

Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Health  
NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL REGION VII  
**REGIONAL NUTRITION CLUSTER**

Date : **08 April 2020**

To : **All Local Nutrition Clusters in the Central Visayas**

Subject: **COVID 19 Advisory No. 3 S. 2020**

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Pursuant to the Presidential Proclamation No. 922 and No. 929 which declared the Philippines under a state of public health emergency and in the state of calamity respectively, the Central Visayas Regional Nutrition Cluster has identified the need to prompt all nutrition clusters of their responsibility in ensuring that nutrition services in times of emergencies are not neglected to prevent further worsening of the community's nutrition status. As follow up of the previous Regional Nutrition Cluster advisories, you are respectfully reminded to:

1. Review existing available data systems (FHSIS, OPT Plus) and maximize monitoring mechanisms and tools to identify the most vulnerable groups and their needs (wasting prevalence, IYCF practices, micronutrient supply, etc.). Use the **Nutrition Initial Needs Assessment (NINA)** tool using this link at <https://bit.ly/2KUFxul>.
2. Convene the Nutrition Cluster (as needed or via mobile technology) to build consensus on appropriate interventions that the cluster can take part on such as:
  - a. Intensify IYCF campaign to encourage continued exclusive breastfeeding for the first 6 months and continued breastfeeding along with proper complementary feeding after.
  - b. Distribute and monitor intake of Vitamin A capsules, micronutrient powders and iron-folic supplements to vulnerable groups.
  - c. Continue PIMAM monitoring and activities but minimize close contact assessment. You may opt to use Mid-Upper Arm Circumference tapes in the time being.
  - d. Monitor general food and supplies distribution to:
    - i. Report Milk Code violations see <http://www.mbfp.doh.gov.ph/>
    - ii. Ensure that families with children 6-23 months old and pregnant and lactating women are provided with standard food packs.
    - iii. Mobilize prepositioned stocks (if any).
  - e. Conduct rapid nutrition screening in affected areas using Mid-Upper Arm Circumference measurements.

- f. Report cluster activities that include the above mentioned using the **4Ws** tool. (<https://bit.ly/2KUFxul> )
  - g. Report cases of children and pregnant and lactating women under PUM via mobile technology using **prescribed format**. (<https://bit.ly/2KUFxul> )
3. Update regional nutrition cluster using tools that can be found in COVID-19 response folder <https://bit.ly/2KUFxul>.

For questions about nutrition in emergencies implementation, you may contact the National Nutrition Council Region VII at (032) 418-7182, email us at [region7@nnc.gov.ph](mailto:region7@nnc.gov.ph) or message our official facebook page: facebook.com/nncrvii.

These reminders are being issued to ensure that the nutritional status of the vulnerable groups will not worsen.



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