

# Private hospitals being used as Covid-19 vaccination centres, PH told

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*Khairy Jamaluddin says Pantai Hospital is already being used to vaccinate private healthcare workers under phase one of the vaccination programme. (Facebook pic)*

PETALING JAYA: The minister in charge of the Covid-19 vaccination programme says private hospitals are already being used as vaccination centres and that more will be roped in to help.

Yesterday, Pakatan Harapan's Covid-19 vaccination committee urged the health ministry to work with private hospitals to speed up the vaccination process.

The committee mooted the creation of more vaccine distribution centres in private clinics and hospitals to reduce the possibility of bottlenecks.

In a tweet, science, technology and innovation minister Khairy Jamaluddin said private hospitals are already being used as vaccination centres.

He cited the example of Pantai Hospital, which is used to vaccinate private healthcare workers under phase one of the vaccination programme.

It was previously reported some 2,500 private healthcare frontliners would receive the vaccinations at the hospital.

They will then be assigned to assist government healthcare workers throughout the entire programme.

"We will include more private hospitals for phase two and three as I have announced previously," said Khairy.

"It will be all hands on deck. The 75,000 to 150,000 a day throughput is for later phases."

Separately, there have been calls for the government to allow its members to buy their own supply of Covid-19 vaccines and administer them.

The Association of Private Hospitals Malaysia said private hospitals can procure vaccines from different sources once approvals are granted by the National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency.

It said this would allow more people to be vaccinated at a faster rate.

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