



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE CITY MAYOR
City of Davao

EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 34
Series of 2021

**AN ORDER CREATING THE CITY EPIDEMIOLOGY SURVEILLANCE AND
DISASTER RESPONSE UNIT (CESDRU)**

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

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution, Article XIII, Section 11 states that State shall adopt an integrated and comprehensive approach to health development which shall endeavor to make essential goods, health and other social services available to all people at affordable cost;

WHEREAS, monitoring, surveillance, investigation of and response to health threats are vital capabilities for an effective health system, and the World Health Organization (WHO) International Health Regulations (IHR) 2005 requires countries to maintain an integrated, national system for public health surveillance and response;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11223, also known as the "Universal Health Care Act", recognizes the need to create a health care model centered on people's needs and well-being, protected from hazards and risks that could affect their health;

WHEREAS, the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of R.A. No. 11223 details that the epidemiologic surveillance and disaster risk reduction and management within the city-wide health system are public health programs under the health service delivery function of the City Health Office;

WHEREAS, Davao City has been identified as an advance implementation site of R.A. No. 11223, on which one of the requirements prior to the implementation is the institutionalization of the City Epidemiology Surveillance Unit (CESU) and the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management for Health (DRRM-H);

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11332, also known as the "Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act", recognizes the importance of disease surveillance and response systems of the Department of Health and its local counterparts as the first line of defense to epidemics and health events of public health concern that pose risk to public health and security;

WHEREAS, R.A. No. 11332 further dictates that the Department of Health (DOH) in coordination with the Local Government Units (LGUs), shall ensure that the Epidemiology and Surveillance Units (ESUs) are established and functional in all levels of the DOH and its local counterparts;

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WHEREAS, Rule VII, Section 1 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. 11332 mandates that all local health offices in every city shall establish or designate ESUs;

WHEREAS, Department of Health Administrative Order No. 2019-0046 states that there is a need to institutionalize Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Health (DRRM-H);

WHEREAS, in order to achieve requirements of the IHR, the Department of Health (DOH) is adopting an integrated approach regarding the surveillance of priority communicable diseases and conditions;

WHEREAS, under the Philippine Health Agenda 2016-2022, one of the main strategies under the advancement of quality, health promotion, and primary care is to establish expert bodies for health promotion and surveillance and response;

WHEREAS, disease surveillance and response are important components of public health, providing indispensable information for the conduct and implementation of targeted public health policies;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, SARA Z. DUTERTE, Mayor of Davao City, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

SECTION 1. CREATION. There is hereby created a City Epidemiology Surveillance and Disaster Response Unit (CESDRU) which shall be composed of the following divisions: City Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit (CESU), Health Emergency Management Services (HEMS), and the Health Information and Research (HIR). The CESDRU shall be under the City Health Office and shall manage the CESU, HEMS, and HIR.

The CESDRU shall initiate and spearhead the establishment of a unified structure for preparedness, response, and management of health emergencies and events of public health concern within Davao City.

The CESDRU shall have the following specific functions:

1. Create, maintain, and update every three years the Health Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Plan of the City;
2. Provide on-site assistance to supplement/augment local needs, local epidemic investigation and control during epidemic emergencies and disasters;
3. Establish, operate, and maintain a city epidemic preparedness and response plan, including the creation of multidisciplinary/multisectoral teams to respond to events that may constitute a public health emergency of local and international concern;
4. Assess reported epidemics immediately and report all essential information to the City Health Officer, the City Mayor, DOH Regional Office XI, and DOH Central Office;
5. Provide a direct liaison with other government agencies;
6. Facilitate submission of weekly notifiable disease surveillance reports from public and private hospitals; and
7. Ensure the functionality of the city disease surveillance and response system.

SECTION 2. FUNCTIONS OF CESU. The CESU shall have the following functions:

1. Capture and verify all reported notifiable diseases and health events of public health concern;
2. Provide timely, accurate, and reliable epidemiologic information to appropriate agencies especially the City Health Office, City Mayor's Office, DOH Regional Office XI, and DOH Central Office;
3. Conduct disease surveillance and epidemiologic response activities including contact tracing;
4. Recommend needed response;
5. Facilitate capacity building in applied field epidemiology, disease surveillance and response as organized and provided by the DOH Epidemiology Bureau (EB);
6. Report all available essential information (e.g., clinical description, laboratory results, numbers of human cases and deaths, sources and type of risk) immediately to the next higher levels; and
7. Implement appropriate epidemic control measures immediately.

The CESU shall also perform the functions as stated under Section 4, Rule VII of the IRR of RA 11332.

