least five generations of infections," he said.

Dr Noor Hisham urged the people not to stigmatise infected patients from both clusters.

"It is important that we trace, treat the disease from them, their family members and close contacts,"

**Good news:**

Dr Noor Hisham showing the number of cases discharged, at the Covid-19 press conference in Putrajaya. – Bernama

he said.

Dr Noor Hisham also said that 25,020 Malaysian flight passengers, who have returned from overseas so far, had been tested.

"Out of this, 18 people have shown symptoms such as fever. We have isolated them at hospitals. The rest have been placed at the quarantine centres," he said.

Dr Noor Hisham said the Armed Forces had beefed up security at the country's borders, including with neighbouring Indonesia which had declared a state of emergency.

"This issue was brought up at the National Security Council meeting recently. The Armed Forces have been strengthening the border for the past one week, including at airports and other entry points," he said.

Watch the video  
[thestartv.com](https://www.thestartv.com)





AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 10

RUANGAN : NATION

# Hospitals to join in WHO drug trials

## Nine medical centres selected to participate in global search for Covid-19 treatment

By CLARISSA CHUNG  
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**PETALING JAYA:** Nine Malaysian hospitals will be included in the global drug trials for Covid-19 launched by the World Health Organization (WHO).

In a joint press release, the Health Ministry and WHO said Malaysia was selected to participate in the global "Solidarity Trial" to test several drugs to treat the disease.

Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said the ministry fast-tracked the process to implement the drug trials to treat Covid-19 patients.

"The nine hospitals are Tuanku Fauziah



Hospital, Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital, Penang Hospital, Hospital Sungai Buloh, Hospital Kuala Lumpur, Melaka Hospital, Tengku Ampuan Afzan Hospital, Sarawak General Hospital and Queen Elizabeth Hospital," it

was said in a statement.

The research will be led by Dr Chow Ting Soo, who is the infectious disease consultant in the Penang Hospital, with a team of 16 infectious disease physicians and pharmacists.

Dr Noor Hisham said the trials would adhere to safety standards set by the National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency.

"Malaysia's participation in this worldwide trial could help find life-saving medicines for Covid-19 through evaluating their safety and effectiveness," he said.

He added that the Institute for Clinical Research and Clinical Research Malaysia would also help to support the implementa-

tion of the drug trials.

The trials will test the effectiveness of four treatment protocols using different combinations of the drugs - Remdesivir, Lopinavir/Ritonavir, Interferon beta, Chloroquine and Hydroxychloroquine.

Dr Ying-Ru Lo, head of mission and WHO representative to Malaysia, Brunei and Singapore, said one of the drugs could be the world's "best hope" to treat Covid-19 patients.

"This is our chance as a global community to turn the tide against the pandemic.

"Malaysia will be a valued partner in this trial to evaluate potential treatments that are more effective, and to save lives in the global battle against the virus," she said.



AKHBAR : THE SUN

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS

## \* 131 new cases, 1 death recorded yesterday

**PETALING JAYA:** The number of Covid-19 infections reported yesterday were 131 with one death, bringing the total number of infections and deaths to 3,793 and 62 respectively.

Health Director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said the country recorded its highest number of Covid-19 recoveries in a day so far with 236 patients discharged.

The number of patients who have recovered was 1,241 or 32.97% of the

total cases recorded.

Other than the Seri Petaling cluster, the ministry has also identified two other clusters, one in Kuching and another in Bandar Baru Bangi. Noor Hisham said both the clusters had involved fifth generation infection.

"The Kuching cluster was a three-day church gathering where 83 people have tested positive for Covid-19," he said. "There have been two deaths and five people are

receiving treatment at the intensive care unit

"The Bandar Baru Bangi cluster was from a wedding function with 88 positive cases, no deaths and one person receiving treatment in the ICU."

He urged the public not to come into close contact with animals as they are known carriers of the virus. He said there is a possibility of them infecting humans. – *by Rajvinder Singh*

## \* Annuar hints at further extension of movement restrictions

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Federal Territories minister Tan Sri Annuar Musa has hinted at the extension of the movement control order (MCO) beyond April 14.

In a Twitter post, Annuar said the Health Ministry had given a hint for the people to be prepared to make "a longer sacrifice".

"We believe the SOP and detailed guidance will be released soon," he

tweeted yesterday.

The Health Ministry had said on Saturday it would decide on April 10 whether the MCO needs an extension.

"We have to base it on science and facts. April 10 is the latest available (date) for us to make a decision whether we need to extend or not," Health Director-General Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said then.



AKHBAR : THE SUN

MUKA SURAT : 6

RUANGAN : NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS

## Covid-19 treatment: Malaysia joins 'Solidarity Trial'

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The "Solidarity Trial", launched by the World Health Organisation (WHO), sees Malaysia being among other nations involved in a global effort to test several drugs in treating Covid-19.

The Health Ministry said in a statement yesterday the WHO globally coordinated trial is an unprecedented effort to collect reliable data and compare the safety and effectiveness of four treatment protocols using different combinations of remdesivir, lopinavir, ritonavir, interferon beta, chloroquine and

hydroxychloroquine.

"Malaysia's participation in this trial could help find life-saving medicines for Covid-19 through evaluating its safety and effectiveness," Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said.

The research will be headed by Dr Chow Ting Soo, Infectious Disease (ID) Consultant at Pulau Pinang Hospital, along with a team of 16 ID physicians and pharmacists.

The nine ministry hospitals involved are Tuanku Fauziah Hospital, Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital,

Pulau Pinang Hospital, Sungai Buloh Hospital, Kuala Lumpur Hospital, Malacca Hospital, Tengku Ampuan Afzan Hospital, Sarawak General Hospital and Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

Meanwhile, the statement also quoted Dr Ying-Ru Lo, the Head of Mission and WHO representative to Malaysia, Brunei Darussalam and Singapore, as saying that "the global pandemic is affecting more than 180 countries, and one of these drugs may be our best hope for treating people infected with Covid-19". - Bernama