AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 14
RUANGAN : NASIONAL

14 NASIONAL
SINAR HARIAN • ISNIN 26 OGOS 2024
Sinar Harian
TELUS & TULUS • MATA DAN TELINGA RAKYAT • PEMACU PERUBAHAN

Kawalan di empat pintu masuk utama

Bagi mengekang penularan mpox di negara ini

MELAKA

Kementerian Dalam Negeri (KDN) memberikan tumpuan di empat pintu masuk utama negara dalam usaha membantu Kementerian Kesihatan mengekang penularan mpox atau cacar monyet.

Menterinya, Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail berkata, empat pintu masuk utama itu ialah Lapangan Terbang Antarabangsa Kuala Lumpur (KLIA), Lapangan Terbang Antarabangsa Kuala Lumpur Terminal 2 (KLIA2), Bangunan Sultan Iskandar dan Kompleks Sultan Abu Bakar.

Menurut beliau, KDN menerusi agensi di bawahnya juga memantau 'laluan tikus' yang terdapat di sempadan negara terutama sekitar Sungai Golok menerusi kawalan keselamatan oleh Pasukan Gerakan Am (PGA).

SAIFUDDIN

"Kita bercakap tentang 141 pintu masuk dan tiga perempat daripada kemasukan pelancong menerusi KLIA, KLIA2, Bangunan Sultan Iskandar dan Kompleks Sultan Abu Bakar, meninggalkan satu perempat sahaja menggunakan lain-lain pintu, jadi keutamaan kita ialah empat pintu masuk utama itu.

"Laluan-laluan lain (yang tidak sah) itu kita kenal pasti sebagai laluan tikus (iaitu) laluan yang kita tahu jumlah dan lokasi. Itu di bawah pengawasan, kalau polis di bawah PGA," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian kepada pemberita selepas menghadiri Istiadat Penganugerahan Darjah dan Pingat Kebesaran Negeri Melaka sempena ulang tahun ke-75 Yang Dipertua Negeri Melaka, Tun Mohd Ali Rustam.

Beliau memberitahu, walaupun penularan mpox dalam negara disifatkan terkawal ketika ini, namun kerajaan tetap mengambil pendekatan berwaspada.

Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia (WHO) sebelum ini mengisytiharkan mpox sebagai kecemasan kesihatan awam global buat kali kedua dalam tempoh dua tahun berikutan wabak jangkitan virus itu di Republik Demokratik Congo merebak ke negara jiran.- *Bernama*

Dr Zaini (tiga dari kiri) merasmikan Majlis Pelancaran Kibar Jalur Gemilang 2024 di Wisma Persekutuan, Kota Bharu, pada Ahad.

Maklumkan jika kunjungi negara berisiko mpox

KOTA BHARU - Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri Kelantan (JKNK) meminta rakyat di negeri ini untuk memaklumkan sebarang perjalanan ke negara-negara berisiko wabak mpox atau cacar monyet sebagai langkah pencegahan.

Pengarah JKNK, Datuk Dr Zaini Hussin berkata, setakat ini, belum ada kes berkaitan wabak itu direkodkan di negara ini mahupun Kelantan, namun pihaknya membuat persediaan awal bagi mengelak penularan mpox.

"JKNK turut menempatkan petugas di pintu-pintu masuk sempadan Kelantan-Thailand termasuk di Pengkalan Kubor, Tumpat dan Rantau Panjang, Pasir Mas setiap hari untuk menjalankan saringan kesihatan ke atas pelancong dari negara berisiko mpox.

"Selain itu, jika ada pelancong atau pun rakyat Kelantan yang berkunjung ke negara-negara berisiko jangkitan, boleh memaklumkan kepada pihak JKNK untuk mengambil langkah-langkah pencegahan," katanya kepada pemberita ketika ditemui sempena Pelancaran Kibar Jalur Gemilang 2024 bersama warga Wisma Persekutuan, di sini, pada Ahad.

Turut hadir merasmikan majlis itu, Pengarah Jabatan Pembangunan Negeri Kelantan Unit Penyelarasan Pelaksanaan, Jabatan Perdana Menteri, Jasri Kasim.

Dua hari lalu, Jabatan Kawalan Penyakit Thailand mengesahkan kes mpox pertama di negara terbabit adalah jenis strain clade 1b virus pada warga Eropah berusia 66 tahun.

