CITY ORDINANCE NO. CO 72-2020
Series of 2020

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE CITY EPIDEMIOLOGY AND SURVEILLANCE UNIT (CESU) UNDER THE CITY HEALTH OFFICE OF THE CITY OF BACOOR, ESTABLISHING ITS DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR VIOLATIONS HEREOF.

Sponsored by:
Hon. Alde Joselito Pagulayan

Co-Sponsored by:

WHEREAS, Section 8 of Republic Act No. 11332 (the "Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act") require the establishment of Epidemiology and Surveillance Units (ESU's) in all local government units.

WHEREAS, the creation of ESU's in all local government units in the country is intended to protect the people from public health threats through the efficient and effective disease surveillance of infectious diseases and prevent the occurrence of epidemics in the country.

WHEREAS, the City Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit (CESU) to be created under this Ordinance shall serve as the first line of defense of the City of Bacoor against epidemics and other public health emergencies that pose a risk to public health and security.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Bacoor THAT:

...
Section 1. Creation of the City Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit. The City Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit (CESU) under the City Health Office (CHO) of the City of Bacoor, Cavite is hereby created.

Section 2. Definition of Terms. As used in this Ordinance:

(a) Disease refers to an illness due to a specific toxic substance, occupational exposure or infectious agent, which affects a susceptible individual, either directly or indirectly through an intermediate host, vector, or the environment;

(b) Disease control refers to the reduction of disease incidence, prevalence, morbidity or mortality to a locally acceptable level as a result of deliberate efforts and continued intervention measures to maintain the reduction;

(c) Disease surveillance refers to the ongoing systematic collection, analysis, interpretation, and dissemination of outcome-specific data for use in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of public health practice. A disease surveillance system includes the functional capacity for data analysis as well as the timely dissemination of these data to persons who can undertake effective prevention and control activities;

(d) Emerging or re-emerging infectious diseases refer to disease that: (1) have not occurred in humans before; (2) have occurred previously but affected only small numbers of people in isolated areas; (3) have occurred throughout human history but have only recently been recognized as a distant disease due to an infectious agent; (4) are caused by previously undetected or unknown infectious agents; (5) are due to mutant or resistant strains of a causative organism; and (6) once were major health problems in the country, and then declined dramatically, but are again becoming health problems for a significant proportion of the population;
(e) **Epidemic / outbreak** refers to an occurrence of more cases of disease than normally expected within a specific place or group of people over a given period of time;

(f) **Epidemiologic investigation** refers to an inquiry to the incidence, prevalence, extent, source, mode of transmission, causation of, and other information pertinent to a disease occurrence;

(g) **Health event of public health concern** refers to either a public health emergency or a public health threat due to biological, chemical, radiologic, and environment agents;

(h) **Infectious disease** refers to a clinically manifested disease of humans or animals resulting from an infection;

(i) **Mandatory reporting** refers to the obligatory reporting of a condition to local or state health authorities, as required for notifiable diseases, epidemics or public health events of public health concerns;

(j) **Notifiable disease** refers to a disease that, by legal requirements, must be reported to the public health authorities;

(k) **Pandemic** refers to a disease that have already spread in an entire country or that has already spread in the whole world.

(l) **Public health authority** refers to the DOH (specifically the Epidemiology Bureau, Disease Prevention and Control Bureau, Bureau of Quarantine and International Health Surveillance, Health Emergency Management Bureau, Food and Drug Administration, government hospitals, Research Institute of Tropical Medicine and other National Reference Laboratories, and DOH Regional Offices), the local health office (provincial, city or municipality), or any person
directly authorized to act on behalf of the DOH or the local health office;

(m) Public health emergency refers to an occurrence or imminent threat of an illness or health condition that:

1. Is caused by any of the following:
   1. Bioterrorism;
   2. Appearance of a novel or previously controlled or eradicated infectious agent or biological toxin;
   3. A natural disaster;
   4. A chemical attack or accidental release;
   5. A nuclear attack or accident; or
   6. An attack or accidental release of radioactive materials; and

2. Poses a high probability of any of the following:
   1. A large number of deaths in the affected population;
   2. A large number of serious injuries or long-term disabilities in the affected population;
   3. Widespread exposure to an infectious or toxic agent that poses a significant risk of substantial harm to a large number of people in the affected population;
   4. International exposure to an infectious or toxic agent that poses a significant risk to the health of citizens of other countries; or
   5. Trade and travel restrictions;
(n) **Public health threat** refers to any situation or factor that may represent a danger to the health of the people; and

(o) **Response** refers to the implementation of specific activities to control further spread of infection, outbreaks or epidemics and prevent re-occurrence. It includes verification, contact tracing, rapid risk assessment, case measures, treatment of patients, risk assessment, case measures, treatment of patients, risk communication, conduct of prevention activities, and rehabilitation.

