



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE
FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES

**OMNIBUS GUIDELINES ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
COMMUNITY QUARANTINE IN THE PHILIPPINES**

with Amendments as of July 16, 2020

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, Executive Order No. (E.O.) 168, s. 2014 created the Inter-Agency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases (IATF) to facilitate inter-sectoral collaboration to establish preparedness and ensure efficient government response to assess, monitor, contain, control, and prevent the spread of any potential epidemic in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, Section 2(c) of E.O. 168 mandates the IATF to prevent and/or minimize the local spread of emerging infectious diseases in the country through the establishment or reinforcement of a system in screening possible patients infected with emerging infectious diseases, contact tracing, identification of the mode of exposure to the virus, and implementation of effective quarantine and proper isolation procedures;

WHEREAS, on 28 January 2020, the IATF convened, and thereafter issued regular recommendations for the management of the 2019 Novel CoronaVirus Acute Respiratory Disease, which is now known as CoronaVirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19);

WHEREAS, the 18 March 2020 Memorandum from the Office of the Executive Secretary directed all heads of departments, agencies, and instrumentalities of government, including the Philippine National Police (PNP), Armed Force of the Philippines (AFP), and the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), government-owned and controlled corporations (GOCCs), Government Financial Institutions (GFIs), State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), and Local Government Units (LGUs) to adopt, coordinate, and implement guidelines which the IATF may issue on the COVID-19 situation, consistent with the respective agency mandates and relevant laws, rules, and regulations;

WHEREAS, on 30 April 2020, Executive Order (E.O.) No. 112, s. 2020 was issued imposing an Enhanced Community Quarantine (ECQ) in high-risk geographic areas of the Philippines and a General Community Quarantine (GCQ) in the rest of the country from 01 to 15 May 2020, adopting the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation thereof, and for other purposes;



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WHEREAS, the IATF approved the Guidelines on the Implementation of the Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine (MECQ) including the zoning concept, corresponding qualification, and its phased response or intervention.

WHEREAS, there is a need to revise existing guidelines on community quarantine to streamline rules which will be applicable to transitional community quarantine classifications;

WHEREAS, Section 3 of E.O. 112 authorizes the IATF to amend or modify the Omnibus Guidelines on the Implementation of Community Quarantine in the Philippines.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises set forth herein, the IATF issues these amended Omnibus Guidelines to harmonize and codify existing guidelines of the IATF and member-agencies pertaining to community quarantine, which shall be applied to all regions, provinces, cities, municipalities and barangays placed under community quarantine.

SECTION [1] DEFINITION OF TERMS. For purposes of these Guidelines, the following shall be defined as follows:

1. **Accommodation Establishments** - refers to an establishment operating primarily for accommodation purposes including, but not limited to, hotels, resorts, apartment hotels, tourist inns, motels, pension houses, private homes used for homestay, ecolodges, serviced apartments, condotels, and bed and breakfast facilities. *(As amended by Paragraph A(1) of IATF Resolution No. 43, June 03, 2020)*
2. **Comorbidity** - refers to the presence of a pre-existing chronic disease condition.
3. **Community Quarantine** - refers to the restriction of movement within, into, or out of the area of quarantine of individuals, large groups of people, or communities, designed to reduce the likelihood of transmission of an infectious disease among persons in and to persons outside the affected area.
4. **COVID-19** - refers to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 which is caused by the virus known as the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2).
5. **Enhanced Community Quarantine** - refers to the implementation of temporary measures imposing stringent limitations on movement and transportation of people, strict regulation of operating industries, provision of food and essential services, and heightened presence of uniformed personnel to enforce community quarantine protocols.



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6. **Essential goods and services** - covers health and social services to secure the safety and well-being of persons, such as but not limited to, food, water, medicine, medical devices, public utilities, energy, and others as may be determined by the IATF.
7. **General Community Quarantine** - refers to the implementation of temporary measures limiting movement and transportation, regulation of operating industries, and presence of uniformed personnel to enforce community quarantine protocols.
8. **Health and emergency frontline services** - refers to services provided by public health workers [all employees of the Department of Health (DOH), DOH Hospitals, Hospitals of LGUs, and Provincial, City, and Rural Health Units, and Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers including those managed by other government agencies (*e.g.* police and military hospitals/clinics, university medical facilities), uniformed medical personnel], private health workers, such as but not limited to medical professionals, hospital and health facility administrative and maintenance staff, and aides from private health facilities, as well as their service providers, health workers and volunteers of the Philippine Red Cross and the World Health Organization, and employees of Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs), the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC), health insurance providers, disaster risk reduction management officers, and public safety officers.
9. **Interzonal movement** - the movement of people, goods and services across areas under different community quarantine classifications.
10. **Intrazonal movement** - the movement of people, goods and services between localities under the same community quarantine classification, without transiting through an area placed under a different classification.
11. **Minimum public health standards** - refers to guidelines set by the DOH under Administrative Order No. 2020-0015, as well as sector-relevant guidelines issued by national government agencies as authorized by the IATF, to aid all sectors in all settings to implement non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPI), which refer to public health measures that do not involve vaccines, medications or other pharmaceutical interventions, which individuals and communities can carry out in order to reduce transmission rates, contact rates, and the duration of infectiousness of individuals in the population to mitigate COVID-19. For this purpose, the Department of Tourism and Department of Public Works and Highways are recognized as the sector-relevant agencies with respect to tourism and construction, respectively.
12. **Modified Enhanced Community Quarantine** - refers to the transition phase between ECQ and GCQ, when the following temporary measures are relaxed and become less



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necessary: stringent limits on movement and transportation of people, strict regulation of operating industries, provision of food and essential services, and heightened presence of uniformed personnel to enforce community quarantine protocols.

13. **Modified General Community Quarantine** - refers to the transition phase between GCQ and the New Normal, when the following temporary measures are relaxed and become less necessary: limiting movement and transportation, the regulation of operating industries, and the presence of uniformed personnel to enforce community quarantine protocols .
14. **New Normal** - refers to the emerging behaviors, situations, and minimum public health standards that will be institutionalized in common or routine practices and remain even after the pandemic while the disease is not totally eradicated through means such as widespread immunization. These include actions that will become second nature to the general public as well as policies such as bans on large gatherings that will continue to remain in force.
15. **Operational capacity** - refers to such a number of employees or workers who can be permitted or required to physically report to work on-site in a particular office or establishment.
16. **Skeleton workforce** - refers to the operational capacity which utilizes the smallest number of people needed for a business or organization to maintain its basic functions.

SECTION [2] GUIDELINES FOR AREAS PLACED UNDER ENHANCED COMMUNITY QUARANTINE. Areas placed under ECQ shall observe the following protocols:

1. Minimum public health standards shall be complied with at all times for the duration of the ECQ.
2. Strict home quarantine shall be observed in all households, and the movement of all residents shall be limited to accessing essential goods and services, and for work in permitted offices or establishments as well as activities listed hereunder.
3. Any person below twenty-one (21) years old, those who are sixty (60) years old and above, those with immunodeficiency, comorbidity, or other health risks, and pregnant women, including any person who resides with the aforementioned, shall be required to remain in their residences at all times, except when indispensable under the