



3,661,049
Cases



3,551,687
Recoveries



56,401
Deaths



63,074,268
(62.8%)¹
Fully
Vaccinated

Please see the Philippines Department of Health (DOH) Daily [Case Bulletins](#) and [COVID-19 Tracker](#) for further information.

Summary of the epidemiological situation in Philippines²

Key numbers

9,620 cases (21-27 Feb 2022)	71 deaths (21-27 Feb 2022)	27% ICU occupancy	3,792 ICU beds for COVID-19 cases	185,913 tests (21-27 Feb 2022)	5.4% Positivity Rate (21-27 Feb 2022)
Not available HCW active cases	1,286 Hospitals admitting COVID-19 patients	38,259 Total hospital beds for COVID-19 patients	20% COVID-19 hospital beds occupied	100,895 COVID-19 TTMF (27 Feb 2022)	

COVID-19 cases

As of 27 February, a total of 3,661,049 COVID-19 cases and 56,401 (1.5%) COVID-19 related deaths had been recorded since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. There was a sudden and sharp increase in cases in late December 2021, but after peaking in early January, a decreasing trend has been continuing in the number of cases reported per day. (Figure 1). There were 9,620 new cases (8.7 cases per 100,000 population³) reported in week 8 (21-27 February 2022), that is 35% lower than the previous week (14 – 20 February 2022: 14,744 new cases, 13.4 cases per 100,000 population³). For week 8, NCR, Region IV-A: CALABARZON, and Region VI: Western Visayas recorded the highest case counts at 2,061, 1,169, and 1,037 respectively.

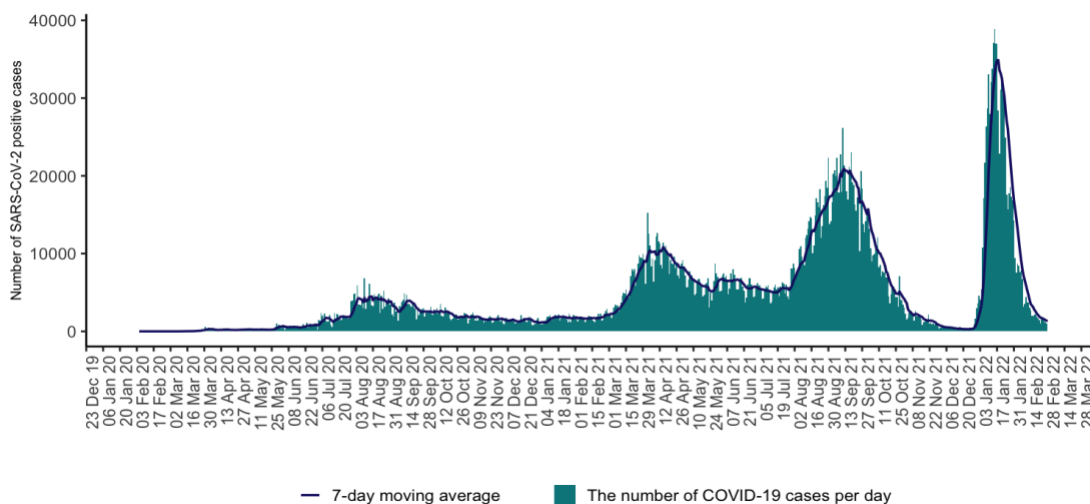


Figure 1. Daily reported COVID-19 cases in the Philippines (30 January 2020 – 28 February 2022)

¹ Percent of total eligible population (5 years and older)

² Weekly case counts were obtained from [FASSTER COVID-19 PROJECT](#)

³ National population size used (n=110,278,979, Epidemiology Bureau of the Department of Health, 2022)



Clinical characteristic of COVID-19 cases and healthcare utilization

DOH recorded 52,961 active cases as of 27 February 2022, with the breakdown of active cases (based on the time case investigation form was completed) as follows:

- Asymptomatic: 556 (1.05%)
- Mild: 47,910 (90.46%)
- Moderate: 2,780 (5.25%)
- Severe: 1,417 (2.68%)
- Critical: 298 (0.56%)

Following the continuous decreases in COVID-19 cases over the past few weeks, COVID-19 hospital bed and ICU bed utilization has also declined in Philippines since 30 January, and it is currently maintained at stable levels (Figure 2). In week 8, the daily number (7-day average) of COVID-19 dedicated ICU beds occupied was 1,003, compared to 1,163 in the previous week. Utilization of COVID-19 dedicated mechanical ventilators (7-day average) also showed a declining trend: 439 ventilators in week 8, compared to 497 ventilators in week 7.

