

To: ALL BP STAFF AND DANCERS

Subject: **UPDATED HEALTH PROTOCOLS**

Date: September 26, 2023

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On July 21, 2023, the President declared the lifting of the Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to Covid-19 through Proclamation NO. 297. In light of this, the DOH clarifies the following changes in the COVID-19 Protocols.

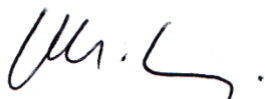
In compliance with the minimum public health standards of the Department of Health (DOH) the following will be observed:

1. Masking – while no longer mandated, the DOH recommends retention of the mandatory use of masks in health facilities to protect vulnerable patients and reduce nosocomial infection.
  - For Public Transportation – wearing masks is no longer mandatory but not prohibited, especially for those who wish to protect themselves and others from COVID-19 or other respiratory infections.
  - Still recommended in crowded or poorly ventilated public spaces
2. Minimum public health standards
  - Good hygiene, frequent hand washing, and good ventilation; especially in situations where close interaction with vulnerable populations cannot be avoided such as the elderly population, those with comorbidities and immunocompromised individuals.

The DOH also reiterates that neither repeat testing (showing a negative COVID-19 test) nor requiring medical certificates are required for resumption of work or entrance to school.

The health sector shall continue to remain vigilant to ensure adequate health system capacity in the event that it is required. Continued surveillance is necessary to minimize the risk of outbreaks and/or severe disease in setting with high-risk individuals.

Thanks,



CARRIE A. DOMINGO  
HR officer