



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION
Schools Division of Tabuk City



Reference Number: RU-2026-078

Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

October 14, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 462 s. 2026

**PROHIBITION OF DENTAL MISSIONS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES IN SCHOOLS
AND FACILITIES WITH NO INFECTION PREVENTION CONTROL**

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Division Chiefs
Private and Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. In accordance with DOH-DC No. 2026-0035, dated January 15, 2026 entitled “Supplemental Guidelines on the Conduct of Dental Outreach in the Philippines” which in line with Administrative Order No. 2007-0007 dated January 3, 2007, re: “Guidelines in the Implementation of Oral Health Programs for Public Health” and DOH-AO No. 2022-0051 dated December 9, 2022 entitled “Revised National Policy on Infection Prevention and Control in All Public and Private Health Facilities” and in line with the guidance provided by the PDA Memorandum No. 2024-06, this Memorandum is issued to reiterate the following guidelines:

- a. Suspension of Dental Missions: all sorts of dental missions including outreach programs in school settings, are hereby prohibited. This directive aligns with the DOH memorandum to ensure infection prevention and control and uphold the safety of learner and personnel.
- b. Encouragement of Preventive and Educational Initiatives: Schools are encouraged to collaborate with dental practitioners and organizations to promote oral health education, improve preventive dental service delivery, and strengthen partnerships with formal dental treatment centers within their communities.
- c. Adherence to Infection Prevention and Control Standards: **“Any dental activity, such as dental extractions, which is considered as a minor surgical procedure, must strictly adhere to the infection prevention and control protocols and should only be performed in licensed SDHCP (School Dental Health Care Program) Clinics or equivalent facilities equipped to provide safe and quality dental care.”**

SGOD/SHN



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- d. Monitoring and Compliance: School heads are instructed to ensure compliance with this directive. Non-compliance may result in administrative actions deemed necessary by the Schools Division Office.
 - e. Coordination with Local Government Units and Health Agencies: Schools are encouraged to work with their respective LGUs and Health Offices for formal referrals to accredited dental treatment centers to address the dental health needs of learners.
2. Immediate and widest dissemination of this Memorandum to all concerned is hereby directed.


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Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Officer in Charge, Schools Division Superintendent

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2024- 06

TO : ALL PDA MEMBERS
FROM : OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
DATE : November 14, 2024
SUBJECT : MORATORIUM FOR OUTREACH MISSIONS

Greetings!

According to the Department of Health (DOH) Epidemiology Bureau HIV and AIDS Surveillance of the Philippines, there were 3,738 newly reported HIV cases between October and December 2023, a 6% increase over the previous year. On the other hand, the World Health Organization released its Global Hepatitis Report 2024 this year, revealing that the Philippines is one of ten countries responsible for nearly two-thirds of the estimated global hepatitis disease burden worldwide. These data show and prove that communicable diseases are becoming more prevalent in the country.

With this, the Philippine Dental Association, Inc. (PDA) strongly and consistently affirms, supports, and stands for the DOH Memorandum 2023, dated January 23, 2023, which suspends all dental outreach activities and dental missions. The suspension also covers all secondary and tertiary dental treatments.

The PDA encourages all chapters, affiliate societies, and integrated organizations to prioritize oral health promotion, improve preventive dental service delivery, and strengthen and/or develop formal dental treatment centers in their respective communities. Our top priority is to ensure the overall health of our dental professionals, staff, and patients; thus, such activities should be carried out in an environment where infection prevention and control are strictly enforced to provide safe and quality dental care.

***Kindly refer to the following guidelines in implementing your dental activities:**

1. PDA Public Health Committee Guidelines for the implementation of the Community Based "Dental Home" Program
2. National Standards in Infection Prevention and Control for Health Facilities
3. Revised National Policy on Infection Prevention and Control in All Public and Private Health Facilities (Administrative Order 2022-0051)

The Philippine Dental Association (PDA) is constantly looking for new and sustainable ways to engage with and support our communities, particularly those who have been unable to receive adequate oral health care due to the pandemic.

Your dedication to service is recognized and appreciated. The PDA will always promote and work to improve the country's oral health. We request your continued support and understanding in this advocacy. Thanks very much.

Attached herewith is the copy of the Department of Health Memorandum for your perusal.

Prepared by:


DR. SHERYL ANNE ROSE E. LANTICAN
Chairman, PDA Public Health Committee

Noted by:


DR. RONALDO P. NUÑEZ
President
Philippine Dental Association, Inc.

