



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Health  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

January 22, 2020

**DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM**

No. 2020 - 0035

**TO: ALL MEDICAL CENTER CHIEFS, CHIEFS OF HOSPITALS, SANITARIA, AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF SPECIALTY HOSPITALS**

**SUBJECT: Strengthening of Hospital Infection Prevention and Control Measures to Prevent Spread of Novel Coronavirus**

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In the midst of close monitoring for the possible entry of novel Coronavirus (nCoV) in our country, all DOH Hospital officials and staff are hereby reminded to remain vigilant in strengthening the implementation of infection prevention and control measures.

It is essential that the following are included in the preparation and surveillance of the health facility on the novel Coronavirus:

1. Ensure that all resources and contingencies needed for the implementation of infection prevention and control measures are adequately available.
2. Active monitoring by the Infection Prevention and Control Committee and Team of patients seeking health care from their hospitals through coordination with other departments within the health facility.
3. Ensure all hospital personnel is familiar with the infection and prevention policies, guidelines and procedures of the hospital and is responsible for its adherence.
4. Emphasize the importance of hand hygiene and availability of alcohol-based hand rubs at point-of-care and other areas of the facility.
5. Ascertain that appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) is available and appropriately used by patients (when necessary) and the hospital personnel.
6. Strictly adhere to appropriate isolation precautions and cohorting principles to prevent spread of infectious agents.
7. Appropriate disinfection and terminal cleaning of medical equipment and patient room after use.

8. Observance of housekeeping procedures and healthcare waste management.
9. Educate patients, relatives/carers and visitors about the importance of Respiratory Hygiene/Cough Etiquette through display of educational materials and through forums.

You may access all educational materials on nCoV at this link: <https://bit.ly/3au3oN4>

For guidance and strict compliance.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:



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Undersecretary  
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