



NEWSLETTER FOR SARAWAK FOREIGNERS  
HEALTH INFORMATION SYSTEM

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# THE PULSE

*New Year Special*

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**The New Year Special of *The Pulse*.**

A new year, a new standard. SAFHIS moves into its next phase through intuitive design and seamless workflow alignment—transforming advanced technology into a more responsive, effortless clinical experience.

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# Latest in SAFHIS

In 2025, SAFHIS achieved key milestones in system expansion and operational excellence across Sarawak, including:

## Growth



The network of SAFHIS Panel Facilities grew from 141 in the first half of 2025, to 161 onboarded facilities as of December 2025. This growth demonstrates continued confidence from healthcare providers in SAFHIS, serving as the centralised digital health platform for Non-Sarawakians' medical records.

## Training and Transition



The SAFHIS Specialist Squad focused on delivering comprehensive training to all newly-onboarded facilities, ensuring they complete the full training module.

## Total Panel Facilities

161

across Sarawak



## Training Completion Rate

75.2%

of approved medical facilities



## Number of Trained SAFHIS Panel Medical Facilities



Trained SAFHIS Panel Medical Facilities

121

Trained Users



# Policy Updates

H2 2025 introduced several policy enhancements designed to fortify system integrity and operational accountability, including:



## Digital-First Compliance

SAFHIS now requires all Panel Facilities to submit records digitally as the official method of documentation. Hardcopy reports are no longer accepted, except when required by a court order. This mandate ensures consistency, traceability, and immediate accessibility of foreign worker medical records across the network.



## User Credential Responsibility

To secure the system, SAFHIS is reinforcing user credential responsibility with strict personal accountability. Each SAFHIS account is personalised and non-transferable; using shared logins is a security breach. This ensures all system activities are properly attributed.

Medical personnel may register their own accounts [here](#).



## Updated Leishmaniasis Screening Criteria

The protocol for Leishmaniasis testing has been refined to focus on specific high-risk origins.

Effective immediately, the mandatory Leishmaniasis test is limited **exclusively to workers from Pakistan and Sri Lanka**, removing the requirement for those from Nepal, Bangladesh, and India. This targeted approach streamlines the screening process by focusing strictly on high-risk origins to ensure robust surveillance where it matters most.

# Technical Updates

We are excited to share important improvements to our Lab and X-ray Referral System for the Electronic Medical Record (EMR).

These updates are designed to make the process smoother, faster, and more secure – while keeping everything compliant with the Personal Data Protection Act (PDPA) 2010 and the Private Healthcare Facilities and Services Act 1998.

*Reminder: To ensure compliance, referrals can only be made to SAFHIS Panel Facilities.*



## What's New?

1



### Comprehensive Facility Listings

Facilities are now displayed with their full names and addresses, which minimises confusion, especially when multiple centres have similar names.

2



### Seamless Information Sharing

Once a referral is assigned, the receiving laboratories and X-ray facilities can instantly access patient details and upload reports directly through the SAFHIS platform.

3



### Amendment Window

Panel Medical Facilities are now able to amend their submitted results on the system within the first 24 hours after the initial submission. Users are still strongly advised to ensure accuracy before submitting records.

# Dose Digest

## Redefining Precision Oncology

### Hospital Picaso Integrates Advanced Imaging with Live Treatment Decisions

Hospital Picaso (PJ Integrated Centre for Advanced Surgery and Oncology) has officially launched its Cancer Centre, a purpose-built facility that transforms fragmented cancer treatment into seamless, integrated care delivery.<sup>[1]</sup>

This consolidation houses the complete treatment spectrum; from diagnostic imaging through chemotherapy, immunotherapy, and radiotherapy, under one strategic roof. The timing proves critical: cancer remains Malaysia's third leading cause of death, with over 65 per cent of cases detected at advanced stages, creating an urgent need for streamlined care that eliminates coordination delays.<sup>[1]</sup>

The cancer centre focuses on real-time treatment optimisation, where advanced imaging enables immediate therapy adjustments based on live patient responses.



Photo Credit: <https://www.hospitalpicaso.com/en/hospital-overview/>

Consultant radiologist Dr Basri Johan Jeet Abdullah emphasises how integrated radiology allows specialists to identify procedures and monitor therapeutic effectiveness instantly, transforming static treatment protocols into dynamic, responsive interventions. This represents a significant leap, where specialists can now adjust protocols immediately based on imaging feedback rather than waiting weeks for modifications.<sup>[1]</sup>

By combining cutting-edge technology with sophisticated care coordination, Hospital Picaso establishes new national standards for precision oncology infrastructure. This integrated model addresses Malaysia's critical cancer care challenges, while placing patients at the centre of an expertly synchronised medical ecosystem. This suggests that effective treatment requires both advanced technology and seamless specialist collaboration.<sup>[1]</sup>

<sup>[1]</sup>TEH ATHIRA YUSOF (2025). Hospital Picaso's new Cancer Centre integrates care under one roof to ease patient burden. The Star. [online] 25 Apr. Available at: <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2025/04/25/hospital-picaso039s-new-cancer-centre-integrates-care-under-one-roof-to-ease-patient-burden> [Accessed 11 Sep. 2025].