Pesakit terbabit disahkan menghidap mpox selepas melakukan perjalanan dari sebuah negara Afrika yang terdapat wabak mpox, dan kemudiannya transit di negara Timur Tengah sebelum tiba di Thailand pada 14 Ogos lalu.

Mengulas lanjut, Dr Zaini memberitahu, pihaknya juga membuat persediaan melibatkan fasiliti hospital bagi memberi rawatan segera sekiranya ada yang dijangkiti wabak berkenaan di negeri ini.

"Hospital-hospital kita sekarang ini memang dah bersedia untuk sebarang kemungkinan seperti persediaan bilik isolasi dan sebagainya.

"Semua kakitangan juga sudah dimaklumkan dan meneliti prosedur operasi standard atau garis panduan untuk pengendalian kes-kes mpox seperti yang dikeluarkan oleh Kementerian Kesihatan," katanya.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 24
RUANGAN : NEGERI

Siasat dakwaan wanita alami pengalaman ngeri di hospital kerajaan

KUALA SELANGOR - Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri (JKN) negeri diminta menjalankan siasatan terperinci berhubung dakwaan seorang wanita melalui pengalaman ngeri ketika menjalani pembedahan bersalin di sebuah hospital kerajaan.

Exco Kesihatan Awam dan Alam Sekitar negeri, Jamaliah Jamaluddin berkata, setiap aduan wajib disiasat bagi memastikan mutu perkhidmatan kerajaan diyakini.

"Apa sahaja aduan orang awam sangat mustahak untuk kita sebagai agensi kerajaan mengenal pasti keadaan dan situasi berlaku.

"Sekiranya memang ada bukti dan isu tertentu, ia dapat diutarakan dengan jalan penyelesaian pada masa akan datang," katanya ketika menghadiri Program Malar Hijau Penyemaian 33,333 Benih Pokok Berembang 2024 di Santuari Kelip-Kelip Kampung Kuantan di sini pada Ahad.

Terdahulu, Jamaliah berkata demikian ketika diminta mengulas rakaman tular video 'pengalaman bersalin czer di hospital kerajaan paling ngeri 2024' di aplikasi TikTok.

Jamaliah berkata, jabatan atau agensi kerajaan tidak dapat memberi jaminan untuk menyediakan perkhidmatan memuaskan hati semua pihak.

"Kita sukar menjamin 100 peratus tiada kesilapan teknikal, kesilapan manusia dan sebagainya.

"Cuma kerajaan boleh memberi jaminan tanpa mengira peringkat tindakan susulan boleh dilakukan bagi memastikan dakwaan seperti ini tidak berulang," ujarnya.

Sementara itu, Jamaliah berkata, program penanaman benih pokok berembang bertujuan memulihara lokasi itu yang merupakan kawasan pembiakan habitat terbesar koloni kelip-kelip.

"Usaha ini juga diharap dapat menyahut saranan kerajaan negeri untuk menanam 26 juta pokok dalam tempoh lima tahun.

"Pokok berembang akan menggalakkan pembiakan kelip-kelip dengan lebih cepat dan banyak," katanya.

AKHBAR : UTUSAN MALAYSIA
MUKA SURAT : 4
RUANGAN : DALAM NEGERI

Apa jadi RUU Suruhanjaya Perkhidmatan Kesihatan?

Oleh MOHD. FADHLI MOHD. SULAIMAN
fadhli.sulaiman@mediamulia.com.my

PETALING JAYA: Kerajaan digesa mengemas kini status Rang Undang-Undang (RUU) penubuhan Suruhanjaya Perkhidmatan Kesihatan yang bakal dibentang ke Kabinet bagi mereformasikan sistem kesihatan negara.

Jurucakap Hartal Doktor Kontrak berkata, pegawai perubatan mahu mengetahui jangka masa, hala tuju suruhanjaya yang sangat dinanti-nantikan.

Menurutnya, sasaran Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) untuk menubuhkan suruhanjaya dalam tempoh 15 tahun menerusi kenyataan dalam Kertas Putih Kesihatan pada tahun lalu sudah tidak relevan, malah tidak rasional kerana terlalu lama.

"Kenyataan terakhir Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr. Dzulkefly Ahmad pada April lalu, kajian mengenai RUU Suruhanjaya Perkhidmatan Kesihatan di peringkat akhir dan akan dibentang ke Kabinet dalam masa terdekat," kata beliau kepada *Utusan Malaysia*.

