

Free Pneumococcal Vaccinations From June for Babies Born Jan. 1st, 2020



Dr. Lee Boon Chye (Malaysiakini photo)

Babies born from January 1 this year onward will be eligible for free pneumococcal vaccinations from June, said Malaysian Deputy Health Minister Dr Lee Boon Chye.

He said the Health Ministry was in the process of procuring the medicine to be distributed to all clinics and hospitals before implementing the vaccination exercise.

“RM60 million has been allocated for this pneumococcal vaccination programme which we expect to be implemented by June, and every baby born from Jan 1 this year is eligible. “Babies born before that date are not included in the budget so we cannot give the vaccination (free of charge),” he said.

Dr Lee was speaking to reporters after a health programme at a Health Clinic in Ipoh, west coast Perak state today (June 3, 2020) to help patients with lung complications such as asthma.

When tabling Budget 2020 on October 11 last year, Finance Minister Lim Guan Eng announced that the government would allocate RM30.6 billion to the Health Ministry, of which RM60 million would be given as a start to provide pneumococcal vaccination to children. – **Malaysian National News Agency (Bernama), Perak, Malaysia, January 3, 2020**