

May 2, 2020

Yaw Teck Seng Foundation Donates PCR Machines and PPEs to Sarawak General Hospital

Yaw Teck Seng Foundation of the Samling Group donated two Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) machines; ie one unit pcr biorad CFX 96 machine and the second unit - gene expert 4 cartridges, 1 autoclave steriliser, 1 RNA extractor, and 2 invasive ventilators to the Sarawak General Hospital today to support it fights against the Covid-19 outbreak. The contribution also included surgical masks, forehead thermometers, and protective bodysuits. The ventilators and 1 PCR machine are currently en-route from overseas and will be arriving by the middle of May.

It is critical for medical facilities to be well equipped in order to facilitate the identification of infected persons as early as possible during the early stages of infection so that they can be isolated and treated accordingly.

Such capabilities to diagnose the virus would require a molecular biology laboratory with Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) testing equipment. Currently, the Sarawak General Hospital (SGH) has PCR equipment for such diagnoses. However, due to the worrying number of suspected cases in Kuching and its surrounding districts, additional testing equipment is very much required in order to diagnose and detect cases earlier.

In its simplest terms, non-invasive ventilation differs from invasive ventilation by the interface between the patient and the ventilator. Invasive ventilatory support is provided via either an endotracheal tube or tracheostomy tube. For patients in ICU, it is critical for the use of invasive ventilators in order to assist patients with breathing difficulties.

The donation was handed over to Sarawak General Hospital's director, Dr Ngian Hie Ung by Dato Sri JC Fong, who is the Director of the Yaw Teck Seng Foundation, and witnessed by Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah, Chairman of the State Disaster Management Committee and Dato Sri Dr. Sim Kui Hian.

Yaw Teck Seng Foundation aims to support our medical institutions in Sarawak during this challenging time," said Dato Sri JC Fong in a statement. He further added that it has been always the foundation's mission to assist and do everything possible within their means to help the State government and the communities in need.

On behalf of the Foundation, I would like to thank Tan Sri Yaw and Dato Sri Yaw for their kind generosity, said Dato Sri JC Fong. He was accompanied by Ding Shan Huat, Wilson Soh, Laurence Chai, and Chung Kui Siang during the simple handing over at Old DUN Building.



Dato Sri JC Fong (third right) with Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah (centre) and Dato Sri Dr. Sim Kui Hian (third left) giving a thumbs-up while other looks on.