



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION III – CENTRAL LUZON
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE-SCIENCE CITY OF MUNOZ

February 3, 2023

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 59, s. 2023

To: School Health Personnel
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
Teaching and Non-Teaching Personnel
All Others Concerned

**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO PREVENT HAND, FOOT,
AND MOUTH DISEASE**

1. Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease, from the Family of Picornaviridae, genus Aphthovirus, is a common viral illness of infants and children transmitted through droplet infection and touching of contaminated objects. A highly preventable viral disease through correct hygiene and sanitation practices and regular handwashing is presently a viral disease of concern due to its high number of cases and clustering of cases in several provinces in the Philippines.
2. In connection with this, the Department of Health calls on all concerned government agencies to be part in the fight against and to stop the spread and transmission of the said virus. Hence, the Schools Division of Science of Munoz strongly supports this mandate by upholding to DepEd Order No. 10, s.2016 entitled Policy and Guidelines for the Comprehensive, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in Schools (WINS) Program for the promotion of correct hygiene and sanitation practices among learners and DepEd personnel, and a clean environment in and around schools to keep school children safe and healthy.
3. All concerned are enjoined to be prime movers in the prevention of infectious diseases in all schools and DepEd Offices. Attached herewith is the OASGFO No. 2022-102 Memorandum on the subject: DOH Recommendations to prevent Hand, Foot, and Mouth Disease for your perusal.
4. For queries, please contact the Division Wins Focal Person thru DepEd email: marianne.coronel@deped.gov.ph or you may call at 09285040801.



Loyal, Excellent, Accountable and Dedicated to Service

Address: Brgy. Rizal, Science City of Muñoz, 3119
Telephone No.: (044) 806 -2192; Email Address: munozscience.city@deped.gov.ph
DSCM-QMS-QMR-QSF-008 Rev.05 (09.23.22)



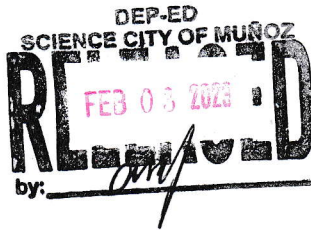
Certificate No. 50500731 QM15



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION III – CENTRAL LUZON
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE-SCIENCE CITY OF MUNOZ

5. Immediate dissemination and strict compliance of this memorandum is earnestly desired.


DANTE G. PARUNGAO, CESO V
Schools Division Superintendent



Loyal, Excellent, Accountable and Dedicated to Service
Address: Brgy. Rizal, Science City of Muñoz, 3119
Telephone No.: (044) 806 -2192; Email Address: munozscience.city@deped.gov.ph
DSCM-QMS-QMR-QSF-008 Rev.05 (09.23.22)



Certificate No. 50500731 QM15

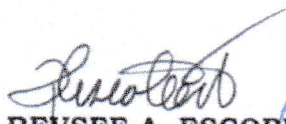


Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
OPERATIONS

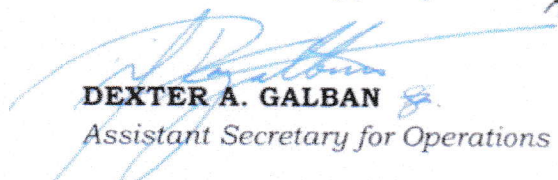
OASGFO No. 2022-102

MEMORANDUM

TO : **ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS**
ALL SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
ALL SCHOOL HEADS
ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

FROM : 
Atty. REVSEE A. ESCOBEDO
Undersecretary for Operations


FRANCIS CESAR B. BRINGAS
Assistant Secretary for Operations


DEXTER A. GALBAN
Assistant Secretary for Operations

SUBJECT : **Department of Health's Recommendations to Prevent
Hand Foot and Mouth Disease**

DATE : **January 25, 2023**

This Office respectfully endorses the attached letter from Dr. Maria Rosario S. Vergeire, Officer-in-Charge, Department of Health (DOH), dated December 2, 2022, regarding the DOH's recommendations to prevent Hand Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD).

To prevent the spread of HFMD, DOH encourages the following actions:

1. Ensure that handwashing facilities in all schools are utilized and always functional and that water and soap are always available;
2. Coordinate with Local Chief Executives through the Local Health Units for regular disinfection of classrooms and school offices;
3. Utilize all locally available information and campaign materials, including the DOH Playbooks for Schools on Hand Hygiene and Sanitation;
4. Intensify information dissemination on proper handwashing to students, teachers, and all school personnel; and

5. Inform parents of students to monitor other family members for signs and symptoms and to seek immediate medical advice when these are present.

For wide dissemination and appropriate action.



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

02 December 2022

HONORABLE SARA Z. DUTERTE
Vice President, Republic of the Philippines
Secretary, Department of Education

Dear **Hon. Duterte**:

The Department of Health (DOH) is concerned with the recent health events and surveillance reports on the increasing number of cases of **Hand Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD)**.

According to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), HFMD is a very contagious viral disease that is most common in children and it spreads quickly in schools and daycare centers. The disease can be easily transmitted through person-to-person contact (e.g. hugging, kissing, sharing cups/utensils); respiratory droplets (e.g. virus particles spread from sneezing, coughing) and contact with contaminated surfaces and objects (e.g. contaminated doorknobs, toys then touching the eyes, nose, mouth). Signs and symptoms include fever, sores in the mouth, hands, palms, fingers and soles.

The DOH has already recorded 541 HFMD cases in Albay Province and most of which occurred only in a month-long period. Oas Municipality has the highest number of cases (162 cases as of December 2, 2022). The Albay Central School has already initiated preventive measures, like disinfection of classrooms and information dissemination.

Clustering of cases was also detected in other provinces like Cagayan and Isabela with 45 and 29 cases respectively. There were also reports in Mariveles, Bataan and in Trinidad and Mankayan of Benguet.

To prevent the spread of this highly transmissible disease amongst our school children, the DOH shares with you the following recommendations for DepEd's consideration:

- Ensure that handwashing facilities in all schools are utilized and always functional and that water and soap are always available.
- Coordinate with Local Chief Executives, through the Local Health Units for regular disinfection of classrooms and school offices.
- Utilize all locally available information and campaign materials, including the DOH Playbooks for Schools on Hand Hygiene and Sanitation.
- Intensify information dissemination on proper handwashing to students, teachers, and all school personnel.
- Inform parents of students to also monitor other family members for signs and symptoms and to seek immediate medical advice when these are present.

We hope that we have provided your Department with relevant information that can be disseminated to students, teachers and other school staff. DepEd is a crucial government agency that can support the DOH in controlling this infectious disease that is mostly affecting

our children. Rest assured that the DOH is more than grateful to provide assistance and support on any activities of DepEd that aims to address and prevent HFMD.

Thank you very much for your utmost cooperation on this public health issue.

Very truly yours,

MARIA ROSARIO S. VERGEIRE, MD, MPH, CESO II
Officer-in-Charge
Department of Health