MMA: Time to consider putting MySejahtera to better use

By Farah Solhi - March 30, 2022 @ 2:16pm



The Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) today said it was time to consider a stop to the use of the Covid-19 MySejahtera application for contact tracing, as the country transitions into the endemic phase. MMA: Time to consider putting MySejahtera to better use. - NSTP file pic

Its president Dr Koh Kar Chai said with the high Covid-19 transmissions in the community, the application's scanning features were no longer useful as it was in the earlier phases of the pandemic.

He said the application may have outlived its usefulness for contact tracing, especially with large numbers of positive cases within and surrounding the communities.

"The use of MySejahtera allowed contact tracing during the height of the pandemic, a feat that would have been impossible without the application.

"However, the feature can no longer be adopted on a wide scale, as it will not yield the expected results.

"Since the application has been adopted by a majority of the public, it can be put to better use," he said in a statement, today.

Dr Koh suggested for the application's contact tracing features to be preserved, in preparation for any possible pandemic in the future.

"It can also be adapted as a personal health record as it is already linked to an individuals' identification and the data is non-transferable.

"However, the worry would be on the security of the users' data".

Dr Koh said the association hoped the government continue being proactive in securing the people's trust in the application.

"What's currently lacking in the healthcare structure of this country is a centralised management system for health records.

"We hope that MySejahtera can be ultimately used in the management of health records, as we progress towards an effective healthcare system for the country".

He said there's a need for an electronic medical record system that is secured and accessible by healthcare providers so there is seamless care for people's health.

"There have been one too many times where healthcare records were not accessible across healthcare facilities or providers.

"This is where MySejahtera may be used as an initial effort to have centralised health record-keeping, where it can be carried by individuals to allow access for healthcare providers as and when needed," he added.