

TRANSITION TO ENDEMIC PHASE

'TIME TO STOP USING MYSEJAHTERA'

Contract tracing with app not possible due to high transmission rate in community, says expert

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THE Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) yesterday said it was time to stop using the MySejahtera application for contact tracing as the country transitions into the endemic phase.

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

"The use of MySejahtera allowed contact tracing during the height of the pandemic, which

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.

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 application as it is already linked to individuals' identification, and the data is non-transferable.

"However, the worry would be about the security of user data."

Dr Koh said MMA hoped that the government would continue to be 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 was a need for an electronic medical record system that is secure and accessible by healthcare providers so there was 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."

Meanwhile, Transparency International Malaysia expressed



Dr Koh Kar Chai

Khairy: Check-ins with MySejahtera may be dropped

KUALA LUMPUR: MySejahtera check-ins may soon be a thing of the past if the Covid-19 transmission trend in the country remains stabilised.

Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin said the ministry would first need to monitor the pattern of mobility versus infections within the next few weeks. "As we reopen the borders and ease restrictions in the fasting month, we will need to see if there are any drastic changes in the mobility and in-

fection patterns for the next few weeks.

"If there is no significant fluctuations, then we can drop (MySejahtera check-ins)."

He said this after closing the National Integrated Weight Management Programme at the Health Ministry here yesterday.

The standard operating procedure requiring temperature checks and the manual recording of personal particulars for entry into premises was dropped from Feb 11.

concern over the lack of transparency in the ownership and supervision of MySejahtera.

"The Health Ministry should provide further details to the public on how it will accentuate the safety principles as stated in Section 9 of the Personal Data and Privacy Act 2010.

"The government is responsible in maintaining personal data in complete confidentiality and managing public contracts worth millions of

ringgit of taxpayers' money with full transparency, not the other way around.

"We need to prevent the leak-

age of information and public funds, as well as ensure that applications like this do not fall into

the wrong hands, otherwise it will either spark a scandal or embarrass the country," said its president, Muhammad Mohan.

Opposition leader Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim had raised several questions linked to MySejahtera, one of which was on the alleged sale of the application after the ministry was said to have given it

up and appointed MySJ Sdn Bhd to take over it.

The Health Ministry had refuted the claims.



Muhammad Mohan