



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

24 August 2021

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. 2021- 0375

FOR : ALL UNDERSECRETARIES; ASSISTANT SECRETARIES; DIRECTORS OF BUREAUS, CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT AND SERVICES; EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF SPECIALTY HOSPITALS, AND NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL; CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS, HOSPITALS, SANITARIA AND INSTITUTES; PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION; DIRECTORS OF PHILIPPINE NATIONAL AIDS COUNCIL AND TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION CENTERS; AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : Reiteration of Functions of Infection Control Committees in Health Facilities and Modification of Staffing Patterns and Further Clarification of the Shortening of Quarantine for the Healthcare Workers

This is to reiterate Department Circular No. 2020-0181 "*Reiteration of Functions of Infection Control Committee and Infection Control Team in Health Facilities*", wherein all health facilities are instructed to activate their Infection Control Committee (ICC) and Infection Control Team, who are responsible for implementation of their COVID-19 Infection and Prevention Control (IPC) protocols and policies:

1. Institutionalize a mechanism for reporting breaks in IPC protocols within the facility;
2. Regularly monitor and evaluate the implementation of IPC protocols in their respective health facilities; and
3. Provide the necessary training, orientation and refreshers on IPC protocols to all staff.

In addition to above functions, hospital infection control committees are authorized to implement shortened quarantine protocols for their fully vaccinated healthcare workers consistent with health care capacity needs and individualized risk assessment.

Dissemination to all concerned stakeholders is requested.

By authority of the Secretary of Health


MARIA ROSARIO SINGH-VERGEIRE, MD, MPH, CESO II
OIC-Undersecretary of Health
Public Health Services Team



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August 31, 2021

MEMORANDUM

FOR: ENRIQUE A. TAYAG, PHSAE, MD, FPSMID, CESO III
Director IV
Knowledge Management and Information Technology Service


FROM: RAZEL NIKKA M. HAO, MD-MBA, MSc
OIC - Director III
Disease Prevention and Control Bureau

SUBJECT: Request for Posting of the Reiteration of Functions of Infection Control Committees in Health Facilities and Modification of Staffing Patterns and Further Clarification of the Shortening of Quarantine for the Healthcare Workers

This is to respectfully request for the posting of the attached Department Circular entitled "Reiteration of Functions of Infection Control Committees in Health Facilities and Modification of Staffing Patterns and Further Clarification of the Shortening of Quarantine for the Healthcare Workers" in the DOH intranet and website, for public dissemination and reference.

For further queries and concerns, you may coordinate directly with us through email address: dpcbcovid@doh.gov.ph or local 2359/ 2360.

Thank you very much for your continued support.