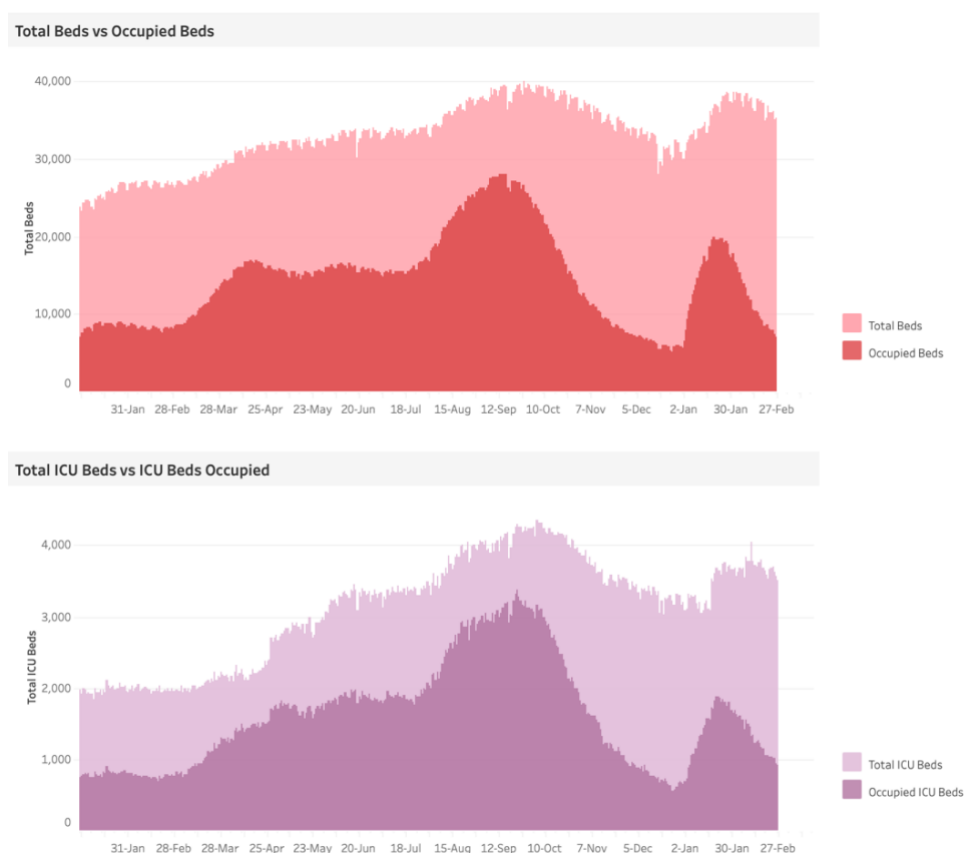


Figure 2. Total bed and ICU bed distribution over time stratified by occupancy (as of 26 February)



COVID-19 deaths

Since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic 56,451 COVID-19 deaths were reported in Philippines with the highest number of over 300 deaths recorded in September, 2021 (Figure 3). The deaths increased during the surge in January, but after peaking in mid-January, a declining trend has been observed.

