

## CONDOLENCES

### 100 Doctors in Indonesia Have Died from Covid-19



Dear All APPA members,

Greetings from the APPA Secretariat in Kuala Lumpur.

The Secretariat extends its deepest condolences to the families of the 100 doctors that have died from Covid-19 in Indonesia, as the number of cases and fatalities across the archipelago continue to mount.

Indonesian Medical Association (IDI) Chairman Daeng M. Fiqih told *The Jakarta Post* Monday (August 31, 2020), that the association had coordinated with the National Covid-19 Task Force and relevant departments to ensure the availability of protective equipment in hospitals and health facilities so as to prevent more deaths among health workers.

"Hospitals should issue a special policy that temporarily prohibits health personnel with comorbidities and those who are at higher risk (of contracting the coronavirus) from working," he said, adding that health professionals should also be required to regularly take polymerase chain reaction (PCR) tests to ensure a safe working environment.

Daeng also urged hospitals to create a work schedule in accordance with doctors' physical health to prevent fatigue, which makes them more vulnerable to the virus.

"Every stakeholder should work together to support hospitals in implementing those measures," he added.

The Health Ministry announced 2,858 new confirmed COVID-19 cases on Sunday (August 30, 2020), bringing the total number of infections nationwide to 172,053. According to data released by the ministry on Sunday, 82 more people have died of the disease, bringing the death toll to 7,343.

Earlier this month, IDI spokesperson Halik Malik said the majority of doctors who died from COVID-19 were between 28 and 39 years old.

The condolences are also extended to Dr. Aman Bakhti Pulungan, APPA President & Indonesian Pediatric Society (IPS) President, IPS Executive Committee Members, Dr.

**Aman's Assistant for APPA affairs, Dr. Ayu Utami and all IPS members and colleagues.**

**May God protect us from Covid-19 and bless us all. Aameen.**

**Kind regards,**

**Fairos Nazri, Executive Secretary, APPA on behalf of the  
APPA Executive Committee Members**