



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Update

Yap Department of Health Services

APRIL 19, 2020



In YAP:

of confirmed cases in Yap: **0**

of current PUI in Yap: **2**
(Person Under Investigation is one who has COVID-19 symptoms.)

of PUM in Yap: **17**
(Person Under Monitoring is one without symptoms but has been in contact with a PUI or confirmed case, or has come from a place with confirmed COVID-19 cases and requires quarantine monitoring.)

In FSM:

of confirmed cases in Chuuk: **0**
Pohnpei: **0**
Kosrae: **0**

Nth Pac. Region:

of confirmed cases in
Guam: **136**
(5 deaths)
CNMI: **14**
(2 deaths)
Palau: **0**
RMI: **0**

Globally as of 4/19/20: WHO Sit Rep

of confirmed cases: **2,241,359**

of deaths: **152,551**

SUMMARY OF COVID-19 SITUATION—Report # 15

National: On April 17th, 2020, the 21st Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) formally adopted Congressional Resolution 21-138. The Resolution strengthens the Nation’s focus in combatting the COVID-19 Pandemic. For most citizens, how this will affect your life in the short-term is that, within 30 days, the Nation will implement FSM-wide social distancing measures; in the medium-term, the travel restrictions have been extended to May 31st, 2020. In the event of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in the FSM, with the given authority inherent in the Constitution, President Panuelo will take action as appropriate. The travel restrictions remain in place, with some specific exceptions.

“The travel restrictions, for most people and in most circumstances, don’t change,” the President continued. “What IS going to impact your life from this Resolution is that I will be calling for a meeting with our Nation’s Governors, my very dear friends the Honorable Henry S. Falan, Governor of Yap, the Honorable Johnson S. Elimo, Governor of Chuuk, the Honorable Reed B. Oliver, Governor of Pohnpei, and the Honorable Carson K. Sigrah, Governor of Kosrae, to discuss how our Nation will move forward, in a unified manner, regarding what social distancing and health precaution measures must be taken. This WILL result in temporary restraints on SOME civil liberties, such as the freedom of movement. The responsibility the Governors and I have is to find a temporary but potentially long-term solution that is respectful of your human rights as an individual while also being respectful of the reality that the COVID-19 coronavirus spreads when people come into contact with each other. While these limitations will be inconvenient, they will be necessary until such time that the COVID-19 Pandemic has been effectively contained.”

For more information on the specific travel exceptions visit the Office of the FSM President Facebook Page.

Local: The three patient samples sent off island for COVID-19 testing on April 16, 2020 have come back negative. However, the two PUI will continue to be kept in isolation until the symptoms with which they were admitted clear and they retest negative with a second COVID-19 test that will be administered locally. Until this happens, the contacts of these two PUI who have already been identified through contact tracing by PH and CHC teams and are now PUM’s, are advised to continue their home quarantine also until the two PUI test negative for the virus a second time.

Yap Lab has received its ID NOW COVID-19 machine and test kits which will take 10 to 14 days to clear from quarantine followed by set up and online training for the lab staff before local point of care testing can be done. Testing will only be for those patients who meet the criteria for testing due to limited number of kits.

The MV H1 arrived back into Yap last Friday and was met by a Public Health team at the dock. The PH team was there to provide arriving passengers with COVID-19 education and hand out COVID-19 information packets to bring them up to speed on the COVID-19 situation in Yap, including the Governor’s Curfew Decree that came into effect on April 16, 2020.

A community outreach pilot training, headed by Dr. Ann Lopez, was conducted this past week with health teams, members of the Health Crisis Taskforce and WCHC local health council members. The teams shared their experiences, weaknesses and strengths to try and strengthen their outreach plans before going into the community this past weekend. The goal of this outreach is to work with individual households one at a time, to educate families and help them identify a place in their home and surrounding environment, like a koyeng or hut including separate restroom and or washroom areas, that can be used as a quarantine or isolation area, if needed, should COVID-19 reach our shores. The outreach visits will continue this week across the island.

The Yap DHS would like to acknowledge Wa’ab Transportation Company for lending 100 oxygen tanks to DHS to top up DHS oxygen supply. Due to the nature of the virus which attacks the lungs and makes breathing very difficult, oxygen is one medical supply that is very important to have on hand in the event of COVID-19 patients needing ICU care. Other entities who have helped us along the way in various capacities for our COVID-19 response, include the Micronesia Red Cross Society Yap Chapter, International Organization for Migration Sub-Office Yap, Catholic Relief Services, COM-FSM Yap Campus and Yap Catholic High School. We also acknowledge the great assistance the Yap State Division of Media staff provide us on a daily basis to get our COVID-19 messages out to the community in a timely manner.

The teamwork and efforts put forth by all of the above mentioned entities in this whole process is commendable.

FOR REGULAR COVID-19 UPDATES

Radio: V6AI 1494 AM (Mon., Wed., Fri.) 8:45am in English. 9.45am and every hour after till 10.45pm in local languages; & 5pm News Bulletin. Also check out <https://www.facebook.com/Waab-Community-Health-Center-554531107958008>