TO: ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES
FROM: ERNIE V. TERA, MD, MPH, CHA; CESO IV
OIC-Regional Director
DATE: February 7, 2019
SUBJECT: PARTICIPATION IN ALL FORMS OF PREVENTION AND CONTROL EFFORTS AGAINST MEASLES

The Department of Health has already declared measles outbreak at the National Capital Region, Central Luzon and Eastern Visayas. Although Bicol Region is not yet on outbreak status, we have already observed increasing number of reported measles cases and other vaccine-preventable diseases in almost all provinces.

Measles or "Rigada" is a highly contagious respiratory disease that is caused by a virus that can be transferred from person to person by sneezing, coughing, and close contact. Its signs and symptoms include cough, runny nose, red eyes, fever, and skin rashes lasting for more than 3 days. Measles can cause complications such as malnutrition, blindness, middle ear infection, diarrhea, pneumonia, and encephalitis (swelling of the brain), which may eventually lead to death. There is no specific treatment for measles and patients are only provided supportive management such as increasing oral rehydration, up-building of the nutritional status, and provision of Vitamin A supplement to prevent severe complications. The only proven and safest primary preventive measure for this disease is immunization using Measles Containing Vaccines.

To prevent the further spread of Measles in Bicol Region, we are enjoining your agency to proactively participate in all forms of prevention and control efforts of the Department of Health. The following activities are suggested:
- Public service announcements enjoining everyone in your agency to have their children (6 months to 59 months old, Grades 1 and 7 students) to be vaccinated against measles and to update their immunization status for other vaccine preventable diseases
- Posting of tarpaulin/posters in strategic areas where your office staff and clients can see
- Sharing of social media postings from the DOH CHD-Bicol Official FB page @dohbicoll
- Organizing lay forum on the government's program for immunization
- Showing of Audio Visual Presentations on the importance of immunization

We are sending you a copy of the poster for printing, posting and dissemination to all areas and offices under your jurisdiction. Other materials may be accessed and downloaded at our website res.doh.gov.ph. For further inquiries, you may call Family Health Cluster at (052) 204-0050 local 521 or the Health Promotion Unit at local 551.

Dissemination of the information to all concerned is advised.

RELEASED

SOGORRO V. DELA ROSA, CESO VI
Schools Division Superintendent
### School Age

#### Grade 1 (regardless of age)
- Completed:
  - Routine Immunization
  - Td, MMR (SBIP)
  - Health education
- No history:
  - Secure verbal consent
  - Give 1 dose each of MMR and Td only
- Incomplete:
  - Secure verbal consent
  - Catch-up immunization for missed dose/antigen

#### Grade 4 (9-14 v.o.)
- Completed:
  - Routine Immunization
  - HPV*
  - Health education
- Incomplete/no history:
  - Secure verbal consent
  - Give 1st dose of HPV only (Masbate and Camarines Sur areas only)
  - (2nd dose after 6 months)

#### Grade 7 (regardless of age)
- Completed:
  - Routine Immunization
  - Td, MMR (SBIP)
  - Health education
- No history:
  - Secure verbal consent
  - Give 1 dose each of MMR and Td only
- Incomplete:
  - Secure verbal consent
  - Catch-up immunization for missed dose/antigen

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### Direct Contacts of a VPD Case

- Age < 5 years old:
  - Follow catchup guideline for <5 year-old
  - Give medical prophylaxis if applicable
  - Health education
  - Follow up/Refer

- School age:
  - Follow catchup guideline for school age
  - Give medical prophylaxis if applicable*
  - Health education
  - Follow up/Refer

- Other age group (Age <18yo):
  - Check Immunization history
  - Vaccine for the VPD has been previously received
  - Incomplete/no history
  - Unrecalled
  - Give medical prophylaxis if applicable*
  - Health education
  - Refer/Follow up

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### Post-exposure Immunization for:

- Tetanus-Diphtheria:
  - <7yo - use Pentavalent
  - >7yo - use Td

- Measles:
  - use MMR/MR for all age group of unimmunized direct contact

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### Basta Wednesday, Barangay Bakuna Day!