Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Update
Yap Department of Health Services
APRIL 26, 2020

SUMMARY OF COVID-19 SITUATION—Report # 18

International: W.H.O Director-General Dr. Tedros A. Ghebreyesus, in a media briefing on April 22, 2020, cautioned that “we have a long way to go. This virus will be with us for a long time”. He added that “the world cannot go back to the way things were. There must be a “new normal” – a world that is healthier, safer and better prepared.”

Most countries are still in the early stages of their epidemics. And some that were affected early in the pandemic are now starting to see a resurgence in cases. There’s no question that stay-at-home orders and other physical distancing measures have successfully suppressed transmission in many countries. But this virus remains extremely dangerous. Early evidence suggests most of the world’s population remains susceptible. That means epidemics can easily re-ignite.

“One of the greatest dangers we face now is complacency. People in countries with stay-at-home orders are understandably frustrated with being confined to their homes for weeks on end. People understandably want to get on with their lives, because their lives and livelihoods are at stake. That’s what WHO wants too. And that’s what we are working for, all day, every day,” said Dr. Tedros.

National: The FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs in its April 24, 2020 Sit Rep #9 reported that there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the nation. The FSMDHSA also shared that donations of PPE’s from the People’s Republic of China Embassy have been distributed and divided equally amongst the FSM states. These include -Protective disposable clothing – 480, Infrared Thermometer -80, Protective goggles-400, surgical gloves-400, shoe gloves-400, and masks (KYOWA Shipping donations) – 6,400.

Local: The Yap Department of Health Services (DHS) is happy to announce that on Friday April 24, 2020 it officially conducted its first ever COVID-19 tests on island. Our Yap Lab retested the two PUI in isolation at the hospital using the new ID Now Covid-19 machine and both tests came back negative for COVID-19.

As a result of this second negative test, both PUI were released from isolation and allowed to go home. All the family contacts were also notified. The Yap DHS wants to thank the PUI’s, their families and contacts for their cooperation in working with us to follow the Yap COVID-19 safety response recommendations.

If the Colonia Middle School quarantine batch of PUM completed their home quarantine to Sunday April 26, 2020 without incident the Health Crisis Taskforce will make recommendations to the Governor now that the second test results of the two PUI is negative for COVID-19. These will include recommendations relating to the ongoing curfew, the government shutdown, school closure, inter island travel, travel ban and other measures that were taken to prevent the introduction and spread of COVID-19 in Yap. The next meeting of the Leadership is scheduled for May 1, 2020.

In the meantime, the Public Health and Community Health Center outreach teams will continue to visit the community households each day until April 29, 2020 to ensure the COVID-19 community education awareness outreach is completed with as many households and families as possible.

Important points to remember. Signs and symptoms of COVID-19 can be any or all of the following: Runny Nose and/or Dry Cough and/or Sore throat for 3-4 days and/or Generalized body pain and/or Shortness of Breath and/or Fever and/ Diarrhea.

Call the COVID-19 Hotline on 350-4161 if you feel or fall sick with any one of the above symptoms before you go to the hospital for advice and further instructions.

At this juncture, the Yap DHS would like to acknowledge and thank the Yap Catholic High School and Tamlang School students for their heartfelt poems expressing their appreciation for our services and work during this COVID-19 pandemic. Your kind words bring much joy, warmth and encouragement to our hearts and inspire us to continue our work for you and all the people of Yap.

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

In YAP:
# of confirmed cases in Yap: 0
# of current PUI in Yap: 0 (Person Under Investigation is one who has COVID-19 symptoms.)
# of PUM in Yap: 0 (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: 141 (5 death)
CNMI: 14(2 death)
Palau: 0
RMI: 0

Globally as of 4/25/20:
WHO Sit Rep
# of confirmed cases: 2,719,897
# of deaths: 187,705

Corrupt data: 187,705