



Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION

CHED MEMORANDUM ORDER (CMO)

No. 12

Series of 2003

SUBJECT : REITERATION OF EXISTING POLICY ON OPENING OF CLASSES FOR AY 2003-2004 AND GUIDELINES FOR THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF SEVERE ACUTE RESPIRATORY SYNDROME (SARS)

In accordance with the pertinent provisions of Republic Act (RA) No. 7722, otherwise known as the "Higher Education Act of 1994," all CHED Regional Directors and Presidents/Heads of higher education institutions are hereby informed thus:

1. Opening of classes for all higher education institutions for AY 2003-2004 shall not be earlier than the first Monday of June 2003 nor later than the 4th Monday of the same month as issued in CMO 24, Series of 2002 on "Collegiate Calendar for Academic Year 2003-2004."
2. However, in the wake of the potential threat to global health security caused by the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), Presidents/Heads of HEIs are enjoined to:
 - a) Conduct information and education drives on the SARS virus among faculty, staff and students to provide accurate information regarding the disease.
 - b) Observe recommended protective measures as provided in advisories from the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Department of Health (DOH).
 - c) Direct school health workers, faculty and staff to remain on the alert for suspected cases and report them to the proper authorities for appropriate action. Special attention should be accorded to students who have recently traveled abroad especially in countries included in the WHO travel advisories.

Attached is the DOH Primer on SARS. For more information, you may contact the DOH Hotline: (02) 741-7048 / 743-1937, email sars@doh.gov.ph or DOH Regional Offices.

For proper guidance of all concerned.

Pasig City, Philippines, May 21, 2003.


ESTER ALBANO-GARCIA
Chairperson

10 Utos Laban sa SARS

1. Panatilihin malakas ang resistensya at malusog ang katawan.
2. Ugaliin ang kalinisan ng katawan at palaging maghugas ng kamay.
3. Takpan ang bibig kung inuubo o nababahin at huwag dumura kung saan-saan lamang.
4. Komunsulta agad sa isang health worker kapag nakakaramdam na ng sintomas.
5. Huwag ikubli ang tunay na kalagayan ng kalusugan ng mga balikbayan at turista.
6. Mag self-quarantine ang mga balikbayan ng dalawang Linggo at obserbahan ang sintomas ng SARS.
7. Sundin ng mga health workers ang Universal Health and Safety Precautions sa lahat ng pagkakataon.
8. Magsuot ng face mask kung hinihinalang may sintomas ng SARS.
9. Mag-ingat sa pakikisalamuha sa ibang tao kung mahina ang resistensya at may ibang sakit.
10. Palaging linisin ang tahanan at kapaligiran.