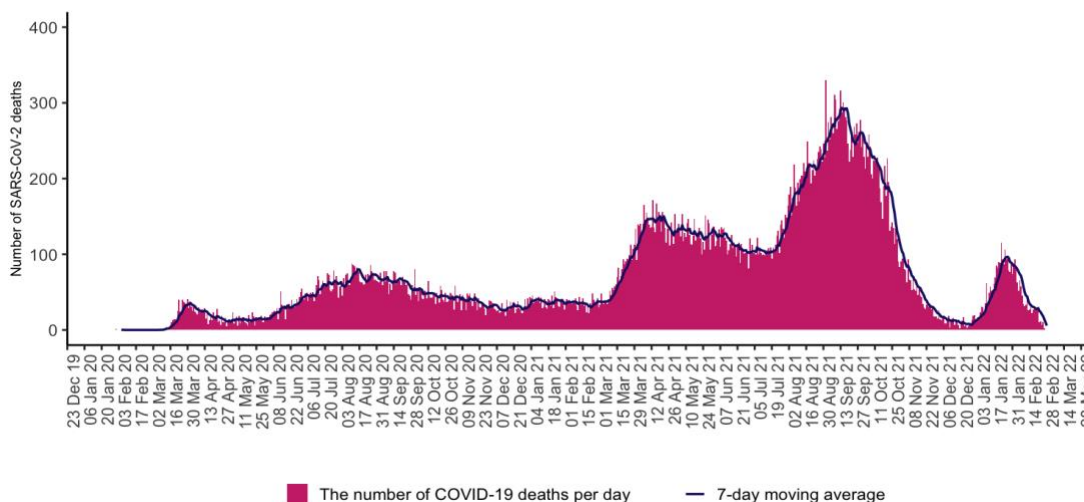


Figure 3. Daily number of COVID-19 deaths in the Philippines by date of death since 2020 (as of 28 February)

Laboratory: testing rates, positivity rates and genomic surveillance

The testing rate (number of tests per 1,000 population) has decreased in the Philippines to 1.7 tests per 1,000 population for week 8 (previously at 1.8 tests per 1,000 population). A lower 7-day positivity rate (number of individuals that tested positive/number of individuals tested) was reported for week 8 at 5.4% (9,531/176,102), compared to week 7 at 8.6% (15,998/186,957).

As of 7 February 2022, according to the press release of DOH⁴, Omicron is the predominant Variant of Concern (VOC). Over 90% of samples recently sequenced were confirmed as Omicron.

Vaccination

As of 26 February 2022, 63% of the target population (5 years and older) were fully vaccinated. Among healthcare workers, who are at increased risk of exposure to SARS-CoV-2, the coverage is high at 93%, with 45% already received a booster dose. Currently, there is particular focus to increase coverage of vulnerable populations; elderly population (A2 priority group), persons with comorbidities (A3) and poor population (A5). Their respective vaccination coverage in Philippines is 70%, 92%, and 68% (Figure 4). However, it is important to note that there is variation in vaccination coverage between regions, for example, coverage of the A2 population is below 50% in region 7 and BARMM, and below 60% in region 11 and 12 (Table 1). Vaccination coverage of the A5 group is below 50% in 8 regions (Table 2).

⁴ [Link to DOH press release](#)

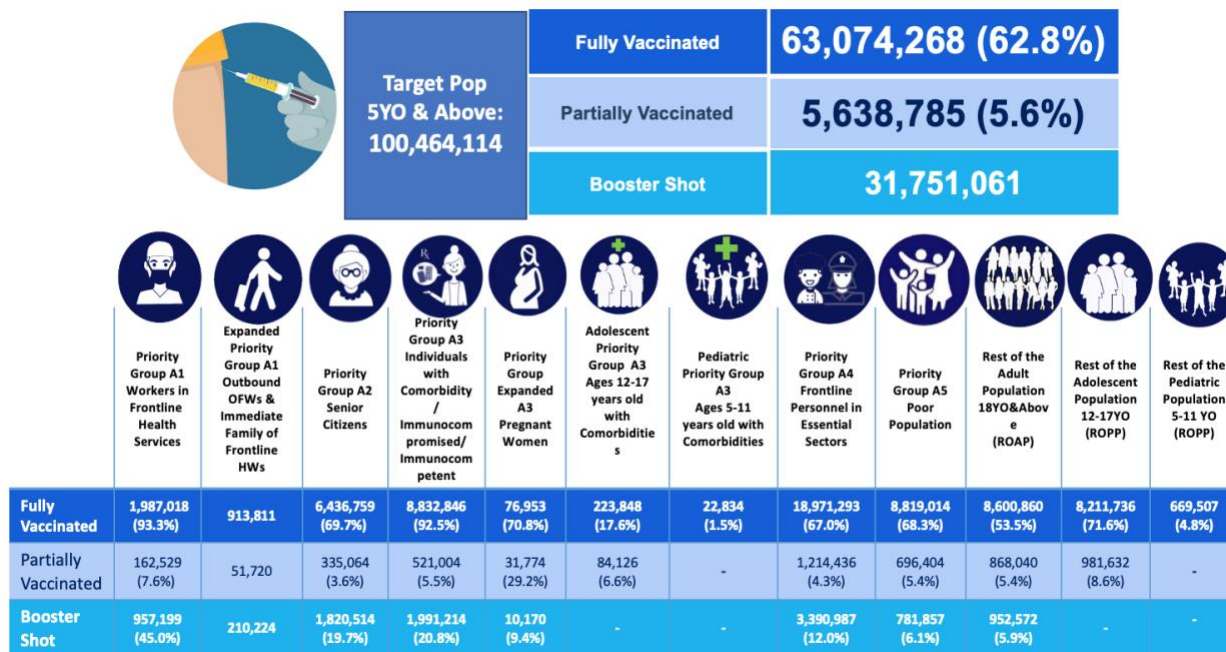


Figure 4. Overview of COVID-19 vaccination status of Philippines' population as of 26 February 2022

