



Republic of the Philippines  
**Department of Health**  
Kagawaran ng Kalusugan  
ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED

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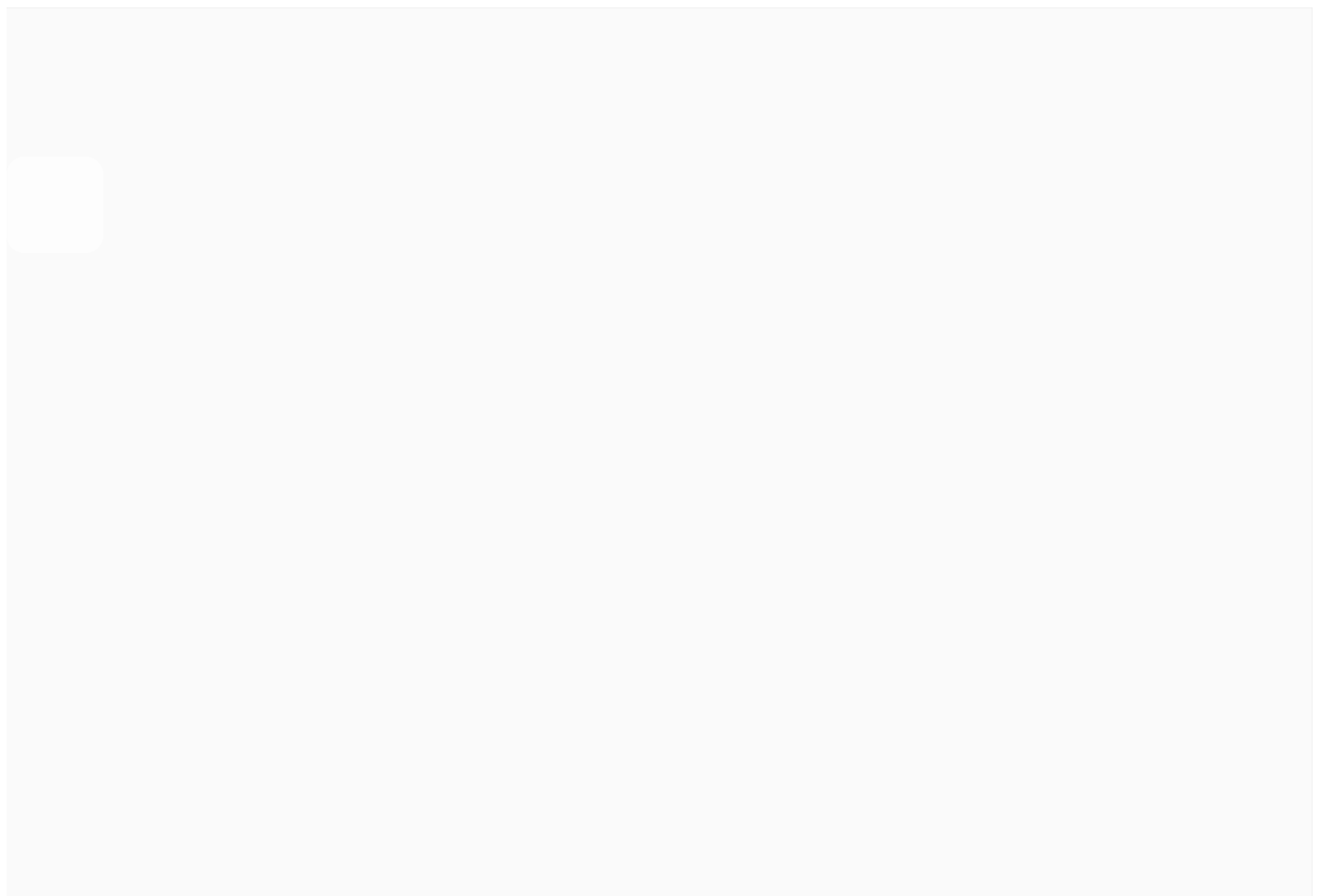
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## UPDATES ON NOVEL CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19)