**Section 3. Composition and Organization of the CESU.** The CESU shall be under the direct control and supervision of the City Health Officer and shall be comprised of the following personnel who must be appointed by the City Mayor and must have the following qualifications:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position Title</th>
<th>Positions Created</th>
<th>Qualifications</th>
<th>Salary Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical Officer III</td>
<td>One (1)</td>
<td>- Doctor of Medicine specializing in epidemiology; - 1-year experience in epidemiology; - 4 hours relevant training in epidemiology; and - Passed the medical board exams pursuant to RA 1080</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse II</td>
<td>Two (2)</td>
<td>- Holder of a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing from a reputable college or university; - 1-year hospital work experience; - 4 hours training on matters related to epidemiology or infectious diseases prevention and control; and</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Position</td>
<td>No. of Positions</td>
<td>Requirements</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Operator II</td>
<td>One (1)</td>
<td>- Holder of a 2-year college degree on data encoding or computer operation/maintenance from a reputable educational institution; - With at least one-year relevant work experience; - With 4 hours relevant training on data encoding or computer maintenance; and - With sub-professional civil service eligibility.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Technologist I</td>
<td>One (1)</td>
<td>- Holder of bachelor's degree in Medical Technology or Bachelor of Science in Public Health from a reputable educational institution; - At least 1-year experience as Medical Technologist; - With at least 4 hours training; and - Passed the board examination pursuant to R.A. 1080</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Section 4. Job Description.** The persons to be appointed to the positions created above shall have the following job descriptions:

**4.1. Medical Officer III (MO3).** He/she shall head the CESU and shall manage the day-to-day operations of the said Unit and ensure the implementation of the various duties, powers, and functions of the Unit under this Ordinance subject to the direct control and supervision of the City Health Officer. He/she shall have the power to recommend the imposition of disciplinary actions to the City Health Officer who may, or may not, endorse such recommendation to the City Mayor for appropriate action.
4.2. Nurse II. He/she shall assist the MO3 in the performance of his/her duties under this Ordinance and those duties that may be additionally given to her by the City Health Officer, the MO3, by order of the City Mayor, or by the Sangguniang Panlungsod by way of an Ordinance. He/she is expected to perform his/her duties in strict compliance with his/her oath as a nurse and with his/her training as a health care provider. He/she shall assist the Medical Technologist I in the performance of his/her duty if required by either the City Health Officer or the MO3.

4.3. Computer Operator II. He/she shall have the duty of encoding all data collected by, or submitted to, the CESU. He/she shall also be in charge of completing all reports due for submission to the City Health Office, to the Department of Health (DOH), to any department or unit of the city government, or to any other government agency or person as may be required by either the City Health Officer or the MO3. He/she shall also safeguard all the records of the CESU and ensure that they are kept in good order at all times. He/she shall also perform such other duties as may be assigned to her/him by either the City Health Officer or the MO3 or by the City Mayor.

4.4. Medical Technologist I. He/she shall be primarily responsible for the receiving, labeling, and analyzing of all samples (blood, toxic, tissue, and others) collected by, or submitted to, the CESU. He/she shall design and conduct tests in accordance with internationally accepted standard procedures or subject to those procedures as may be required by the DOH or other government agencies. He/she is expected to conduct tests of the samples given to him/her using the highest standards of professional and ethical behavior, analyze the results of such tests after a thorough evaluation of all pertinent data, interpret such data based on no other consideration other than the most refined scientific methods, and submit the results of his/her tests to the MO3 or to the City Health Officer with utmost dispatch and with due care to the right to privacy of the persons who might be affected by the results of such test/s.