Cumulative Coverage Rate % (A2)							
REGION	Projected Pop (Priority Group A2)	Fully Vaccinated	%	Partially Vaccinated	%	Booster Shot	%
2	342,018	294,722	86.2%	13,445	3.9%	74,318	21.7%
NCR	1,222,154	1,026,530	84.0%	25,788	2.1%	490,897	40.2%
CAR	143,040	118,281	82.7%	6,372	4.5%	42,150	29.5%
1	530,907	428,029	80.6%	23,248	4.4%	120,145	22.6%
4A	1,348,666	1,018,190	75.5%	60,503	4.5%	321,198	23.8%
3	1,126,636	811,457	72.0%	42,012	3.7%	292,565	26.0%
5	494,357	350,147	70.8%	16,835	3.4%	60,022	12.1%
6	778,402	535,643	68.8%	7,035	0.9%	102,621	13.2%
CARAGA	219,338	147,499	67.2%	(2,033)	-0.9%	21,236	9.7%
9	289,442	193,844	67.0%	10,435	3.6%	29,588	10.2%
10	406,917	266,861	65.6%	17,976	4.4%	49,714	12.2%
Mimaropa	249,124	157,301	63.1%	10,695	4.3%	30,324	12.2%
8	412,565	257,276	62.4%	19,595	4.7%	37,347	9.1%
11	431,064	250,980	58.2%	32,447	7.5%	49,628	11.5%
12	342,690	192,381	56.1%	13,053	3.8%	31,887	9.3%
7	716,936	325,191	45.4%	25,408	3.5%	60,675	8.5%
BARMM	180,050	62,427	34.7%	12,250	6.8%	6,199	3.4%
PHIL	9,234,308	6,436,759	69.7%	335,064	3.6%	1,820,514	19.7%

Table 1. Overview of vaccination of A2 population per region in Philippines (26 February 2022)



Cumulative Coverage Rate % (A5)							
REGION	Projected Priority Group A5	Fully Vaccinated	%	Partially Vaccinated	%	Booster Shot	%
NCR	663,588	2,111,785	318.2%	88,327	13.3%	375,125	56.5%
4A	955,143	1,196,165	125.2%	55,331	5.8%	138,747	14.5%
6	967,299	900,677	93.1%	(66,156)	-6.8%	62,331	6.4%
CAR	179,565	144,606	80.5%	8,773	4.9%	8,820	4.9%
2	315,918	223,260	70.7%	26,562	8.4%	7,787	2.5%
3	882,423	618,322	70.1%	59,585	6.8%	73,270	8.3%
1	618,150	398,047	64.4%	40,896	6.6%	18,068	2.9%
11	771,534	412,107	53.4%	42,250	5.5%	17,843	2.3%
7	854,691	448,025	52.4%	55,768	6.5%	18,609	2.2%
9	896,151	424,368	47.4%	44,785	5.0%	12,080	1.3%
5	1,111,587	432,253	38.9%	61,177	5.5%	10,049	0.9%
8	839,772	319,973	38.1%	52,643	6.3%	7,709	0.9%
10	798,837	294,768	36.9%	33,151	4.1%	9,214	1.2%
CARAGA	566,586	201,210	35.5%	33,376	5.9%	5,868	1.0%
Mimaropa	583,026	192,487	33.0%	21,536	3.7%	7,769	1.3%
12	743,511	228,085	30.7%	35,281	4.7%	2,859	0.4%
BARM	1,163,412	272,876	23.5%	103,119	8.9%	5,709	0.5%
PHIL	12,911,193	8,819,014	68.3%	696,404	5.4%	781,857	6.1%

Table 2. Overview of vaccination of A5 population per region in Philippines (26 February 2022)

Strategic approach to COVID-19 Prevention, Detection and Control

Risk Communication and Community Engagement

WCO published social media tiles on Antimicrobial Resistance and COVID-19 in English and Filipino. Messages include proper use of antibiotics amid COVID-19 pandemic, emphasizing that antibiotics treat bacteria and not viruses, and proper hand and respiratory hygiene.





