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ASIA EDITION

Malaysia approves MTB Nucleic Acid Test Card to aid in pulmonary TB diagnosis

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TB remains a top priority for the Ministry of Health in Malaysia



As Malaysia confronts a significant surge in Tuberculosis (TB) cases, with over 3,100 confirmed infections recorded in the first two months of 2026 alone, Medical Innovation Ventures Sdn. Bhd. (Mediven®) has announced that the Pluslife MiniDock MTB Test is now an MDA-registered medical device under the Medical Device Authority (MDA).

This landmark approval introduces a World Health Organization (WHO) recommended, “first-in-class” molecular diagnostic tool to the Malaysian market.

The system is specifically designed to decentralise TB detection and accelerate treatment in community settings, prisons, and rural hotspots, directly addressing the limitations of traditional laboratory infrastructure.

The approval of this breakthrough technology is viewed as a vital component of Malaysia’s broader mission to eradicate TB by 2035. With the Pluslife MiniDock MTB Test registered with MDA, Mediven® provides a near-point-of-care (nPOC) molecular platform for use by trained users in decentralised healthcare settings. This is a critical step in reaching the national goal of ending TB.

Clusters are increasingly concentrated in dense urban areas and remote rural regions, necessitating a shift toward “test and treat” models. The Pluslife MiniDock provides the technological bridge for this transition; its portability allows for deployment in rural clinics where centralised testing is inaccessible, while its 30-minute turnaround time ensures that urban patients are diagnosed and linked to care within a single visit, consistent with the latest international standards for infectious disease control.