Section 5. Powers, Duties, and Functions of the CESU. The CESU shall have the following powers, duties, and functions:

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5.1. Inspect all hospitals, clinics, and laboratories operating within the City of Bacoor to determine their compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance, the provisions of Republic Act No. 11332, and with the policies and regulations of the Department of Health (DOH) pertaining to the mandatory reporting of notifiable diseases and health events of public health concern;

5.2. Submit reports to the CHO and the DOH with regard all matters related to the implementation of RA 11332;

5.3. Assist the CHO in the rapid containment and implementation of measures for disease prevention and control;

5.4. Conduct epidemic/outbreak and/or epidemiologic investigation, case investigations, patient interviews, review of medical records, contact tracing, specimen collection and testing, risk assessments, laboratory investigation, population surveys, and environmental investigation;

5.5. Implement quarantine and isolation protocols pursuant to pertinent policies and regulations of the DOH;

5.6. Exercise such powers and perform such duties and functions as may be granted to it by law or ordinance or by the DOH;

5.7. Spearhead the full implementation of RA 11332 in the City of Bacoor, whenever applicable or necessary, under the direct control and supervision of the City Health Officer; and

5.8. Perform other duties and functions as may be directed by the DOH, the City Mayor, or by the city government through a city resolution or city ordinance.

Section 6. Office, Equipment and Transportation
Requirements. The CESU shall have an office for its exclusive use within the Bacoor Government Center. The said office shall have at least one computer workstation, high-speed internet connection, a facsimile machine, a copier/printer/scanner, and one (1) smartphone unit. The
CESU shall also have a service vehicle that can be used for outbreak investigation, validation of reported events, the transportation of specimen to National Referral Laboratories for confirmation, the monitoring of surveillance activities, and for other related official functions.

Section 7. Legal Framework. In the performance of its powers, duties, and functions, the CESU shall be guided by the provisions of this Ordinance and by Republic Act No. 11132 and its implementing rules and regulations and, when applicable, by the following:

1. Republic Act 3573 (Law on Reporting of Communicable Disease) requires all individuals and health facilities to report notifiable diseases to local and national authorities;

2. Administrative Order No. 2005-0023 (Implementing Guidelines for Formula One for Health as Framework for Health Reforms);

3. Administrative order No. 2007-0036 (Guidelines on the Philippine Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (PIDSR) Framework);

4. By order of the Department of Health, the City Health Officer, or the City Mayor; and

5. Other pertinent city ordinances.

Section 8. Reportable Health Data - The following health information/data shall be reported to the City Health Office through the CESU by all medical and healthcare professionals (medical technologists, ophthalmologists, dentists, midwives, and nurses) practicing their respective professions in a private capacity within the City of Bacoor:

1. All notifiable diseases as listed in the Manual of Procedure for PIDSR;

2. Deaths and cause of deaths; and

3. Other health data which may be prescribed by the Provincial Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit (PESU), Regional Epidemiology 

[Signature]

Attested by:

ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA, JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

Certified by:

HON. CATHERINE SARINO-EVARISTO
City Vice Mayor / Presiding Officer

Approved by:

HON. LAM MERCADO - REVILLA
and Surveillance Unit (RESU), or Epidemiology Bureau (EB).

Section 9. Scope and Coverage – This Ordinance shall apply to all health facilities including public and private hospitals such as, lying in clinics, infirmaries, medical/surgical clinics, health centers, and laboratories operating within the City of Bacoor. All medical professionals practicing their profession within the City of Bacoor are hereby mandated to report all attended cases listed in Section 14 of this Ordinance either directly to the CESU or through their respective hospital disease surveillance officers, if any.

Section 10. Guidelines in Reporting – The timeframe for reporting health data to the CESU shall be the following:


2. Death must be reported by relatives or attending medical or non-medical personnel within 48 hours or within 72 hours if death occurs on a Friday. If the cause of death however is due to a suspected communicable disease or a medical-legal case, it should be reported as soon as possible or within 24 hours.

Section 11. Human Resource. – The Head of the CESU shall be initially designated by the City Mayor from among the regular personnel of the City Health Office upon the recommendation of the City Health Officer. However, the City Mayor – depending on the availability of funds – can hire the City Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit personnel mentioned above who shall be placed under the direct control and supervision of the City Mayor and the City Health Officer.

All health facilities within the City of Bacoor such as hospitals, barangay health units, and infirmaries shall designate their own Disease Surveillance Coordinators and Assistant Coordinators within fifteen (15) working days after being required to do so in writing by the City Health Officer.

