



Republic of the Philippines  
**OFFICE OF THE CITY MAYOR**  
City of Davao

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 53**

Series of 2020

**AN ORDER REQUIRING MANDATORY COVID-19 RT-PCR TESTING  
FOR PATIENTS REFERRED TO HOSPITALS IN DAVAO CITY  
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared a COVID-19 pandemic;

**WHEREAS**, President Rodrigo Duterte issued Presidential Proclamation 1021 extending the State of Calamity in the country until September 12, 2021;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to control the COVID-19 cases in Davao City to ensure that all the healthcare facilities in the city can manage both COVID-19 and other diseases;

**WHEREAS**, Davao City hospitals are arranged in a system where they shall be designated as a COVID-19 hospital by official written communication from the City Government of Davao;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to protect healthcare workers of non-COVID-19 hospitals from unnecessary exposure to COVID-19 positive patients;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, SARA Z. DUTERTE**, Mayor of the City of Davao, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

**SECTION 1. TESTING REQUIREMENTS.** The following are mandatory test result requirements for admission and surgery in Davao City hospitals:

- A. A patient regardless of location of residence. And watcher/companions of a patient who is not a resident of Davao City:
  - 1. A negative RT-PCR result with specimen taken 24 to 48 hours from admission or surgery;
  - 2. A Chest-Xray, that is negative for Pneumonia taken within 24 to 48 hours from admission or surgery.
  
- B. A resident of Davao City and is a watcher/companions of a patient:
  - 1. A Chest-Xray, that is negative for Pneumonia taken within 24 to 48 hours from admission or surgery.

**SECTION 2. WALK-IN CONSULTATION.** All Davao City hospitals are encouraged to make it a policy to request the results required under Section 1 hereof for walk-in patients and their companions.

**SECTION 3. NON-RESIDENT REFERRAL.** There must be prior endorsement by the referring hospital or doctor of all patients and their companions, who are not residents of Davao City. The endorsement should include electronic copies of the test results mandated by Section 1 hereof.

There must be coordination between the referring hospital or doctor and the receiving hospital or doctor. There must be a clear acknowledgment from the receiving hospital or doctor before the patient and his companions are allowed to travel to Davao City.

**SECTION 4. EMERGENCY.** All Davao City resident emergency cases must be swabbed upon arrival at the hospital.

**SECTION 5. CANCER PATIENTS.** All cancer patients shall undergo a baseline RT-PCR test, and will thereafter be encouraged to continuously self-isolate. The need for further tests shall be determined by their doctors.

Cancer patients who are not residents of Davao City, the following requirements are required:

- A. Medical certificate from their oncologist issued within 24 to 48 hours before travel to Davao City;
- B. A baseline negative RT-PCR test result attached to the medical certificate.

**SECTION 6. LIST OF NAMES.** The Davao City doctor or hospital after their acknowledgment must immediately submit to the Task Force Davao a list of names of patients and his companions that are allowed to enter the checkpoints.

**SECTION 7. REPEAT TESTING.** Upon arrival of the patient and his companions, the RT-PCR test and chest x-ray requirement can be repeated by the Davao City doctor or hospital, at their discretion.

**SECTION 8. MANDATORY TESTING.** Hospitals must include Covid-19 RT-PCR testing in their operations. Patients who refuse to undergo testing should be reported to the City Health Office and should be tagged as a suspect and moved to a designated Covid-19 hospital.

**SECTION 9. POSITIVE TEST RESULT.** All RT-PCR positive patients who do not live in Davao City and are not considered as critical patients as assessed by the City Health Office (CHO) shall be sent to the designated COVID-19 hospital of the region where they live.

**SECTION 10. MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.** The provisions in this Order are the standard basic health protocols for Davao City hospitals. All hospitals have the option to add more requirements from patients and watchers to further protect their personnel and institution.

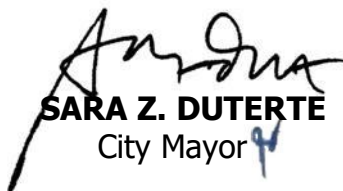
**SECTION 11. PENALTIES.** All existing laws and ordinances shall be pursued against those who fail to follow the provisions of this Executive Order.

**SECTION 12. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** If any provision of this Executive Order is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid and subsisting.

**SECTION 13. REPEALING CLAUSE.** All orders or parts thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Executive Order are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

**SECTION 14. EFFECTIVITY.** This order shall take effect immediately.

Done this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September 2020 in Davao City, Philippines.

  
**SARA Z. DUTERTE**  
City Mayor

Attested by:

  
**ATTY. ZULEIKA T. LOPEZ**  
City Administrator