Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President

# PHILIPPINE CHARITY SWEEPSTAKES OFFICE

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## MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**MEMORANDUM NO. MSD – 0826 - 10**
**11 July 2026**

**TO** : **ALL PCSO OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES**

**FROM** : **THE MANAGER**
Medical Services Department

**SUBJECT** : **Health Advisory: Increased Risk of Leptospirosis During the Rainy Season**

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In view of the ongoing rainy season and increased risk of flooding, all employees are advised to take necessary precautions against **Leptospirosis**, a bacterial infection that may be acquired through exposure to floodwaters, soil, or mud contaminated with the urine of infected animals, particularly rats. Infection can occur when contaminated water enters the body through cuts, abrasions, or mucous membranes such as the eyes, nose, and mouth.

Employees who have been exposed to floodwaters or potentially contaminated environments should remain vigilant for symptoms of leptospirosis, including **fever, headache, muscle pain (especially in the calves), chills, red eyes, abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, jaundice, and decreased urine output**. Severe cases may lead to complications affecting the kidneys, liver, lungs, and other vital organs. Early recognition and treatment are critical in preventing severe illness.

In accordance with Department of Health (DOH) guidelines, **Doxycycline is the recommended post-exposure chemoprophylactic agent for leptospirosis.** The need for prophylaxis is determined through risk assessment based on the nature of exposure. Individuals may be considered at increased risk if they have had contact with floodwaters or contaminated water, particularly when exposure is prolonged, recurrent, associated with open wounds or skin lesions, or occurs during clean-up, rescue, or outdoor activities in flooded areas. The duration of prophylaxis depends on the degree of exposure and the presence of wounds.

**Doxycycline is available at the MSD Clinic.** Employees who have recently been exposed to floodwaters or other potentially contaminated environments are strongly advised to seek **immediate consultation at the MSD Clinic** for risk assessment, medical evaluation, and post-exposure prophylaxis when indicated. Prompt consultation and early treatment remain the most effective measures for preventing severe complications of leptospirosis.

For your information and guidance.

**CLARISSA B. FERRER M.D.**

Noted by:

**ATTY. LAURO A. PATIAG**
AGM for Charity Sector

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