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From drugs to fake medicine

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Top News

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The drugs and fake medicine seized from a house in Taman Seri Rambai, Bukit Mertajam. — Pictures by Sayuti Zainudin

From drugs to fake medicine

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GEORGE TOWN — Drug syndicates have ventured into manufacturing and distributing imitation medicine besides their staple production of amphetamine and methamphetamine stimulants.

Police uncovered the new tactic after a raid at a house in Taman Seri Rambai, Bukit Mertajam, led to the discovery of close to RM1 million in imitation over-the-counter medicine and a cache of ecstasy pills.

Acting on a tip-off, police detained a 44-year-old woman in Taman Seri Rambai last Thursday.

She led them to another house in the neighbourhood that had been transformed into a drug lab to make imitation medicine and ecstasy pills.

The haul was 7,135 ecstasy pills, 2.13kg of amphetamine powder, 1.3kg of caffeine powder and 18kg of imitation medicine, mostly painkillers flu medication.

The street value was RM769,250 but police have yet to determine the cost of the four machines seized in the raid.

Penang acting police chief Deputy Commissioner Datuk Roslee Chik said yesterday police are concerned over the find of imitation medicine, and have extended their investigations to determine whether the products have entered the supply chain of legitimate pharmacies.

Police also nabbed the woman's brother as he was about to board a flight to Miri at about 5.30am, several hours after the raid.

The brother was making his escape when he was nabbed at the klia2 departure area.

Both siblings have been remanded for seven days.

Meanwhile, George Town OCPD Assistant Commissioner Anuar Omar said a 33-year-old man died three days after he was brutally assaulted by two men with a crash helmet at the Kampung Melayu area in Air Itam.

He said police know the identities of the suspects, who fled the scene after the assault.



Roslee (left) and Penang CID chief Superintendent Maidu Abu Bakar inspect one of the machines used to make drugs.