



Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

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MEMORANDUM

TO : All Regional Directors of the Jail Bureau
Provincial Jail Administrators
Jail Wardens

ATTN : BJMPRO, and Jail COVID-19 Task Forces

SUBJECT : **BJMP COVID-19 ADVISORY #6-A: SOP ON THE IDENTIFICATION AND MANAGEMENT OF VULNERABLE GROUPS OF PDL**

DATE : MAY 13 2020

I. REFERENCES:

1. BJMP COVID-19 Advisory #6: SOP on Personnel and PDL who Needs Medical Assistance while on Lockdown, dated March 24, 2020;
2. BJMP COVID-19 Advisory #5: Implementation of Absolute Lockdown in All Jail Facilities and Supplemental Guidelines, dated March 19, 2020;
3. Presidential Proclamation No. 929, s. 2020;
4. Memorandum from the Executive Secretary on Community Quarantine Over the Entire Luzon and Further Guidelines for the Management of the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) Situation dated March 16, 2020;
5. Memorandum from Directorate for Health Service re: Precautionary Measures re: COVID-19, dated March 10, 2020; and
6. Presidential Proclamation No. 922, s. 2020.

II. ISSUES, CONCERNS, AND IMPLICATIONS:

1. Preventing the spread of COVID-19 among other infectious diseases in jails is a public health concern. Early detection and identification through proper screening and giving prompt and effective management for related issues can minimize complications in our setting.
2. Coordination with external key agencies such as the Department of Health (DOH) and other local authorities and health units, the promotion of the BJMP best practices in particular for the present crisis, and the adoption of reasonable precautionary measures can mitigate the threat of infection.

3. Two of the best practices and recognized precautionary measures are the identification and segregation of vulnerable groups of PDL who are known to have pre-determined medical conditions to address the current circumstances, and ascertain readiness and strategic management.

III. RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

1. Identification and segregation of PDL who belong to vulnerable groups.
 - a. The Jail Nurse must identify PDL belonging to vulnerable groups who are susceptible to contract COVID-19 infection, such as but not limited to the following:
 - i. Senior citizens or elderly (60 years and older)
 - ii. Other related diseases or conditions such as:
 1. Weakened immune system
 2. Hypertension
 3. Heart conditions and stroke
 4. Type II diabetes mellitus, chronic kidney disease and undergoing dialysis
 5. Respiratory diseases/conditions (bronchial asthma, pulmonary tuberculosis, pneumonia, COPD, among others)
 6. Cancer and undergoing chemotherapy
 7. Autoimmune disease (rheumatoid arthritis, lupus/SLE, type I diabetes mellitus, psoriasis, thyroid-related problems, other autoimmune diseases)
 - iii. Pregnant
 - b. Observe, segregation by designating specific areas for easy, and proper monitoring of patients.
 - c. Implement mandatory wearing of medical/surgical facemask at all times, regular hand washing or use of hand sanitizer, and other recommended precautionary measures against COVID-19.
 - d. Provide, allocate, and properly record medications (maintenance drugs, emergency medicine and other necessary drugs).
 - e. Practice timely referral to our medical doctors and/or coordination with local health units for appropriate medical management or provision of hospital attention as necessary.
 - f. Provide a separate isolation area outside the jail unit designated for PDL patients who need/require frequent treatment/management in a hospital such as those undergoing dialysis and chemotherapy.
2. Ensure proper monitoring by utilizing specified reporting/monitoring tools and timely submission of reports to the Regional Health Division.
3. Refer to BJMP COVID-19 Advisory # 6 for further guidance in the medical management of a PDL patient who will manifest either COVID-19 related or non-COVID-19 related symptoms.

4. If a PDL patient manifests COVID-19 related symptoms alert the Regional Health Division for further guidance and initiate coordination to local health authorities for instructions observing DOH protocols related to testing and management of COVID-19 cases.
5. Impose strictly wearing of appropriate PPE by all personnel who will attend to the needs of these PDL and observe precautionary measures.
6. Please be guided accordingly.

BY AUTHORITY OF THE CHIEF, BJMP:



MA ANNIE A ESPINOSA

Jail Senior Superintendent

Director for Operations

Co-Chairperson,

BJMP National COVID-19 Task Force