*Information may change at any time due to the evolving situation.*

### COVID-19 Case Tracker [\[view in Full Screen\]](#)



## Latest Updates

DATE	TIME	UPDATE
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April 25, 2020	3:00 PM	<p><b>DOH issues Press Release: Government launches Public-Private Task Force T3 (Test, Trace And Treat) to significantly expand RT-PCR testing capacity</b></p> <p>The Inter-Agency Task Force – National Task Force (IATF-NTF) and the Department of Health (DOH), with support from the Asian Development Bank (ADB), convened the TASK FORCE T3 (for Test, Trace and Treat). This public-private task force will support the Government’s efforts to swiftly expand RT-PCR (Reverse Transmission – Polymerase Chain Reaction) testing for COVID-19 from the current level of approximately 4,500 per day, to at least 30,000 tests per day by May 30, 2020 ...</p>
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April 22, 2020	5:00 PM	<p><b>DOH issues Press Release: DOH reports no new COVID-19 cases in RITM, implements ‘zoning’ of specimens for testing</b></p> <p>The Department of Health (DOH) today reported that there are no new COVID-19 cases in the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM), but specimens of some employees are still being processed and waiting for results. Previously, it was reported that RITM had 43 confirmed COVID-19 staff that temporarily affected its daily testing output. The total workforce of RITM is 833 plantilla personnel with 29 currently working from home, 386 contract of service or job order, and 22 volunteers...</p>
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April 22, 2020	5:00 PM	<p><b>DOH issues Press Release: PH solidarity trial for COVID-19 treatments receives green light from ethics review body</b></p> <p>The Department of Health (DOH) today announced that the participation of the Philippines to the WHO Solidarity trial has been approved by the Single Joint Research Ethics Board (SJREB) last April 17, in support of the COVID-19 global response. This is in response to the World Health Organization’s (WHO) launch of an international randomized and adaptive clinical trial “Solidarity” to test the safety and effectiveness of four possible therapies in treating COVID-19, compared to standard of care: the investigational antiviral Remdesivir, antimalarial drug Chloroquine or Hydroxychloroquine, antiretroviral drugs used to treat HIV Lopinavir with Ritonavir, and Lopinavir with Ritonavir plus Interferon beta-1a, last March 13, 2020. More than 100 countries have joined the Solidarity Trial with more than 1,200 patients randomized from the first five countries, to evaluate the safety and efficacy of four drugs and drug combinations...</p>
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April 22, 2020	5:00 PM	<p><b>DOH issues Press Release: Medical professionals proclaim support for Duque</b></p> <p>Four of the most prominent associations of medical professionals in the Philippines have released a strong solidarity statement in support of Health Secretary Francisco T. Duque III and the Department of Health (DOH) as they lead the country’s fight against COVID-19. The statement was signed by its respective presidents: Dr. Jose P. Santiago, Jr. (Philippine Medical Association), Dr. Jaime A. Almora (Philippine Hospital Association), Dr. Rustico A. Jimenez (Private Hospitals Association of the Philippines), and Dr. Hubert F. Lapuz (Philippine College of Hospital Administrators)...</p>
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April 17, 2020	5:00 PM	<p><b>DOH issues Press Release: No cure yet for COVID-19; DOH programs on immunization and TB medicine remain available despite pandemic</b></p> <p>The Department of Health (DOH) reiterated that as of today, there are no Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved medicines or vaccines with indication for use against COVID-19. FDA Director-General Rolando Enrique Domingo clarified during the DOH Beat COVID-19 Virtual Presser that there are no drugs or vaccines with an approved indication for the treatment of COVID-19, nor are there any pending applications for it. “Kapag sinabi po kasi natin na ang gamot ay rehistrado or aprubado ng FDA, ibig sabihin, yung gamot po na yun ay nasuri ng mabuti at na-testing para sa partikular na sakit na sinasabi niyang gagamutin niya,” explained DG Domingo...</p>
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**DAILY GLOBAL SITUATION (DATA AS OF 25 APRIL 2020)**

<b>Global</b>	2,719,897 confirmed (93,716 new)
<b>South-East Asia</b>	41,073 confirmed (2,501 new)

Source: [World Health Organization](#)

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**(02) 894-COVID**

**1555**

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