



**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 20-19**  
**Series of 2020**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER ON THE GUIDELINES ON MANAGEMENT OF PERSONS  
UNDER MONITORING (PUMs) AND PERSONS UNDER INVESTIGATION (PUIs) IN  
THE PROVINCE**

**WHEREAS**, the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental through Executive Order No. 20-15, Series of 2020, dated March 16, 2020, "**AN ORDER IMPLEMENTING THE CLOSURE OF BORDERS, PORTS AND AIRPORTS OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL**" seeks to curtail the spread of COVID-19 and stipulates the designation and obligations of Persons Under Monitoring (PUMs) and Persons Under Investigation (PUIs) upon their entry into the Province.

**WHEREAS**, Section 16 of the Republic Act 7160 otherwise known as the Local Government Code (LGC) provides that every Local Government Unit (LGU), within their respective territorial jurisdictions, shall ensure and promote health and safety and preserve the comfort and convenience of their inhabitants.

**WHEREAS**, for efficient, effective and economical governance pursuant to a general welfare purpose Section 456 of the LGC vests upon the Governor the duty to ensure the delivery of basic services and the provision of adequate facilities and, in addition, coordinate the implementation of technical services by national offices for the province and its component cities and municipalities.

**WHEREAS**, the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental has enacted Executive Order no. 20-09, Series of 2020 for the Creation of a Provincial Novel Coronavirus (nCoV) Task Force to delineate roles and responsibilities and establish coordinated management by the task force members.

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Health, herein referred to as the DOH, has provided the "**ALGORITHM FOR TRIAGE OF PATIENTS WITH POSSIBLE COVID-19 INFECTION IN PORTS OF ENTRY**" and the "**ALGORITHM FOR TRIAGE OF PATIENTS WITH POSSIBLE COVID-19 INFECTION IN HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**" March 16 Edition which outlines that only PUIs with severe manifestations or mild manifestations with co-morbidities; or are elderly, will be swabbed for testing and referred to Level 2 or Level 3 Hospitals.

**WHEREAS**, recognizing that the designated hospitals to cater to PUIs in the Province namely; TERESITA L. JALANDONI PROVINCIAL HOSPITAL, CADIZ DISTRICT HOSPITAL, LORENZO D. ZAYCO DISTRICT HOSPITAL, VALLADOLID DISTRICT HOSPITAL, and SAN CARLOS CITY HOSPITAL have limited resources to cater to all PUIs who fall under advisement for 14 day home quarantine the Province will seek to utilize other means and/or facilities to house and manage Persons Under

**Monitoring (PUMs) and/or Persons Under Investigation (PUIs) and calls for all Municipalities and Component Cities in this Province to do the same.**

**WHEREAS, CADIZ DISTRICT HOSPITAL is designated as the main COVID-dedicated hospital due to its comparative higher capacity.**

**WHEREAS, the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental through Executive Order No. 20-15, Series of 2020, dated March 15, 2020, "AN ORDER IMPLEMENTING THE CLOSURE OF BORDERS, PORTS AND AIRPORTS OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL" calls for the closure of borders for the Province while allowing the return of persons specified therein the Local Government Units are thusly called to provide health personnel for all hours to act in their respective capacity to help ease traversal and management of persons at the border.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, EUGENIO JOSE V. LACSON, Governor of the Province of Negros Occidental, by the power vested me by law, do hereby order.**

**Section 1. The adherence to guidelines prescribed by the DOH to only refer PUIs fitting the criteria therein to capable hospitals for testing and further action.**

**Section 2. The enforcement of prescribed protocols in the assessment and management of Persons Under Monitoring (PUMs) and Persons Under Investigation (PUIs)**

**Section 2.1 Definition of protocols for assessment and management of Persons Under Monitoring (PUMs) and Persons Under Investigation (PUIs):**

**2.1.1 Protocol for assessment prior to categorization**

**Persons are to be checked for travel history within the past 14 days to countries with local transmission and risk of importation and/or areas with enhanced community quarantine**

**If there is no travel history these persons must then be checked for history of exposure within the past 14 days due to:**

- **Having provided direct care for COVID-19 patient;**
- **Having worked together or stayed together in the same close environment of a COVID-19 patient;**
- **Having travelled together with a COVID-19 patient in any conveyance;**
- **Having lived in the same household as a COVID-19 patient.**

**If found positive for travel history with no symptoms manifested these persons must then be categorized as PUM;**

**If found positive for history of exposure with no symptoms manifested these persons must then also be categorized as PUM;**

**If found positive for travel history with symptoms manifested these persons must then be categorized as PUI;**

**If found positive for history of exposure with symptoms manifested these persons must then also be categorized as PUI;**

**If found negative for travel history and negative for history of exposure these persons must then not be categorized as either PUI or PUM.**

### **2.1.2 Protocol for management of Persons Under Monitoring (PUMs)**

- PUMs will be the responsibility of the municipality/city government of their residence;
- The responsible LGU is to observe strict implementation of 14-day quarantine;
- Quarantine may be done at the PUM's residence or at a Barangay Isolation Unit (BIU) as provided per DILG Memo 2020-23 dated February 6, 2020;
- The Local Health Office is to provide instructional material on how to do home quarantine;
- The BHERTs (Barangay Health Emergency Response Teams) are to monitor PUM adherence to the 14-day quarantine and conduct contact tracing when necessary;
- The Philippine National Police or, if needed the Philippine Army, are to assist in enforcing/safeguarding the quarantine status of PUMs;
- The Local Health Office is to provide Post-Quarantine Certification at the end of the 14-day quarantine period;
- The recording and submission of PUM reports (ANNEX C, PHO COVID Monitoring Forms for PUM & PUI) are to be religiously followed;
- If symptoms occur within 14 days, a PUM will then be treated as a PUI.

