



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
DIGOS CITY DIVISION

Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

SGOD-2025-407

To : **Public Schools District Supervisors
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
School Health Section Personnel
All Others Concerned**

Subject : **REITERATION OF GUIDELINES ON THE PREVENTION AND
CONTROL OF INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS AND OTHER
COMMUNICABLE DISEASES IN SCHOOLS AND OFFICES**

Date : July 15, 2025

1. Relative to the increasing cases of **Hand-Foot-Mouth Disease (HFMD)** on specific schools, given the close-contact environment of our school and the heightened risk of outbreaks, it is crucial to reinforce preventive measures, monitor symptoms proactively, and implement isolation protocols.
2. This office issues the enclosed Guidelines on the Preventive and Control of Influenza-like Illnesses and other Communicable Diseases in Schools based on DM No. 15, s.2020 that outlines immediate actions and procedures designed to protect our students, faculty, and the entire school community from further transmission of HFMD.
3. The guidelines emphasize the necessity for schools to give precedence to influenza-like symptoms and other communicable diseases like Hand-Foot-Mouth disease prevention and safeguarding the general welfare of the learners and teachers. Enclosures 1 and 2 present the guidelines and precautions to prevent the spread of ILIs and reporting system for the management/containment of such illnesses.
4. The regional office reiterates RM ESSD-2024-390, which mandates the implementation of Project SHIELD (Strategic Health Intervention to Emerging Health Threats through Information, Education, and Communication for Learners and Educators in the Davao Region) in schools and offices. School heads and on-duty health personnel are required to conduct daily health status monitoring of learners and staff. They must maintain records and submit reports on suspected, probable, and confirmed cases of notifiable diseases to the Regional Office via the designated Google Sheets link: <https://bit.ly/SchoolDseSurv2k25>.



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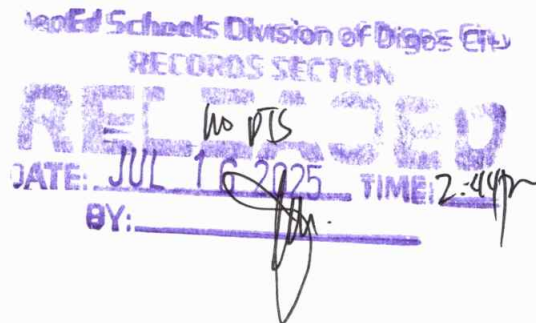


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5. For information and strict compliance.

Melanie P. Estacio JUL 16 2025
MELANIE P. ESTACIO, PhD, CESO VI
Schools Division Superintendent





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MAF-HNU/SGOD

Enclosure 1:

**GUIDELINES ON THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFLUENZA-LIKE ILLNESS
AND OTHER COMMUNICABLE DISEASES IN SCHOOLS**

1. **Face Mask:** Wearing of facemasks is encouraged but not mandatory in closed spaces like classrooms, offices, and canteens. It is strongly advised that students who are experiencing symptoms similar to influenza and fever utilize a facemask while in the classroom.
2. **Hand Hygiene:** Teach and enforce proper handwashing techniques with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. Make hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol readily available in classrooms and common areas. Periodically inspect handwashing areas, ensure that hand soap is readily accessible at all handwashing stations, and adhere to proper handwashing protocols.
3. **Promote Vaccination:** Encourage students, teachers, and staff to get the annual flu vaccine. Vaccination is one of the most effective ways to prevent the flu.
4. **Respiratory Hygiene:** Encourage students and faculty to cover their mouth and nose with a tissue or their elbow when coughing or sneezing. Provide tissues and no-touch disposal receptacles.
5. **Regular Cleaning and Sanitization:** Enforce stringent cleaning and disinfection procedures, placing particular emphasis on frequently touched surfaces, within classrooms, common areas, and restrooms. It is strongly recommended to establish a routine for disinfecting classrooms at least once per week after class hours.
6. **Good Ventilation:** Ensure classrooms are well-ventilated by opening windows and doors when possible. Proper ventilation can help reduce the concentration of airborne viruses.
7. **Education and Awareness:** Educate students, staff, and parents about flu prevention and other communicable measures. Clear communication can help reinforce the importance of these practices.
8. **Sick Leave/Stay at Home Policies:** Encourage students and personnel to stay home when they are sick for recovery and seek immediate consultation with the school clinic teacher or medical personnel. Adjust school policies to support this, such as providing options for remote learning when needed.