



Miriam College
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

TO : The Miriam College Community
FROM : The President
RE : Updated Guidelines on Influenza A(H1N1) Prevention
DATE : 30 June 2009

I would like to inform the community of the following updated guidelines on Influenza A(H1N1) prevention for employees, students and visitors based on the new strategy being implemented by the Department of Health (DOH):

1. Those who travelled to other countries are no longer required to observe the 10-day self-quarantine period if they do not manifest flu-like symptoms (i.e. fever with either cough or sore throat or other respiratory illnesses). They will only be asked to monitor themselves for symptoms.
2. The same will be applied to those who have been exposed to confirmed cases of Influenza A(H1N1). However, in some cases, selective quarantine may be required as a preventive measure.
3. Those who manifest flu-like symptoms will be requested to stay home and monitor themselves, or proceed to the clinic for a medical examination. Those who will be sent home may return to school only upon their doctor's advice and the submission of a medical certificate.

While these guidelines are in place, specific unit-level measures and responses will be established as necessary. The following preventive measures are still being implemented through the Infection Control Teams of the Basic Education Unit and the Higher Education Unit (which includes the MC-Southeast Asian Institute for the Deaf, Miriam Adult Education, and the General Administration):

1. Ensuring proper ventilation in all school facilities
2. Regular cleaning and disinfection of classrooms
3. Easing of congested areas
4. Allowing students to have recess and lunch inside the classroom
5. Requiring students to carry a hand sanitizer at all times
6. Providing alcohol for hand-rubbing at strategic areas
7. Availability of medical services at all times
8. Sustained information campaign for all sectors of the community

Monitoring of students' body temperature is also being implemented by the academic units as an additional precautionary measure.

Parents may decide not to send their children to school should they feel it is necessary but are requested to give proper notice to the school. The school will continue to provide academic support to students who will be absent due to Influenza A(H1N1)-related reasons.

The DOH warns that the number of Influenza A(H1N1) cases will continue to increase, thus, we count on everyone's support and cooperation.

(signed)
PATRICIA B. LICUANAN
President