



Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Update

Yap Department of Health Services

May 19, 2020



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: 154 (5 death)
CNMI: 21 (2 death)
Palau: 0
RMI: 0

Globally as of 5/18/20:

WHO Sit Rep # of confirmed cases: 4,618,821
of deaths: 311,847

SUMMARY OF COVID-19 SITUATION—Report # 28

International: On May 16, 2020, WHO signed an agreement with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to work together to promote health through sport and physical activity. The agreement has a special focus on preventing non-communicable diseases (NCDs). This collaboration is timely because the current COVID-19 pandemic is particularly affecting people with NCDs.

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic that continues to affect people’s lives around the world, the IOC and the WHO are strengthening their efforts to promote healthy lifestyles, including physical activity, sport and active recreation, as a tool for health across the globe.

Through the new Cooperation Agreement that was signed at the WHO headquarters in Geneva, the IOC and WHO are demonstrating their shared commitment both to promoting healthy society through sport, in alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 3 (“Good health and well-being”), and to contributing to the prevention of non-communicable diseases.

“Over the last few months in the current crisis, we have all seen how important sport and physical activity are for physical and mental health. Sport can save lives,” said IOC President Thomas Bach. “We will benefit from WHO advice when addressing the challenges of the post-coronavirus society, where health will play a much more prominent role in public policies. We look forward to working even closer with WHO. The IOC calls on the governments of the world to include sport in their post-crisis support programmes because of the important role of sport in the prevention of NCDs, but also of communicable diseases.”

National: The FSM Department of Health and Social Affairs in its May 12, 2020 Sit Rep #14, noted that on May 11, 2020 Pohnpei’s Constitutional Emergency Order 20-02, signed by Governor Reed B. Oliver, declared a continued state of emergency for the State of Pohnpei in response to the continuous and imminent threat of COVID-19 elevating its level of response to Condition 3. Unless revoked or amended sooner, this Constitutional Emergency Order is valid for a period of thirty (30) days counting from May 10, 2020.

Local: The Yap Department of Health Services received an inquiry from the Sport Complex management on the possibility of re-opening the complex to allow for some sporting activities. The DHS has not yet made any recommendations on this given that no Interim Guidance has been developed on this area of activity and the State is still discouraging mass gatherings while encouraging six feet social and physical distancing at this time.

However, the DHS is suggesting that not only sports but other areas of government and non-government activity that other agencies and entities are wishing to re-start or re-open, should work with the DHS and the Health Crisis Taskforce (HCTF) to consult on their plans in order to determine next steps. It is better for all agencies and entities to start thinking about what the “new norm” is going to be for their respective areas of operation in light of the COVID-19 global pandemic going forward. This will take a whole of government and community approach, not just the DHS and the HCTF. And while we still have no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Yap, now is the best time, for all government and non-government agencies to start thinking and planning for their COVID-19 prevention and mitigation strategies.

The DHS is also planning an outreach to business entities in the State to do a COVID-19 readiness assessment to ensure businesses start preparing to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 in the event it arrives in Yap. Topics to be addressed during the site visits include cleaning practices, handwashing facilities, facility set up to allow for 6 feet social and physical distancing, availability and use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and other additional preventive measures.

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/or Diarrhea and more recently loss of taste and/or smell. 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.

HEALTH ADVICE FOR PREVENTION OF COVID-19

1. Wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds regularly or use hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol and rub for 15 seconds. No more hand shaking!
2. Avoid unnecessary touching of your face (esp. nose, mouth, eyes).
3. Always cover your mouth and nose when you cough/sneeze with tissue and then dispose properly.
4. Stay healthy (eat well, sleep enough, exercise, take breaks, wash betelnut/leaf before chewing).
5. Avoid mass-gatherings and public community events.
6. Practice social/physical distancing—keep 6 ft. away from others.

FOR REGULAR COVID-19 UPDATES: Radio V6AI 1494 AM (Mon., Wed., Fri.) & Yap State Media and Protocol FB Page. Also check out the Wa’ab Community Health Center FB Page.