Oleh itu, jurucakap itu menggesa Dzulkefly membuktikan komitmennya ke arah penubuhan suruhanjaya itu selepas menteri terdahulu, Dr. Zaliha Mustafa yang bertanggungjawab membentangkan Kertas Putih Kesihatan ditukar ke kementerian lain.

"Dahulu, Zaliha beritahu mahu tubuhkan suruhanjaya ini tetapi mengambil masa 15 tahun lagi. Kenyataan Zaliha dangkal dan tidak berpijak di bumi nyata, malah makluman ini juga hanyalah omong kosong kerana tiada dokumen mutlak yang menunjukkan ke mana hala tujunya?

"Sekali lagi, kami merayu kerajaan meletakkan sepenuh iltizam menubuhkan suruhanjaya ini yang amat mustahak bagi kami selaku pegawai perubatan untuk berkhidmat kepada masyarakat. Dahulu kata akan bentang ke Kabinet dalam masa terdekat, sekarang sudah hampir ke penghujung tahun," kata beliau.

Mengulas lanjut, kata jurucakap itu, semua kakitangan kerajaan termasuk sektor kesihatan bersyukur kerajaan mengumumkan kenaikan gaji sehingga 42 peratus.

Bagaimanapun, kata beliau, harapan melihat penubuhan Suruhanjaya Perkhidmatan Kesihatan lebih besar kerana pihaknya percaya dengan ada suruhanjaya sendiri, reformasi menyeluruh sebenar dan lebih besar dalam sektor kesihatan boleh dilakukan.

Sementara itu, Presiden Pertubuhan Doktor-Doktor Islam Malaysia (Perdim), Dr. Boi Saidi Abd. Razak menyokong gesaan hartal doktor kontrak supaya kerajaan mempercepat penubuhan suruhanjaya berkenaan.

Bagaimanapun, katanya, suruhanjaya itu mesti ada rangka kerja yang jelas kerana isu kesihatan di Malaysia amat luas dan melibatkan banyak pihak.

"Keahliannya juga perlulah daripada pertubuhan kesihatan yang ada di negara ini. Suruhanjaya juga mesti bebas daripada ikatan KKM dan boleh menyuarakan pandangan secara bebas.

"Ketelusan dalam pemilihan ahli jawatankuasa juga amat diperlukan dan kami berharap menjadi salah satu ahli jawatankuasanya," katanya.

Utusan Malaysia masih mendapatkan maklum balas Dzulkefly dan timbalannya, Datuk Lukanisman Awang Sauni berhubung perkara itu.

Suruhanjaya Perkhidmatan Kesihatan bertujuan mengeluarkan para pengamal perubatan daripada tangga gaji penjawat awam yang ketika ini diselia Suruhanjaya Perkhidmatan Awam (SPA) dan Jabatan Perkhidmatan Awam (JPA).

Ia juga bagi menangani masalah dihadapi doktor-doktor perubatan yang masih berstatus kontrak, membantu perkembangan kerjaya dalam bidang perubatan seterusnya menjadi pakar perubatan serta menangani isu kekurangan doktor-doktor pakar.

Sektor kesihatan perlu lebih banyak reformasi

PETALING JAYA: Kerajaan perlu melaksanakan lebih banyak reformasi dalam sektor kesihatan awam selain peningkatan gaji penjawat awam yang diumumkan baru-baru ini.

Presiden Persatuan Perubatan Malaysia, Dr. Azizan Abdul Aziz berkata, ken... adalah pe... positif dan p... mengiktiraf ... tidak ternila... tem penjaga...

UTUSAN Malaysia 22 Ogos 2024.

Pintu masuk diperketat sekat Mpox

MELAKA: Semua agensi keselamatan di bawah Kementerian Dalam Negeri (KDN) meningkatkan pemeriksaan di semua pintu masuk negara termasuk di laluan tikus bagi menyekat wabak Mpox.

Menterinya, Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail berkata, pihaknya memberi keutamaan di empat dari 141 pintu masuk iaitu di Lapangan Terbang Antarabangsa Kuala Lumpur (KLIA) Terminal 1 dan Terminal 2; Bangunan Sultan Iskandar dan Kompleks Sultan Abu Bakar.

Menurut beliau, sekalipun keadaan terkawal namun KDN dan Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) mewujudkan kerjasama bersepadu sebagai langkah menyekat ancaman wabak Mpox.

Katanya, walaupun belum ada kes berkaitan wabak itu direkodkan namun pihaknya membuat persediaan awal bagi menggelak penularan.