## Sarawak-Born Solutions for Sarawakian Health

Sarawak is no longer waiting for health solutions to be externally sourced; we are building our own. With the Sarawak Infectious Disease Centre (SIDC) targeting the state's first home-grown vaccine by 2030 under the VaxBioD programme, SAFHIS is positioned as a key part of Sarawak's health security backbone, helping turn that vision into a practical, day-to-day reality.<sup>[2]</sup>

Across our panel facilities, SAFHIS supports the standardisation of screening, diagnosis, and reporting for high-burden diseases such as tuberculosis and malaria. Behind every SAFHIS entry



Architecture perspective drawing of the Sarawak Infectious Disease Centre (SIDC), taken from the Sarawak Research and Development Council. Photo credit [here](#).

is more than a compliance requirement – it is real-world data that helps Sarawak understand how diseases move through our communities.

When locally developed vaccines are ready, this same Sarawak-built infrastructure will help ensure they are guided by Sarawakian data, delivered through Sarawakian facilities,

and trusted by Sarawakian patients.

By putting structure, accountability, and clinical discipline behind every case recorded, SAFHIS helps ensure that Sarawak's first home-grown vaccine will be more than a scientific achievement; it will be a Sarawakian solution for Sarawak's people.

<sup>[2]</sup>Marlyn Ten (2025). Sarawak Science Centre construction at 85.35 pct completion, soft launch expected next July. Borneo Post Online. [online] 1 Dec. Available at: <https://www.theborneopost.com/2025/12/01/sarawak-science-centre-construction-at-85-35-pct-completion-soft-launch-expected-next-july/> [Accessed 11 Dec. 2025].

Artist Render of the Sarawak Infectious Disease Centre (SIDC), taken from the Borneo Development Corporation (Sarawak). Photo credit [here](#).



# Medical Jumble

## CAN YOU UNSCRAMBLE THESE?



Test your health smarts! Unscramble the letters below to reveal the medical words:

1. DOBLO

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2. CARNPESA

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3. RESETRIA

---

4. HYMTPIILAC

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5. CHTIRMADIONO

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## TEASE THE BRAIN

A doctor gives you three pills and says to take one every 30 minutes. How long until you've taken them all?



Think you know the answer?  
Find out in the next issue and see if you're right!



## SPOT 10 DIFFERENCES



## Q2 RIDDLE OF THE WEEK – ANSWER REVEAL

The correct answer : Liver

# Upcoming Activities & Critical Updates

1

## HRD Corp-Claimable Training Programmes (STAC)

Strengthening the successful collaboration with the Sarawak Technology Administration and Compliance (STAC) Training Centre, SAFHIS is continuing its system-focused “Compliance and Proficiency Training.” This initiative ensures the accurate, secure, and compliant handling of foreign worker health records, fully aligning with Sarawak State Health Department (JKNS) requirements.

These comprehensive, HRD Corp-claimable programmes are designed to:



**Reinforce** platform usage best practices for maximum efficiency.



**Enhance** Electronic Medical Record (EMR) standards and data accuracy.



**Ensure** full compliance with the latest regulatory requirements.



**Support** both new and experienced panel medical facilities in navigating the system.

This training forms a cornerstone of the Advanced Labour & Immigration Aligned Network for Compliance (ALIANCE) ecosystem, ensuring that every participant is equipped with the knowledge and skills needed for optimal SAFHIS utilisation.

More Information: Visit the STAC website at <https://www.sarawaktac.com/>.

2

## Domestic Maid Screening via SAFHIS

SAFHIS will expand to implement mandatory medical screening for Foreign Domestic Helpers. This integration ensures that domestic workers, who play a vital role in households, are subject to the same health standards as the broader foreign workforce. Please wait for further announcements from the Sarawak Government or visit <https://genesis.sarawak.gov.my/HAVEN> to stay updated.

### Critical Requirement for Food Handlers

It is mandatory for any Foreign Domestic Helpers whose duties include handling food to undergo a Rectal Swab Test during their medical screening. This is a crucial preventative measure to detect food-borne pathogens and ensure the safety of the households they serve.

# “ Moving Forward

As we step into the new year, SAFHIS moves forward with a stronger, smarter, and more connected network. With 161 Panel Medical Facilities already demonstrating fair audit compliance, the foundation is firmly set for what comes next. This momentum positions SAFHIS to further elevate digital health standards in Malaysia—transforming compliance into confidence, and progress into long-term excellence.

The enhanced notification system, strengthened policy framework, and comprehensive training programmes position SAFHIS as the definitive solution for foreign worker health screening management. Every medical professional, facility administrator, and stakeholder contributes to this shared success.

Together, we are building a healthcare ecosystem that prioritises accuracy, accountability, and accessibility. Thank you for your continued commitment to excellence in foreign worker healthcare screening.

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Best regards,  
**SAFHIS Specialist Squad**  
*Every Screening Counts*





# SAFHIS

 System owned by The Sarawak Government

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