

Health Ministry: Let clinics decide rates for e-hailing drivers' health checks

NATION

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GOPENG: Clinics are free to determine the fee for conducting medical examinations of e-hailing drivers, says Deputy Health Minister Dr Lee Boon Chye.

Dr Lee said the fee would be left to the market to decide, as long as proper medical checks are conducted.

"These include the drivers' medical history, including fits or other illnesses, and to evaluate their fitness to drive. That's our target.

"As long as the doctors can do it, on the ministry's part it is done," he told a press conference after opening the World Occupational Safety and Health Day celebration at the Rural Transformation Centre here on Monday (Sept 30).

"If people can do it at a lower price, so be it," he said.

It was reported that the Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) had urged the ministry to investigate claims that doctors were providing medical exams for e-hailing drivers at just RM20, which they deemed as "impossible".

A circular had been issued by the Road Transport Department (JPJ) to the ministry and MMA to fix a standard rate of RM80 for e-hailing drivers to do their medical examinations, which is needed for the application and renewal of the public service vehicle (PSV) licence.

The Malaysia E-Hailing Drivers Association (Mehda) had claimed that some 135 panel clinics nationwide had agreed to a charge of RM20 per person for the medical examination.

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