



**COVID-19 ADVISORY NO. 013**  
**EASTERN VISAYAS**  
**April 6, 2020**

**Guidelines on disposal of human remains in the event of COVID 19**


All dead bodies are potentially infectious and "STANDARD PRECAUTIONS" should be implemented for every case. Although most organisms in the dead body are unlikely to infect healthy persons, some infectious agents may be transmitted when persons are in contact with blood, body fluids or tissues of dead body of person with infectious diseases. To minimize the risks of transmission of known and also unsuspected infectious diseases, dead bodies should be handled in such a way that workers' exposure to blood, body fluids and tissues is reduced.

The Department of Health set guidelines based on Sanitation Code of the Philippines and Department Memorandum No. 067 s. 2020 and would like to stress on the following:

Be it known to the concerned Local Government Units (with COVID 19 deaths) that they are responsible for the pulling out/ retrieval/transport and other services until the final interment considering the following:

1. Local Government Units shall establish a network with the nearest Category 1 Funeral Establishment - (complete funeral services to include licensed embalmer, and others).
2. A burial ground shall be provided to COVID 19 deaths be it a public or a private one in their respective municipalities.
3. Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI)/Patients Under Investigation (PUI) deaths shall be treated as infectious in nature and shall follow the handling of human remains of COVID death and shall be buried within 12 hours after death.
4. Non-COVID related deaths such as non-communicable related and accidents, injuries, etc. may be allowed for shorter period public viewing to avoid unnecessary crowding and shall practice social distancing. This shall depend on the issuance/ordinance of concerned LGUs
5. LGU shall coordinate with DSWD for financial assistance for families with COVID related deaths

This is for the information of all concerned.

  
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