

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN  
MUKA SURAT : 11  
RUANGAN : NASIONAL

## Kes demam denggi menurun, satu kematian dilaporkan

**PUTRAJAYA** - Jumlah kes demam denggi menurun kepada 1,698 kes pada Minggu Epidemiologi ke-15 (ME15) iaitu dari 7 April hingga 13 April lepas berbanding 2,487 kes pada minggu sebelumnya.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan berkata, satu kematian akibat komplikasi demam denggi dilaporkan pada ME15.

"Kumulatif kes demam denggi yang dilaporkan sehingga ME15 adalah sebanyak 48,329 kes berbanding 33,325 kes bagi tempoh sama 2023.

"Sementara 35 kematian akibat komplikasi demam denggi telah dilaporkan berbanding 21 kematian bagi tempoh sama pada 2023," katanya dalam kenyataan di sini pada Jumaat.

Dr Muhammad Radzi berkata, bilangan lokaliti *hotspot* yang dilaporkan pada ME15 adalah sebanyak 107 lokaliti berbanding 119 lokaliti *hotspot* pada minggu sebelumnya.

Beliau berkata, dari 107 lokaliti itu, 87

adalah di Selangor, sembilan di Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur dan Putrajaya, empat di Pulau Pinang, dua di Kedah dan masing-masing satu di Perak, Negeri Sembilan, Johor, Sarawak dan Sabah.

Bagi survelan chikungunya, Dr Muhammad Radzi berkata, terdapat dua kes direkodkan pada ME15.

Beliau berkata, jumlah kumulatif kes chikungunya sehingga kini adalah 23 kes dan terdapat satu wabak chikungunya masih aktif pada ME15.

Bagi survelan zika pula, beliau berkata, sebanyak 740 sampel darah dan empat sampel urin telah menjalani saringan zika dan hasil kesemuanya adalah negatif.

"Peningkatan pergerakan disebabkan aktiviti kunjung mengunjung serta rumah terbuka sepanjang Aidilfitri akan meningkatkan risiko jangkitan terutama di lokaliti yang mempunyai kepadatan nyamuk Aedes tinggi apabila terdapat banyak tempat pembiakan di persekitaran," katanya. - *Bernama*

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES  
MUKA SURAT : 6  
RUANGAN : NEWS / NATION

## FINDING A SOLUTION

## Ministries to jointly address parallel pathway programme

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Higher Education Ministry and the Health Ministry have agreed to jointly address the issue of parallel pathway programme for medical specialists.

Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir said the decision was made following a discussion with Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad, as well as representatives from both ministries, the Malaysian Medical Council (MMC), and the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA).

"The Higher Education Ministry and the Health Ministry have a common intention and desire to promptly find a solution to the issue. The final decision on this matter will be shared after several proposals are brought to the cabinet meeting," he said in a Facebook posting.

Zambry said the meeting he chaired with Dr Dzulkefly al-

to discuss a joint solution to ensure the knowledge acquired by the trainees meets the prescribed standards.

"At the same time, the Higher Education Ministry is of the view that these students and graduates should not become victims of any technical issues that can be resolved.

"Therefore, the Higher Education Ministry and its agencies, including MQA, are open to discussions and efforts to realise the national agenda to increase the number of medical specialists in the country and ensure that the delivery of healthcare services under the Health Ministry reaches an optimal level," he said.

Zambry said the meeting also discussed the need to enhance strategic collaboration between the Higher Education Ministry and the Health Ministry to achieve the target of producing 28,000 medical specialists in the country by 2030. **Bernama**



Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir (left) and Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad during a joint meeting held at the Higher Education Ministry in Putrajaya, yesterday. PIC FROM DATUK SERI DR ZAMBRY ABDUL KADIR'S FB

AKHBAR : THE STAR  
MUKA SURAT : 2  
RUANGAN : NATION

## Ministries to address parallel pathway issue

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The parallel pathway programme for medical specialists issue will be jointly addressed by the Higher Education Ministry (MOHE) and the Health Ministry (MOH).

Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir said the decision was made following a discussion with Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad, as well as representatives from the MOHE, the MOH, the Malaysian Medical Council (MMC) and the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA).

"The MOHE and MOH have a common intention and desire to promptly find a solution to the issue. Insyallah, the final decision on this matter will be shared after several proposals are brought to the Cabinet meeting," he said in a post on Facebook.

Zambry said the meeting he chaired with Dzulkefly also discussed a joint solution to ensure the knowledge acquired by the trainees meets the prescribed standards, Bernama reported.

"The MOHE is of the view that these students should not become victims of any technical issues that can be resolved.

"Therefore, the MOHE and its agencies are open to discussions to realise the national agenda to increase the number of medical specialists in the country and ensure that the delivery of health-care services under the MOH reaches an optimal level," he said.

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AKHBAR : THE STAR  
MUKA SURAT : 10  
RUANGAN : NATION

## Medical Act to get a boost via amendment, says Health Minister

**PETALING JAYA:** The proposal to amend the Medical Act 1971 (Act 50) will receive the much-needed boost with a joint memorandum between the Health Ministry and the Higher Education Ministry, says Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad.

The Health Minister said the report will be submitted to the Cabinet soon as part of efforts to address issues related to the parallel pathway programme.

Dr Dzulkefly said the move was agreed upon after a meeting with Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abd Kadir on Thursday over the proposed amendments to Act 50.

In a post on X platform, Dr Dzulkefly dubbed the meeting as "historic", adding

that a firm understanding was achieved between both ministries.

"Any disorder will be resolved with the joint memorandum submitted to the Cabinet in the near future," he said in the post.

The Health Ministry, in a statement, said the meeting was held to further examine the programme and to find solutions to ensure the knowledge gained by the housemen adhere to the highest standards.

"Based on the discussions in the meeting, a memorandum will be presented to the Cabinet for further approval, aligning with the ministry's target to provide optimal healthcare services to the public," it said in

a Facebook post on Thursday.

Also present at the meeting were Higher Education secretary-general Datuk Seri Dr Zaini Ujang and Health director-general Datuk Dr Muhammad Radzi Abu Hassan, who is also Malaysian Medical Council (MMC) president.

On April 2, Dr Dzulkefly said the ministry would propose to the Cabinet to expedite the proposed amendments to Act 50 by the next Parliament sitting in June.

Pending the Cabinet's decision, he said the ministry would strive to ensure that those who have successfully completed their training under the programme be eligible for registration as specialists under the Act.

The Act requires a registered medical practitioner to be registered with the MMC, in which the council is also the sole authority to determine which doctor can become a specialist and has the power to recognise specialist qualifications.

*The Star* recently reported that MMC refused to recognise the Fellowships of four Malaysian heart and lung trainee surgeons from the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh despite them passing their exams under the programme.

Currently, there are 14 heart and lung surgeons left in the public service, with several retiring in a few years while over 1,500 heart and lung disease patients are urgently needing surgery.