

UMP: Anti-hysteria kit works

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CALM DOWN: As ridicule grows over kit to purportedly cure sufferers, varsity official says the scepticism is unwarranted

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UNIVERSITI Malaysia Pahang (UMP) has defended its "anti-hysteria kit", which has been ridiculed by netizens and some politicians.

UMP Islamic centre and human development director Dr Mahyuddin Ismail said experiments on 50 cases had proved that the kit could cure sufferers of hysteria attacks.

"It has a proven track record so

people should not jump to conclusions or call for a ban.

"We are not saying that it is foolproof. But it has shown that it can provide relief to hysteria patients."

UMP came under the spotlight last week when it moved to launch and sell an anti-hysteria kit at RM8,750.

Malaysian Psychiatric Association president Professor Dr Nor Zuraida Zainal was reported to have said that the kit could cause confusion. She also asked if it met World Health Organisation requirements.

She said it was worrying that the

"treatment" for hysteria, which was not within the medical and mental health context, had received wide media coverage.

She said doctors and researchers had been studying the phenomenon of hysteria for more than 150 years, and modern and scientifically-proven treatments were available to treat the condition.

However, Mahyuddin said the public scepticism was unwarranted. Instead, he said, people should allow the kit to address the issue of hysteria in the country.

He said the kit was also relevant in a multiracial community.

"It is syariah-compliant and free of deviant elements."

Mahyuddin said cases of hysteria had been reported in schools in Kedah, with many students reportedly under stress.

"We met the teachers, who said the students exhibited extraordinary strength when they became hysterical.

"Using items like chopsticks, salt, lime, vinegar and formic acid, we solved the problem."

He said the kit was useful, especially when students were swept by a wave of hysteria in school.

Mahyuddin said he also did not see the harm in applying both conventional psychiatric treatment and the anti-hysteria kit as a cure.

"We can provide our expertise to help the person recover."

He said the kit would only be sold to institutions and UMP would help the buyers with its application.

Meanwhile, a psychiatrist who did not wish to be named said the kit might not be suitable for all patients as the treatment for each



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hysteria victim differed.

Also, why should one fork out close to RM9,000 for the kit when Malaysians could receive treatment at government hospitals for a mere RM1, said the psychiatrist.