"Sewaktu Mesyuarat Kabinet yang lepas kita telah dimaklumkan oleh Menteri Kesihatan Datuk Seri Dr. Dzulkefly Ahmad tentang keadaan semasa Mpox serta langkah-langkah kawalan di pintu masuk negara.

"Di setiap pintu masuk perlu dilakukan ialah pemeriksaan suhu badan dan simptom yang membawa kepada gejala Mpox dan keadaan dilaporkan jauh sangat terkawal.

"Walaupun keadaan dilaporkan sangat terkawal namun kita mengambil pendekatan waspada walaupun kita mendengar dari negara jiran tentang adanya gejala itu tapi biar kita berpandu kepada KKM untuk tindakan selanjutnya kerana mereka ada indikator tertentu," katanya di sini semalam.

SAIFUDDIN Nasution Ismail bercakap mengenai kawalan pintu sempadan selepas hadir Istiadat Penganugerahan Darjah, Bintang dan Pingat Kebesaran Negeri Melaka di Ayer Keroh, Melaka semalam. - UTUSAN/AMRAN MULUP

AKHBAR : THE STAR
MUKA SURAT : 1
RUANGAN : MUKA HADAPAN

Photo: AZHAR MAHFOF/The Star

Mistaken fears

While Malaysia's uptake of childhood vaccines is back to pre-pandemic levels, Covid-19 fears continue to linger. Experts say some parents are mistakenly linking the side effects of Covid-19 jabs to children's vaccines. **> See reports on page 4** **by HO JIA WEN**

AKHBAR : THE STAR
MUKA SURAT : 4
RUANGAN : NATION

A shot in the arm, a pinch of doubt

Vaccine hesitancy among some parents still a problem, say health experts

By HO JIA WEN
jiawen.ho@thestar.com.my

PETALING JAYA: While the immunisation rate for children in Malaysia has returned to pre-pandemic levels quicker than other countries, vaccine hesitancy among parents remains a concern, say health experts.

Consultant paediatrician and Immunise4Life programme technical committee chairman Datuk Dr Zulkifli Ismail said childhood vaccination carried out through the National Immunisation Programme (NIP) had exceeded 90%.

"This is extremely good for the country," he said, adding that the childhood vaccination uptake in Malaysia had returned to pre-pandemic rates quicker than in other Asian or Western countries.

But controversies surrounding the Covid-19 vaccines have to some extent contributed to vaccine hesitancy among parents.

Fears of the side effects of vaccines are also further amplified by concerns from the Covid-19 vaccines, including the mRNA vaccines from Pfizer and the Astrazeneca vaccine developed by scientists at Oxford University.

Some parents erroneously extrapolate the same concerns to childhood vaccines.

"There is a slight drop in the uptake of the MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) vaccine for one-year-olds, but it's still above 80%," said Dr Zulkifli.

He said unlike the Covid-19 vaccines, childhood vaccines had a higher safety profile and had been used for decades for millions of children worldwide.

He stressed, however, that healthcare workers needed to understand the reasons for vaccine hesitancy among parents and to better communicate with them.

"There should be more messages to create better vaccine awareness on social media and in clinics where vaccines are administered," he said.

The loss of trust in information disseminated by official channels for the Covid-19 vaccines as well as on social media had also made anti-vaccine narratives more widespread, Dr Zulkifli added.

Health misinformation: Controversies surrounding Covid-19 vaccines have contributed to vaccine hesitancy among parents. — LIM BENG TATT/The Star

Other factors contributing to vaccine hesitancy include inconvenient clinic hours and long waiting times, which could make parents think twice about taking their children for vaccination, he said.

Consultant paediatrician and immunisation advocate Datuk Dr Musa Nordin agreed that parents had mistakenly linked NIP vaccines with Covid-19 vaccines.

He referred to the lower uptake rate of an immunisation programme for the pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PCV) carried out by the Health Ministry for children born in 2018 and 2019 to protect them from pneumococcal meningitis, pneumonia, middle ear infections and sinusitis.

"The uptake is below the 70% projected coverage for a variety of reasons. One reason is that parents seem to think it is a vaccine against Covid-19, and they have concerns about Covid-19 vaccines," he said.

The PCV vaccine, he added, was not an mRNA vaccine and had been effective against pneumococcal invasive disease (PID).

He also urged the Health Ministry to provide more data transparency on vaccination status.

"This would help recognise vulnerable communities who are hesitant about vaccines, including religious communities and those without access to NIP vaccines, such as children of refugees, migrants and the stateless," he said.

