

MMA: Conduct Covid-19 self-test only when needed

By [Farah Solhi](#) - March 12, 2022 @ 2:57pm



The Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) has advised the public to only do the Covid-19 self-test when needed to prevent hoarding of self-test kits. - NSTP/SAIFULLIZAN TAMADI.

COVID VACCINATION

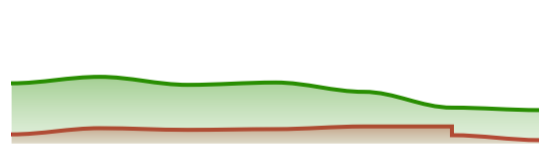
TOTAL CASES **3,823,567** -14.2% ↘ Last 7 days



TOTAL VACCINE **68,159,756** -4.0% ↘ Last 7 days



CASE VS VACCINE **22,535 vs 45,025** TODAY



KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) has advised the public to only take the Covid-19 self-test when needed to prevent hoarding of self-test kits in the market.

MMA president Dr Koh Kar Chai said there is ample supply of the self-test kits and shortage would only occur if there was panic buying.

He said the public should not be paranoid to know their status regularly and have themselves tested daily unless it was necessary due to the nature of their work.

"Even healthcare professionals do not test themselves daily, unless it is

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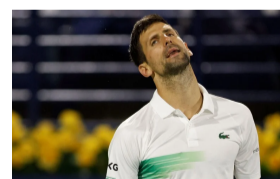
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"Circumstances needing self testing will be when attending functions involving groups of people, visiting elderly or immuno compromised individuals, after coming into

close contact with infected individuals or when exhibiting symptoms, to name a few," he said in a statement, today.

Dr Koh remarked that due to the high transmissibility of the Omicron variant, the number of Covid-19 positive cases would be high until it reaches its peak.

"Though the accuracy of the self-test kits may not be comparable (due to the sampling methods used) to the professional RTK-Ag (Antigen Rapid Test Kits) tests as well as the gold standard RT-PCR (Reverse Transcription-Polymerase Chain Reaction) tests, it is useful in picking up symptomatic cases especially when the cases are at an all-time high."

Dr Koh reminded that it was prudent to maintain the prescribed standard operating procedures (SOP) at all times to ensure the numbers do not get higher.

He also advised the public to consult with their doctor and seek clarification on the need to go for further tests if they were in doubt of their health status.

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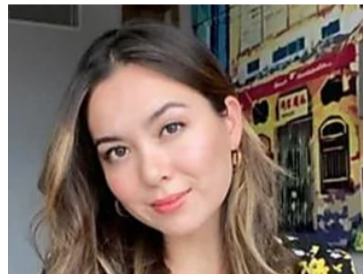
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