



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VII – CENTRAL VISAYAS
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF NEGROS ORIENTAL

Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

15 MAR 2023

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 184, s. 2023

**PROTOCOLS IN HANDLING AND REPORTING
HAND, FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE CASES**

TO : Assistant Schools Division Superintendents
Chief, CID and SGOD
Senior Education Program Specialists/Education Program Specialists II
Public Schools District Supervisors/Districts-in-charge
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. The Department of Education – Schools Division of Negros Oriental Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD) Task Force issues protocols to guide all personnel, particularly in the detection, reporting, referral and handling of HFMD cases among learners and personnel in SDO Negros Oriental.
2. These updated protocols are in support of DepEd Order No. 14, s. 2020 titled “Guidelines on the Required Health Standards in Basic Education Offices and Schools”. This is also in reference to OUGFO No. 2022-03-1690 titled “Dissemination of DOH’s Public Advisory on Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease”.
3. Kindly refer to the following enclosures, to wit.

Enclosure No. 1 – Protocols in Handling and Reporting Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease
Enclosure No. 2 - HFMD Case Report Form
Enclosure No. 3 – Department of Health Public Advisory on Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease

4. Immediate dissemination and compliance to this memorandum is desired.


SENEN PRISCILLO P. PAULIN, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent

3/14/23

SPP/JMA-MKP/SGOD/RBP/kldelacruz



Address: Kagawaran Avenue, Capitol Area, Daro, Dumaguete City
Telephone Nos.: (035)225-2838 / 225-2376 / 422-7644
Email Address: negros.oriental@deped.gov.ph



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Enclosure No. 1 (**Protocols in Handling and Reporting Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease**)

1. Names and personal information of HFMD cases shall be kept confidential and disclosed ONLY to:
 - a. Head of Office/School Head
 - b. Public Schools District Supervisor
 - c. District Nurse
 - d. Division HFMD Focal Person
 - e. Medical Officer III
 - f. Chairperson of the Task Force (Schools Division Superintendent)
2. All students/personnel with any of the following symptoms must be sent to isolation area:
 - a. Fever;
 - b. Mouth blisters or oral ulcers; or
 - c. Rash on palms, soles, knees and/or buttocks
3. Guardian/parent of student concerned must be contacted and informed.
4. Class adviser/clinic teacher/school nurse must accomplish case report form (Enclosure 2) and submit this to school head.
5. School head must inform assigned district nurse about the case.
6. All HFMD cases must be entered into the online monitoring tool through this link: <http://bit.ly/3YqYfx2>. The district nurse and school head must take charge in reminding and assisting these individuals to fill out the monitoring tool.
7. The DepEd NegOr HFMD Task Force shall take charge in coordinating and endorsing the identified cases to their respective LGU for monitoring and management. All affected must be endorsed to RHU of residence.
8. Class adviser/Clinic teacher must be able to:
 - a. disinfect classroom and frequently touched surfaces
 - b. educate students to practice correct handwashing technique
 - c. practice proper cough etiquette and proper wearing of face masks
9. The personnel/student concerned may only be allowed to physically report back to school upon the completion of isolation days as recommended by their respective Municipal Health Officer.



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Enclosure No. 3 (**Department of Health Public Advisory on Hand, Foot and Mouth Disease**)



PHILIPPINE HEALTH ADVISORIES

Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease

Hand, foot, and mouth disease (HFMD) is a common viral illness of infants and children.

It should not be confused with foot-and-mouth (also called hoof-and-mouth) disease of cattle, sheep, and swine. Infected individuals are most contagious during the first week of their illness. HFMD cannot be contracted from pets or animals. Incubation period is 2-14 days

Cause

A virus of the family Picornaviridae, genus *Aphthovirus*

Mode of Transmission

Spreads by contact with nose and throat discharges, saliva of infected persons, or after touching contaminated objects

Signs and Symptoms

- Fever
- Sore throat
- Feeling of being unwell (malaise)
- Painful, red, blister-like lesions on the tongue, gums, and inside of the cheeks
- Red rash, without itching but sometimes with blistering, on the palms, soles, and sometimes the buttocks
- Irritability in infants and toddlers
- Loss of appetite



Treatment

- Treatment is directly toward relief of symptoms (fever and sore throat).
- There is no specific treatment. Signs and symptoms usually clear up in 7-10 days.
- A topical oral anesthetic may help relieve the pain of mouth sores.
- Over-the-counter pain medications other than aspirin, such as acetaminophen or ibuprofen, may help relieve general discomfort.

Prevention and Control

- There is no specific way to prevent the infection. Good hygiene (e.g., proper handwashing) can decrease the risk of spreading the disease.
- Disinfect premises and all infected materials (implements, cards, clothes, etc.).

References

- DCH Philippines. (2005). Health Advisory on Foot and Mouth Disease.
- Mersich, John. (2011). Hand, Foot and Mouth (HFMD) Disease. Retrieved from http://www.medicinenet.com/hand-foot-and-mouth_syndrome/article.htm

Image from <http://www.expowhcc.com/media/reference/hand-foot-and-mouth-disease>



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