Dr Musa also highlighted the urgent need to initiate the vaccination of pregnant mothers with the Tdap vaccine to protect newborns in the first few months of life from pertussis, diphtheria and tetanus.

He noted that in a 2023 Knowledge, Attitude and Practices survey, 85% and 75% of respondents were found to have obtained health information through search engines and social media, respectively.

The survey was conducted by various medical groups, including the School of Pharmaceutical Science at Universiti Sains Malaysia.

Dr Musa said from his observation, 70% of the vaccine information came from anti-vaccine websites.

"In contrast, only 54% of the respondents in the survey trust government or health agency websites.

"More work needs to be done. The study also showed doctors to be the most trusted and influential persons for vaccine and health information," Dr Musa added.

Health economics and public health specialist with Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia's Faculty of Medicine, Prof Dr Sharifa Ezat Wan Puteh, said immunisation at an early age was important to reduce diseases and their complications.

The Malaysian population generally had a welcoming response to childhood immunisation, she said.

"In some situations, small pockets of vaccine hesitancy do occur, for example, HPV vaccinations for girls. This will be handled via effective communication," she said.

She noted that in Sabah and Sarawak, the vaccine rate uptake might differ due to poor access, logistical and travel problems rather than hesitancy.

Stop endangering our kids, parents urge anti-vaxxers

PETALING JAYA: Parents are urging anti-vaxxers to stop spreading misinformation, which is putting their children at risk.

Event consultant Bob Faizeli said all his five children were vaccinated under the National Immunisation Programme (NIP).

"During that time, my children would visit the public health clinics according to the vaccine schedule set by the Health Ministry," he said, adding that vaccines were important to protect children from harmful diseases.

Bob said he was thankful that the government had provided Malaysians with free immunisation.

Customer service assistant Ameera Ahmad, 35, said unvaccinated children could spread dangerous diseases to other children, adding that anti-vax groups had been spreading misinformation rampantly through social media and chat groups.

"One of the most common excuses is that vaccines cause autism. However, this has been proven to be untrue," said Ameera, whose own child is vaccinated as it is also a prerequisite for school admission.

"If there is something that prevents illness for the benefit of your child and other children, and you don't take it, you are denying your child the right to live a healthy life," she said.

Stay-at-home mother Kelly Lim, 45, takes vaccination seriously and recently got her daughters vaccinated against human papillomavirus (HPV).

"Childhood vaccination is important because I am not just protecting my children, but also other children," she said.

Parents, added Lim, should not be doubting vaccines as these had gone through many rounds of safety testing.

But a mother who wished to be known only as Lee, admitted that both of her sons were not vaccinated under the NIP.

"I don't trust vaccines," she said, adding that she also does not rely on any medication when her children get sick and prefers home remedies.

Eyes on entry points to prevent mpox

MELAKA: The Home Ministry is focusing on four main entry points to the country to assist the Health Ministry in preventing the spread of mpox in Malaysia, says minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail.

He said the entry points were Kuala Lumpur International Airport Terminals 1 and 2, the Sultan Iskandar Building and the Sultan Abu Bakar Complex.

He said the ministry was also keeping track of rat trails (illegal routes) along the country's borders, especially around Sungai Golok, through security controls conducted by the General Operations Force.

"We are talking about 141 entry points. Three-quarters of tourists arrive through KLIA, KLIA2 (Terminals 1 and 2), the Sultan Iskandar Building and the Sultan Abu Bakar Complex. This leaves only one-quarter using other entry points, so our priority is on these four main gateways.

"We have identified the other routes, known as rat trails, which are under the surveillance of the General Operations Force," he said.

He said this to reporters after the investiture ceremony for state honours and awards in conjunction with the 75th birthday of Yang di-Pertua Negeri of Melaka Tun Mohd Ali Rustam, Bernama reported.

AKHBAR : THE SUN
MUKA SURAT : 4
RUANGAN : NATIONAL

New mother accuses hospital of negligence, probe ongoing

SHAH ALAM: The Selangor Health Department is investigating an alleged horrific experience of a woman during childbirth at a government hospital.

It said it is examining the management of the patient throughout the treatment period.

"Hospital authorities will contact the owner of the TikTok account to arrange a meeting with the patient in the near future."

The department advised the public to not speculate and wait for investigations to be conducted.

A video titled "CZER childbirth experience in government hospital is the most terrifying (in) 2024" was widely spread on social media, and claimed there had been negligence on the part of health workers during the procedure, which affected her body functions. – Bernama