



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

February 2, 2020

ADVISORY NO. 3

Assessment of Patients in response to 2019-Novel Coronavirus Acute Respiratory Disease (2019-nCoV ARD) Health Event

This advisory is issued to inform all Undersecretaries and Assistant Secretaries of Health, Centers for Health Development and Bureau Directors, Minister of Health – Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, Special and Specialty Hospital Directors, Chiefs of Medical Centers, Hospitals and Sanitaria, and other concerned, on the assessment of patients in any health facility in response 2019-nCoV ARD health events.

Any patient who consults in any health facility with fever and/or cough and colds shall be asked for history of travel to any part of China in the past 14 days prior to onset of symptoms. They shall also be inquired of their history of exposure to confirmed 2019-nCoV ARD patient or persons under investigation for 2019-nCoV ARD infection in the past 14 days prior to onset of symptoms. History of exposure may include the following:

- Providing care for and/or handling specimens of confirmed 2019-nCoV ARD patient or persons under investigation for 2019-nCoV ARD infection
- Staying in the same close environment as confirmed 2019-nCoV ARD patient or persons under investigation for 2019-nCoV ARD infection
- Travelling together with confirmed 2019-nCoV ARD patient or persons under investigation for 2019-nCoV ARD infection in any kind of conveyance
- Living in the same household as confirmed 2019-nCoV ARD patient or persons under investigation for 2019-nCoV ARD infection

They shall be managed accordingly based on the latest decision tool (see attached) issued by the Department of Health. Appropriate infection prevention and control measures shall also be strictly initiated and implemented by the health facility at the point of entry of patients with history of travel to China and history of exposure, as stated above.

For your information and guidance.



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Decision Tool for Novel Coronavirus Assessment for Bureau of Quarantine and Hospitals
(Version as of January 30, 2020)

Fever $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$ (current fever or with history of fever)	Respiratory Infection (cough AND/OR colds)	Travel History for the past 14 days in China	History of Exposure ¹	Case Category/ Intervention
+	+	+	+	Category: Patient Under Investigation (PUI)
+	+	+	-	Bureau of Quarantine (BoQ) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gives mask and isolate PUI • Collects and evaluates the BoQ Health Declaration Card • Endorses patient for admission in a hospital. • Arranges transportation of PUI to hospital Hospitals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completes the case investigation form (CIF) • Trained hospital staff collects specimens (nasopharyngeal swab [NPS] and oral pharyngeal swab [OPS]) and sends to RITM. (NPS/OPS must be collected upon admission and after 24 to 48 hours) • Coordinates with RESU for reporting and transport of specimens • Manages PUI accordingly
+	+	-	+	
+	-	+	+	
-	+	+	+	
+	-	+	-	
-	+	+	-	
+	-	-	+	
-	+	-	+	
-	-	+	+	
-	-	+	-	Bureau of Quarantine <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collects and evaluates the BoQ Health Declaration Card • Advises person to go on self-quarantine for 14 days, monitor body temperature daily, and observe any signs and symptoms of respiratory infection • If symptoms worsen, immediately notify the nearest hospital for consultation and provide travel history
-	-	-	+	Centers for Health Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor strictly those who are self-quarantined
-	-	-	+	<p>*Anyone who came from other parts of the world with confirmed 2019-nCoV ARD infection except China, has <u>no history of exposure</u>, but <u>with fever and/or cough</u>, is considered Person under Monitoring and is advised to go on self-quarantine for 14 days</p>

¹ History of exposure Include:

a. close contact who took care, handled specimens and/or lived with a confirmed case of 2019-nCoV infection; or

• Close contact is defined as:

- Health care associated exposure, including providing direct care for nCoV patients, working with health care workers infected with novel coronavirus, visiting patients or staying in the same close environment as a nCoV patient
- Working together in close proximity or sharing the same classroom environment with a nCoV patient
- Traveling together with a nCoV patient in any kind of conveyance
- Living in the same household as a nCoV patient

b. visiting/working in a live animal market in China

c. direct contact with animals in China with circulating 2019-nCoV in human and animals