



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Health  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

**DOH PROVIDES UPDATES ON 2019 NCOV ARD STATUS IN PH**

Press Release/3 February 2020

The Department of Health (DOH) reported that as of 12NN today, there are a total of 80 patients under investigation (PUIs) for the 2019-nCoV Acute Respiratory Disease (ARD).

Of the 80 PUIs, 67 are currently admitted and isolated, while 10 have been discharged under strict monitoring. DOH has also reported 1 PUI mortality with a negative result and 2 confirmed cases with one mortality.

“This substantial increase in the number of PUIs is due to the strengthened surveillance system and contact tracing of the Epidemiology Bureau. We have also expanded the PUI category coverage to the whole of China, following the recent imposition of travel ban to the mainland China, including Hong Kong and Macau,” Health Secretary Francisco Duque III said.

To date, the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine has also confirmed that 30 PUIs have tested negative for 2019-nCoV, while 2 have tested positive, and 48 results are pending.

The Interagency Task Force for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases is set to meet with President Rodrigo Duterte this afternoon, together with other government agencies and resource persons, to discuss developments and next steps on the management of 2019-nCoV ARD in the country.

DOH is reiterating its advice to the public to practice prevention measures such as proper handwashing, observance of cough etiquette, and maintaining healthy lifestyles for added resistance against infections.