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G15-Medical

SUMMIT VENUE HAS HIGH-POWERED MEDICAL TEAM ON 24-HOUR STANDBY

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 30 (Bernama) -- A high-powered medical team from the Kuala Lumpur Hospital is at the venue of the Group of 15 developing countries (G15) summit here to attend to the needs of the heads of government and delegates.

The team comprises at least one surgeon, a physician, a medical assistant and a staff nurse and is stationed at the Palace of the Golden Horses hotel-- the summit venue.

"We also have a mobile team on alert around the clock ready to whisk anyone who takes ill to the hospital," Matzalan Ujang, the Liaison Officer for Medical Coverage in the Health Ministry said today.

The team offers room medical care for heads of government and spouses, while ministers and delegates will be given treatment at the station except in cases of serious illness, he said.

He said the Kuala Lumpur Hospital which had been assigned to do medical coverage for most international events had gathered information on the medical history of each country leader who will be attending the meeting.

"It helps us to be on alert and know what to expect in terms of the treatment that will be required," Matzalan said.

Several days before the summit, the team ran mock emergency exercises to gauge the time they would take to stabilise a patient and breeze through peak-hour traffic jams to get to the hospital.

He said while the station at the hotel is well-equipped with among others an ECG machine and a respirator, only minor surgery -- if the need arose -- will be carried out.

At least six heads of government are expected to attend the summit to be opened by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad on Monday.--

BERNAMA

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