Section 12. Authority to Review Health Records and to Conduct Disease Surveillance. – The Head of the CESU
or his/her authorized representative upon written recommendation or order of the City Health Officer shall be authorized to review the chart or medical and laboratory records of patients suspected to have communicable disease or cases with potentials or significant impact on the health status of the community. Reviewed records, however, shall be treated with utmost confidentiality and shall be used except for disease or investigation purposes.

The CESU shall likewise have the authority to conduct disease surveillance procedures, and other similar procedures, whenever required to do so by the DOH or by the City Health Officer.

Section 13. Authority to Formulate Guidelines. The City Health Office upon the direction of the City Mayor shall, within thirty (30) days from the enactment of this Ordinance, promulgate the rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of the same with the assistance of the City Legal Officer subject to review by the Sangguniang Panlungsod and approval of the Mayor.

Section 14. Authority of the City Health Officer to Recommend the Isolation and Quarantine of Infected Persons. Pursuant to the mandate of local government units to promote public health and safety under Section 16 of Republic Act No. 7160, the City Health Officer is hereby empowered to recommend to the City Mayor the isolation of persons afflicted by the following communicable diseases:

a. Cholera;
b. Diphtheria;
c. Infectious Tuberculosis;
d. Plague;
e. Smallpox;
f. Yellow Fever;
g. Viral hemorrhagic fevers such as Ebola, Marburg, and Lassa fever;
h. Severe acute respiratory syndromes;
i. Flu that can cause a pandemic; and
j. Other communicable diseases that can cause a pandemic.

Pursuant to the written order of the City Mayor and to the favorable written recommendation of the City Health Officer and the Provincial Health Officer, the CETU is authorized to detain, medically examine, and release
persons residing within the city who are suspected of carrying any of the aforementioned diseases as well as to seek the assistance of the Philippine National Police to carry out its orders. The refusal of such persons to comply with the above-mentioned order shall be deemed a violation of this Ordinance.

Section 15. Penalties. Any natural person who violates any of the applicable provisions of this Chapter shall be imprisoned for not more than three (3) months and shall be required to pay a fine of Three Thousand Pesos (P3,000.00). All juridical persons who violate any of the applicable provisions of this Chapter shall pay a fine of Five Thousand Pesos (P5,000.00) and its business permit shall be suspended for at least thirty (30) days but not for more than one (1) year.

Section 16. Separability. Any provision of this Ordinance declared void by a competent court of law shall not affect the validity and enforceability of the other provisions of this Ordinance not affected by such judicial declaration.

Section 17. Automatic Review. This Ordinance shall be automatically reviewed by the Sangguniang Panlungsod every two years after its date of effectivity.

Section 18. Repeal. All ordinances that are inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed or are modified accordingly.

Section 19. Effectivity. This Ordinance shall take effect immediately after its approval by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan and after it has been published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the Province of Cavite or in the official website of the Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Bacoor, Cavite (www.bacoorcitiesp.com).

APPROVED by the 4th Sangguniang Panlungsod of the City of Bacoor, Cavite on the 20th day of April 2020 at the City of Bacoor, Cavite.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Ordinance was approved in accordance with law.
DISTRICT I
HON. MIGUEL N. BAUTISTA
City Councilor
HON. MICHAEL E. SOLIS
City Councilor
HON. ROWENA BAUTISTA-MENDIOLA
City Councilor
HON. ADRIELITO G. GWARAN
City Councilor
HON. JULIO C. GUERRERO, JR.
City Councilor
HON. ALEJANDRO F. GUTIERREZ
City Councilor

DISTRICT II
HON. ROBERTO L. ADVINCUA
City Councilor
HON. HERNANDO C. GUTIERREZ
City Councilor
HON. GAUDENCIO N. NOLASCO
City Councilor
HON. LEANDRO A. DE LEON
City Councilor
HON. ALDE JOSELITO F. PAGULAYAN
City Councilor
HON. ROBERTO R. JAVIER
City Councilor
HON. REYNALDO D. PALABRICA
City Councilor - Liga ng Brgy. President
HON. MAC RAVEN ESPRITU
City Councilor - SK FEDERATION PRESIDENT

Certified by:

HON. CATHARINE S. EVARISTO
City Vice Mayor / Presiding Officer

Attested by:

ATTY. KHALID A. ATEGA JR.
Sangguniang Panlungsod Secretary

Approved by:

HON. LANI MERCADO-REVILLA
City Mayor

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