WCO published a [web article](#) and social media tiles in Filipino about ways to protect oneself and others against COVID-19. The content was translated from WPRO's [Six ways to protect yourself and those around you during the holiday season](#).



web article (left) and social media tiles (right)

WCO published a [story](#) of a daughter who lost an unvaccinated elderly parent, in the hope of sparing other families the same grief of losing loved ones to COVID-19.



Operations Support Logistics

WCO facilitated dispatch of 1,000 Rapid Antigen Test kits bound for Eastern Visayas Center for Health Development, and prepared Transfer of Title (TOTs) for the 52 Health Facilities that received 200 units of Oxygen Concentrator units donated by WHO.



Partner Coordination

Updates from UNICEF

Support to the COVID-19 vaccination roll-out

UNICEF delivered 1.4 million doses of Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines, procured with support from the Australian Government, to the Philippines. The delivery also includes 1.6 million syringes and 16,725 vaccine safety boxes. These supplies will help increase vaccination coverage in the Philippines and protect more vulnerable populations from COVID-19. As of 25 February, UNICEF's post about the vaccine arrival reached 266,840 users and garnered 272,405 impressions on Facebook.



DOH and UNICEF representatives receive COVID-19 vaccines and supplies procured with support from the Australian Government. ©UNICEF Philippines/2022/Gerard Cayco

COVID-19 support in areas affected by Typhoon Odette

UNICEF, in partnership with Samaritan's Purse and the National Nutrition Council, is conducting health and nutrition training for community health workers in Southern Leyte and CARAGA. The training course includes nutrition in emergencies and infection prevention and control for COVID-19. The integration is meant to ensure that frontline workers and their communities remain safe from COVID-19 while essential health and nutrition services continue to be delivered. A total of 222 community health workers have been trained to date.



Barangay health workers and barangay nutrition scholars in Limasawa Island, Southern Leyte attend training on Nutrition in Emergencies and Infection Prevention and Control for COVID-19. ©UNICEF Philippines/2022/MQuiazon



Risk communication and community engagement (RCCE)

UNICEF, in partnership with Relief International, continues to support RCCE for COVID-19 prevention and vaccination in select local governments in Regions VI (Iloilo and Guimaras), IV-A (Laguna and Quezon), and the National Capital Region (Paranaque and Navotas). Through this technical support, 14 local governments continue to update their demand generation plans; 4,476 health workers and volunteers were trained on COVID-19 RCCE; 6,128 local officials, 2,366 local leaders, and 124 community-based groups have been engaged to support the COVID-19 campaign; and 5.4 million people, including eligible populations, were reached with COVID-19 messages through various channels. Local government partners were also supported by UNICEF and Relief International in launching the *Resbakuna* Kids (vaccination for 5- to 11-year-olds) and implementing the third of the National Vaccination Days.



Together with UNICEF and Relief International, the Iloilo Provincial Health Office launched its vaccination for children aged 5-11 on 14 February. The promotional material was released by the Iloilo Provincial Health Office on its social media pages.

UNICEF, in partnership with the Human Development and Empowerment Services Inc. (HDES), is supporting eight local government partners in Region IX (Zamboanga Peninsula) on demand generation for COVID-19 vaccination and routine immunization. Through this support, 396 health workers and other frontline workers have been trained in effectively communicating COVID-19 vaccination, and 1,434 local officials, 1,870 local leaders, and 169 community-based organizations have been engaged to support COVID-19 and routine vaccination. The support, which focuses on reaching vulnerable and marginalized individuals, has also reached 33,863 COVID-19 vaccine-eligible individuals and parents and caregivers of children under 2 years old with messages on COVID-19 and routine immunization through in-person health education sessions.



Social mobilizers deployed by UNICEF and HDES in remote communities in Zamboanga City support risk communication and community engagement interventions on COVID-19. ©HDES/2021



UNICEF and Relief International have begun expanding their support to COVID-19 RCCE in Region IX through the delivery of its multisectoral support on COVID-19, health and WASH. Social mobilizers have been deployed in Ipil, Zamboanga Sibugay; Sindangan and Labason, Zamboanga del Norte; and Dumingag, Zamboanga del Sur. The social mobilizers have reached 4,950 eligible individuals with messages on COVID-19 vaccination by supporting municipal health offices in conducting vaccine promotion activities.



