



Ministry of Health & Human Services

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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UPDATES ON TESTING, QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION IN PALAU

One historical and three additional travel-related positive cases of COVID-19 identified

The Ministry of Health and Human Services (MHHS) informs the public of the following updates on testing, quarantine and isolation¹ in Palau:

- Ten (10) travelers who arrived (chartered flight) on December 27, 2021 received their day 4 tests on December 31, 2021.
 - Three of these travelers tested positive of COVID-19. However, further testing and investigation revealed that one of these three is a historical case (previous infection). This individual left the country on January 1, 2022. The other two have been placed in isolation and will undergo further testing on days 5 and 10.
 - Contact tracing and investigation revealed twenty-six (26) close contacts.
 - Twenty-five (25) of the close contacts tested negative of COVID-19. Seven (7) of these close contacts left the country on January 1, 2022. Eighteen (18) have been placed in quarantine and will undergo further testing on days 5 and 10.
 - One (1) of the close contacts tested positive of COVID-19 on January 1, 2022. This individual has been placed under isolation and will also undergo testing on days 5 and 10.
- The other positive case of COVID-19 identified on December 27, 2021 tested negative on day 5 (January 1, 2022) in isolation. This individual will remain in isolation before undergoing further testing on day 10. Eighteen close contacts also received their day 5 tests and all their results were negative. They remain in quarantine before undergoing further testing on day 10.

¹ Positive cases and close contacts may have different periods of isolation and quarantine, and therefore will have different testing dates.

MHHS continues to monitor these situations and will update the public as appropriate. All identified positive cases and close contacts are asymptomatic. MHHS reminds everyone to continue to take appropriate actions to minimize the potential spread of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases in the community.

We thank all guests and residents for your support in all COVID-19 response activities.

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact the MHHS EOC Incident Commander Ms. Ritter Udui at 775-0084. For other COVID-19 related information, call the MHHS COVID-19 Hotline at 488-0555 during regular working hours.