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RUANGAN : NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS

Increase in Covid-19 patient admissions to public hospitals

KUALA LUMPUR: The number of admissions of Covid-19 patients to public hospitals per 100,000 people in the ninth epidemiological week increased by 33% for categories one to five compared with the eighth epidemiological week, said Health Director-General Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah in a statement yesterday.

He said the number of Covid-19 recovery cases between weeks eight and nine from Feb 26 to March 4 increased by 5.2% from 1,367 cases to 1,438, while recovery cases recorded a drop of 8.8% from 1,497 cases to 1,365. The number of Covid-19 deaths rose from two to eight, an increase of 300%.

"Covid-19 positive cases monitored by Covid-19 assessment centres (CAC) nationwide showed a decline and a comparison of physical CAC data for the

ninth epidemiological week showed that the number of patient arrivals to the CAC dropped by 12.2% compared with the previous week.

"Meanwhile, the number of new Covid-19 cases being monitored at home increased by 321.7% and the number of cases referred to hospitals by the CAC fell by 14.3%."

Noor Hisham said the cumulative number of cases reported from Jan 25, 2020, to March 4, 2023, stood at 5,043,626, while the cumulative number of recoveries stood at 4,997,806.

"The average number of active cases was 8,851, the cumulative number of deaths was 36,965 and the cumulative number of clusters was 7,172, with two active clusters."

With regards to the percentage of Covid-19 bed usage, he said there was an increase of 1%

from the previous to the current epidemiological week for non-critical beds.

Bed usage in the intensive care unit remained unchanged at 2% and the percentage of Covid-19 patients requiring respiratory assistance decreased to 0.2%.

"The number of admissions of Covid-19 patients to health facilities per 100,000 residents remained at 2.8% for the week from Feb 26 to March 4."

He said the surveillance of Influenza-Like Illnesses (ILI) and Severe Acute Respiratory Infections (SARI) for Covid-19 by the Health Ministry at sentinel locations nationwide found that 17 ILI samples tested positive for Covid-19 at a rate of 2.4% in the ninth epidemiological week. There were no SARI samples that tested positive for Covid-19 in the same week. - Bernama

Pauh health clinic to operate from March 27

ARAU: Residents in Pauh and its vicinity can now heave a sigh of relief after construction of the Pauh Health Clinic and its quarters were completed and the clinic is expected to be operational on March 27.

Construction of the health clinic at a cost of RM30 million was approved under the 11th Malaysia Plan, which included the procurement of medical and non-medical equipment worth RM2.5 million.

Health Ministry Deputy Secretary-General (Finance) Datuk Zamzuri Abdul Aziz said about 40,000 Pauh residents and those in nearby areas are expected to benefit from the clinic.

"It has always been a Health Ministry priority to strengthen the services provided at health clinics and to educate the public on the need to pay attention to healthcare," he said at the clinic handover ceremony yesterday. - Bernama