UPDATES ON TESTING, QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION IN PALAU

The Ministry of Health and Human Services (MHHS) informs the public of the following updates on testing, quarantine and isolation\(^1\) in Palau:

- Three positive cases of COVID-19 identified on December 31, 2021 (referred to as Case #11, Case #12, Case #13) and eighteen (18) close contacts received their day 5 tests in isolation/quarantine.
  - Cases #11 and #12 tested negative but remain in isolation before undergoing further testing.
  - Case #13 tested positive and will remain in isolation before undergoing further testing.
  - Seventeen (17) of the eighteen (18) close contacts tested negative, and will remain in quarantine before undergoing further testing.
  - One (1) close contact tested positive of COVID-19 (referred to as Case #16) and has been moved from quarantine to isolation. This individual will be monitored in isolation for ten days and will undergo further testing on days 5 and 10.

- Nineteen (19) close contacts for positive case identified on December 27, 2021 (referred to as Case #9) tested negative on their day 10 of testing in quarantine. They have been cleared and released from quarantine.

- One hundred and sixty-one MHHS employees and other frontline workers participated in community testing today, January 5, 2022, at Belau National Hospital. All their results were negative.

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\(^{1}\) 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. 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.