Relief International supports awareness-raising sessions on COVID-19 vaccination in Ipil, Zamboanga Sibugay. ©Relief International/2022

In partnership with the Department of Health (DOH)-Health Promotion Bureau and the local government of Zamboanga City, UNICEF has started implementing the co-creation and development of communication materials on COVID-19 vaccination for populations with low literacy. The initiative will apply UNICEF's human-centered design principles and processes which allow users to co-create and design the materials. It is expected to facilitate access to essential information about COVID-19 vaccination and prevention especially among eligible populations with low literacy.

UNICEF, together with the Public Good Projects (a non-profit organization in the United States), is supporting the development of a social listening platform for DOH. The platform will support DOH in monitoring public sentiments and misinformation regarding the COVID-19 vaccination and other health programmes, and facilitate proactive responses to issues that may erode vaccine confidence.

UNICEF's #SaferTogether social media campaign ended on a high note, reaching 9.4 million on Facebook and 9.6 million on TikTok as of 25 February. The campaign promoted continued practice of COVID-19 preventive actions and vaccine confidence and uptake. [Look at the post on Facebook.](#)



#SaferTogether social media campaign



UNICEF produced a new video about how local officials, health workers, development partners and UNICEF are working together to address vaccine hesitancy and ensure a high vaccination coverage in an indigenous community in Quezon Province. As of 25 February, the video has reached 10,100 and has been viewed 4,100 times on Facebook: https://fb.watch/b4qP7zRU_7/



UNICEF posted a new feature story that highlights the partnership of UNICEF and the UK Government in supporting the COVID-19 vaccine hesitancy in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao. The story has reached 457,994 Facebook users and is available [here](#).



Updates from USAID

USAID' ReachHealth project is supporting the Department of Health and Caloocan City rollout COVID-19 vaccination for children aged 5 to 11 years old. ReachHealth deployed physicians and data encoders on-site, and provided medical supplies and logistics support to vaccinate close to 2,500 children during the pilot run held at SM Grand and Caloocan City Sports Complex.



USAID's ReachHealth project continuously supports the Caloocan City Health Department to vaccinate its elderly and persons with disabilities. ReachHealth deployed two mobile vaccination teams consisting of doctors, nurses, and data encoders. The team, through a jeepney, roams North and South Caloocan, vaccinating at least 10 senior citizens/persons with disabilities every day. Aside from donation of vaccination equipment, such as 44 vaccine transport boxes, USAID also hired one jeepney to be used to transport the mobile vaccination teams. This is part of USAID's commitment to augment the local government unit's capacity to get more COVID-19 vaccines in people's arms.



Ms. Maricel, a registered nurse of Caloocan City Health Office, vaccinating kids against COVID-19. (Photo by RTI International)



A Caloocan City senior citizen getting vaccinated in the comforts of her home by USAID ReachHealth's mobile vaccination team. (Photo by RTI International)

USAID's Meeting Targets and Maintaining Epidemic Control (EpiC) Project in the Philippines implemented by FHI 360, conducted a Community of Practice (CoP) webinar on COVID-19 triage. The webinar discussed the basic principles of triage and how to redesign patient flows in the context of COVID-19 case management, particularly in patients with mild and moderate cases. More than 500 healthcare providers from the public and private sectors across the 17 regions of the country participated.

Dr. Kate Douglass, a Senior Technical Clinical Advisor of the EpiC COVID-19 Global Team, shared her emergency medicine and public health experience in implementing efficient triage systems, especially in resource-limited settings. Selected specialty doctors in emergency medicine, infectious disease, and pulmonology from varying levels of hospitals joined the town-hall discussion. They shared their challenges, lessons learned, and best practices in managing patients with COVID-19 from their entry to the facility to employing good infection prevention and control practices while considering strategic use of their existing capacities and resources. Dr. Pauline Convozar, the immediate past president of the Philippine College of Emergency Medicine, also joined the panelist and shared her insights and updates on the recent developments in national triage guidelines.

If you missed the live webinar, you can still watch the recording on-demand by registering here: <http://bit.ly/EpiCCOPwebinar-triage>



Representatives from government, private sector, professional society, and development partners shared their experience, insights, and expertise in COVID-19 triage.