SECTION 3. FUNCTIONS OF HEMS. The Health Emergency Management Services (HEMS) is created to monitor health events concerning public health and manages a health emergency operations center before, during, and after a public health emergency and/or disaster with the following specific functions:

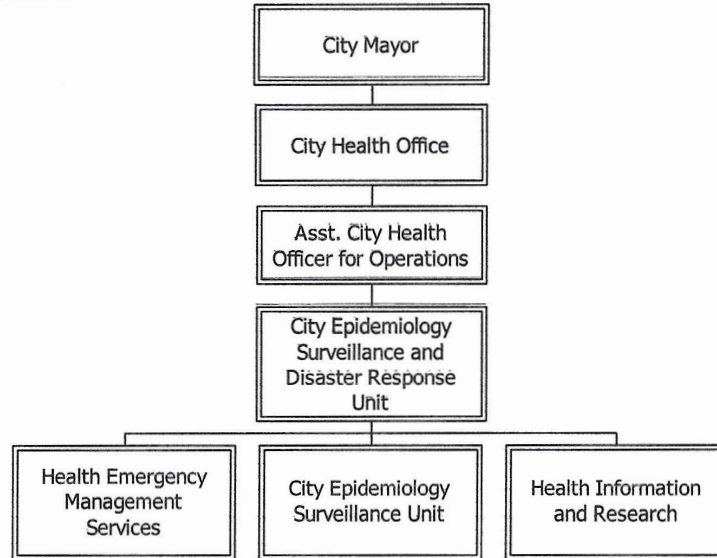
1. Establish appropriate ICS structures for health emergencies and health events of public health concern at various levels of operation, with clearly defined mandates and roles of those involved in the chain of command;
2. Establish the Health Emergency Operations Center as appropriate and run it according to the recommended guidelines and procedures;
3. Define the critical areas for coordination within the health sector and with other sectors (inter-sectoral); and
4. Describe the Early Warning Alert Response System for health emergency and disaster response.

SECTION 4. CREATION OF HEALTH INFORMATION AND RESEARCH. As a support group, the Health Information and Research (HIR) is created to collect, organize, visualize, analyze, interpret, and share on-the-ground data and related researches that can help in the management and functions of CESDRU. In particular, the HIR has the following functions:

1. Receive, validate, consolidate, and provide the Field Health Services Information System (FHSIS) reports;
2. Conduct monitoring and evaluation of the status on the implementation of FHSIS in different health facilities;
3. Analyze health data and apply findings towards public health policies and/or health promotion programs;
4. Conduct, collaborate, and participate in developing health-related researches, research congresses, and research trainings and workshops; and

5. Create partnerships for research and research-related events with hospitals, the academe, and other public and private entities that are engaged in health research.

SECTION 5. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE. The CESDRU shall have the following structure:



SECTION 6. DISEASE REPORTING PARTNERS. As enforced in Rule VI, Section 2 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. No. 11332, the following are required to accurately and immediately report notifiable diseases and health events of public health concern:

1. Licensed public and private medical and allied health professionals;
2. Health facilities and offices as defined under the DOH Administrative Order No. 2019-0060 or the Guidelines on the Implementation of the National Health Facility Registry (Annex "A"), or subsequent amendments or revisions thereto;
3. Workplaces including those in special economic and/or free port zones;
4. Public and private educational institutions providing basic education, higher education, or technical-vocational education and/or training;
5. Prisons, jails, or detention centers;
6. Major transportation passenger terminals, and seaports and airports;
7. Dining and hotel and other accommodation establishments, including other establishments as may be required by public health authorities;
8. Communities, including household members, the punong barangay, barangay health emergency response teams, homeowners' associations, indigenous people communities, cooperatives, and community-based organizations;
9. Other government agencies providing health and emergency frontline services, border control, and other critical services; and
10. Professional societies, civic organizations, and other NGOs.

SECTION 7. GUIDING PROVISIONS. The City Epidemiology Surveillance Unit will be guided by the Department of Health Administrative Order No. 2007-0036 or Guidelines on the Philippine Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (PIDSAR) Framework which provides a framework for PIDSAR to guide its implementation at all levels of the health care delivery system as well as both the public and private sectors.

The Health Emergency Management Services will be guided by the Department of Health Administrative Order No. 2019-0046 or Guidelines on the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management for Health (DRRM-H) Institutionalization Framework which provides the effective and efficient implementation of the DRRM-H Program, guaranteeing uninterrupted health service delivery, averting preventable morbidities, mortalities, and other health effects, lastly, ensuring zero outbreaks secondary to emergencies and disasters.

All related Manual of Operations, as well as related issuances from the national and local governments are to be honored. The City Epidemiology Surveillance and Disaster Response Unit shall also be encouraged to create their own policies related to their functions for the improvement of the delivery of services of the Unit beneficial to the City Health Office and of the City.

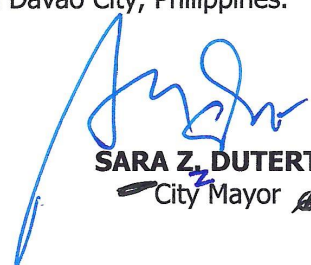
SECTION 8. BUDGETARY ALLOCATION. The budget for personnel, trainings, logistics, and other incidental expenses shall be appropriated from the Annual Budget/Supplemental Budget of the City to finance the daily operations and in the fulfillment of the tasks and functions of the City Epidemiology Surveillance and Disaster Response Unit (CESDRU). Full-time CESDRU personnel shall be sourced from the regular staff of the City Health Office.

SECTION 9. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE. If any provision of this Executive Order is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 10. REPEALING CLAUSE. All Orders or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 11. EFFECTIVITY. This Order shall take effect immediately.

Done this 07 day of JUNE, 2021 in Davao City, Philippines.


SARA Z. DUTERTE
City Mayor

Attested by:


ATTY. ZULEIKA T. LOPEZ
City Administrator



Ref. no. CRD060721-2

