

**MERCY MALAYSIA IS ASIA'S FIRST NON-GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANISATION TO BE VERIFIED EMERGENCY MEDICAL TEAM (EMT)
- TYPE 1 FIXED BY THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION
(WHO)**

MERCY Malaysia joins elite WHO EMT Global Classified community

KUALA LUMPUR, 16 March 2023 –MERCY Malaysia's Emergency Medical Team (EMT) has received verification as one of the EMT Global Classified teams under the Type 1 Fixed¹ category by the World Health Organization (WHO) Emergency Medical Teams (EMT) Initiative, ultimately honouring MERCY Malaysia as the first NGO from Asia to be a part of self-sufficient teams ready to be deployed internationally to health emergencies should the need arise.

According to Dr. Roy Cosico, Technical Officer, EMT Secretariat, WHO acting as one of four peer reviewers, "The aim of this EMT verification is to ensure the timeliness and quality of health services provided by international EMTs to support the national health system in leading the activation and coordination of rapid response capacities in the immediate aftermath of a disaster, outbreak and/or another emergency. I congratulate MERCY Malaysia on this achievement and thank them for their commitment throughout the classification process."

The EMTs form a significant part of the global health workforce that provide extra surge capacity and expertise to countries in response to disasters and health emergencies. The EMT, comprising medical practitioners such as doctors, nurses, paramedics as well as logisticians and other support personnel from across the world are rapidly deployed to help patients in need of healthcare services during emergency situations such as disease outbreaks, sudden onset disasters and conflicts.

In 2013, the WHO convened the global EMT community to develop an EMT classification system along with minimum quality standards and principles. With the EMT initiative by WHO, governments and populations affected by emergencies and outbreaks can now be assured of

¹ <https://www.who.int/emergencies/partners/emergency-medical-teams/emt-global-classified-teams>

a predictable, timely, and coordinated response by self-sufficient teams with well-trained health personnel.

With the Type 1 Fixed EMT Classification accorded to MERCY Malaysia, the organisation is thus allowed to provide healthcare for acute trauma and non-trauma, referrals, ongoing investigation or care as well as community-based primary care in an outpatient fixed facility, aimed at reducing loss of lives and disabilities.

MERCY Malaysia President, Professor Dato' Dr. Ahmad Faizal Mohd Perdaus said, "We are extremely proud and encouraged with the verification from the World Health Organization (WHO) – an honour for Malaysia and the Asian region that we represent. It also is a meaningful "gift" for MERCY Malaysia as we celebrate our 25th Anniversary next year. I would like to thank the communities that we have served over the years, members of MERCY Malaysia past and present and our volunteers. Obviously, this achievement does not come overnight – it is a result of years of learning and growth. I would also like to thank WHO for the recognition, including the support of the assigned EMT mentors who stood by us from the pre-verification stage in July 2022, identifying our gaps and providing much needed advice, until today."

Dr. Ahmad Faizal added, "A key feature of the EMTs is its self-sufficiency whereby all team members are fully trained, have the skills appropriate for the situation, and bring with them their own equipment and supplies, to avoid adding a burden on the already stretched national health systems of the countries they operate in. As an ever-evolving organisation, I believe MERCY Malaysia will not stop at just the EMT Type 1 Fixed classification. The organisation has the drive, competency, capacity, and support to strive for more classifications to add value to the EMT Global Classified community."

~ End ~

Links to photos and videos:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NqcNij8RUAZbHiOC3otxuglgWHkoeO2?usp=sharing>

Other information:

Types of EMT Classification:

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| Type 1 Mobile | Provides daylight hours care for stabilization of acute trauma and non- trauma presentations, referrals for further investigation or inpatient care and community-based primary care with the ability to work in multiple locations over the period of a deployment. |
| Type 1 Fixed | Provides daylight hours care for acute trauma and non-trauma presentations, referrals, and for ongoing investigation or care and community-based primary care in an outpatient fixed facility. |
| Type 2 Inpatient surgical emergency care | Provides Type 1 services plus general and obstetric surgery for trauma and other major conditions as well as inpatient acute care. |
| Type 3 Inpatient referral care | Provides Type 2 services plus complex referral and intensive care capacity. |
| Specialized care teams | Additional specialized care teams that can be embedded in local health-care facilities or Type 2 or Type 3 unless specified otherwise, which can provide the following services: outbreak, surgical, rehabilitation, mental health, reproductive and newborn care, interdisciplinary, interhospital and technical support. |

[Source: World Health Organization](#)

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About MERCY Malaysia

MERCY Malaysia is an international humanitarian organisation focused on providing medical relief, health-related development and risk reduction activities for vulnerable communities in both crisis and non-crisissituations.

Established in 1999 and having delivered humanitarian assistance in more than 30 countries, MERCY Malaysia embraces the Humanitarian-Development Nexus approach by building synergies between emergency, humanitarian and development health aid with the aim of facilitating effectiveness of multidisciplinary responses, building communities’ resilience to shocks and future disasters, and achieving sustainable outcomes wherever we serve.