### **2.1.3 Protocol for assessment of PUI**

The Local Health Officer is to assess the categorization of PUIs.

PUIs will be categorized as being with mild symptoms if positive for the following:

- Fever
- Dry cough
- Fatigue
- Sputum production
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Myalgia or arthralgia
- Chills
- Nausea or vomiting
- Nasal congestion
- Diarrhea

PUI will be categorized as for-referral to the nearest COVID-dedicated Hospital if positive for any of the following:

- Any PUI with severe symptoms such as difficulty of breathing or respiratory rate of greater than or equal to 30 breaths per minute
- Is elderly
- Is pregnant
  
- Positive for Co-Morbidities or underlying medical problems such as:
  - Cardiovascular Disease
  - Diabetes
  - Cancer
  - Chronic Lung Disease
  - Immunosuppression

#### **2.1.4 Protocol for management of Persons Under Investigation (PUIs) with mild symptoms**

- Mild PUIs will be managed accordingly and placed under 14-day home quarantine or isolation in Barangay Isolation Units (BIUs) by their Local Government Unit and Local Health Office;
- The Local Health Office is to provide instructional material on how to do home quarantine;
- The mild PUIs in quarantine will be monitored by the BHERTs and the Local Health Office;
- The Philippine National Police or, if needed the Philippine Army, are to assist in enforcing/safeguarding the quarantine status of PUIs (both mild and severe cases if necessary/requested);
- The Local Health Office is to provide Post-Quarantine Certification for PUIs who have completed the 14-day quarantine;
- The recording and submission of PUI reports (ANNEX D, PHO COVID Monitoring Forms for PUM & PUI) are to be religiously followed;
- If symptoms progress the PUI may be elevated to Moderate/Severe status for hospital admission.

#### **2.1.5 Protocol for management of Persons Under Investigation (PUIs) with severe symptoms, mild symptoms and is elderly or mild symptoms with comorbidities**

- The Local Health Office is to refer to **Section 2.1.7.2 Community Referral** of this Executive Order for guidelines on the referral process.
- Once the patient is referred the COVID-dedicated Hospital will then follow the process outlined in **Section 2.1.7.2 COVID-dedicated Hospital** of this Executive Order.

#### **2.1.6 Protocol for management of positive case of COVID-19**

- Enforce isolation measures and manage accordingly
- After 14 days of isolation collect specimen and test for COVID-19
- If tested negative patient may be discharged
- Second confirmatory test to be done
- If tested negative patient to be provided with Certification of Recovery
- If tested positive again patient is to be tested again depending on availability of test kits and repeat previous steps starting with isolation; patient may be put under home quarantine if asymptomatic.

#### **2.1.7 Protocol for referral of patients**

##### **2.1.7.1 Community level**

- The Barangays are to identify and activate their BHERTs as per DILG Memo Circular 2020-018 (Creation of Novel corona Virus Task Force);
- The BHERTs are tasked to identify and report potential COVID-19 patients and PUMs and monitor the same;
- The BHERTs are to report, using the designated forms, the daily status of these PUMs and report to the Local Health Office occurrence of any signs and symptoms that will elevate the status of the PUM into PUI;
- In case of difficulty in the filling-in and submission of designated forms by BHERTs to Local Health Office because of geographic location, force majeure, or other justifiable reasons the submission of data electronically is deemed acceptable provided that the designated forms

be filled in at the Local Health Office or their official designate and duly signed/approved by the Local Health Officer or their official designate prior to submission to the Provincial Health Office.

#### **2.1.7.2 Community Referral**

- PUM who develop symptoms, thereby becoming a PUI, shall be assessed by the Local (City/Municipal) Health Office or the nearest hospital if the local health officer is not available;
- PUI with mild symptoms to be managed on home quarantine or in LGU designated facility for 14 days;
- LGU is tasked to manage the PUI facility for mild cases, following the requirement of isolation and quarantine;
- If the above patient needs admission, the local health office should call the provincial COVID-19 hotline for hospital assignment. The local health officer should then call the designated hospital and local DRRM for coordination of referral prior to transport. The DRRM or other dedicated ambulance to transport the patient to COVID-dedicated hospital in proper PPE gear.

#### **2.1.7.3 COVID-dedicated Hospital**

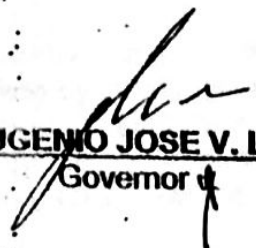
- Conduct triage of the referred patient;
- Swab: nasal or throat;
- then be sent to RITM for testing;
- Wait for the result from RITM
- If severe admit the patient under Level 3 hospital;
- Manage the patient until the result arrives
- Manage appropriately if result is positive;
- Discharge the patient if result is negative and fit for release.

#### **Section 3. Additional Measures**

**WHEREAS**, the Provincial Government of Negros Occidental through Executive Order No. 20-15 Series of 2020, dated March 15, 2020, "AN ORDER IMPLEMENTING THE CLOSURE OF BORDERS, PORTS, AND AIRPORTS OF NEGROS OCCIDENTAL" calls for the closure of borders for the Province while allowing the return of persons specified therein, the Local Government Units are thus called to provide health personnel for all hours to act in their respective capacity to help ease traversal and management of persons at the border.

**Section 4. Effectivity.** This Executive Order shall take effect immediately upon approval.

Done this 24<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2020 at Bacolod City, Negros Occidental.

  
**EUGENIO JOSE V. LACSON**  
Governor