

Joint Information Center - JIC Release No. 316 September 10, 2020, 6:50 a.m. (ChST)

Twenty-first COVID-19 Related Fatality Reported; Older Adults and People with Serious Chronic Medical Conditions are Most at Risk for Serious Complications and Death Due to SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19

The Joint Information Center was notified that Guam's twenty-first COVID-19-related fatality occurred at the Guam Memorial Hospital (GMH) early this morning at approximately 12:07 a.m. (ChST). The patient was a 74-year-old woman with comorbidities that were compounded by COVID-19. She was admitted to GMH on August 25.

"It seems we will not get rest from our days of sadness. This morning we lost another soul to COVID-19," said Governor Lou Leon Guerrero. "No words can heal the pain from such a loss, but Jeff, Lt. Governor Josh, and I send our condolences and sympathies to everyone she loved. To the people of Guam, we must do all we can to keep each other safe. "

COVID-19 test results are reported from multiple labs at varying times of the day. The Joint Information Center will report cumulative COVID-19 test results once a day, unless unavailable.

For information on COVID-19 cases, visit the COVID-19 Dashboard and Situation Report at <u>http://dphss.guam.gov/covid-19/</u>. The COVID-19 Dashboard is updated on business days.

Older Adults, People with Serious Chronic Medical Conditions are Most at Risk for Serious Complications and Death Due to SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19

Older adults and individuals with serious chronic medical conditions are most at risk for serious complications and death due to COVID-19. Serious chronic medical conditions include:

- Heart disease
- Diabetes
- Lung disease
- Obesity
- Immunocompromised conditions (e.g. cancer, lupus)

- Chronic liver disease
- Chronic renal disease
- Neurologic or neurodevelopmental condition
- Current or former smoking

Symptoms of COVID-19

Anyone can have mild to severe symptoms. Older adults and people who have severe underlying medical conditions like heart or lung disease or diabetes seem to be at higher risk for developing more serious complications from COVID-19 illness.

People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever
- Chills

- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- New loss of taste or smell

This list is not exhaustive of all possible symptoms. Other less common symptoms have been reported, including gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea.

If you are experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19, please call your health care provider. If a patient does not have a regular health care provider, they can call any of the Community Health Centers or the DPHSS Medical Triage Hotline Phone Numbers listed below, to report symptoms and obtain guidance from clinicians, or call 311 and dial option number 1.

- (671) 480-7859/83
- (671) 685-0358
- (671) 480-6760/3
 (671) 687-7321
- (671) 998-4442/60/74/80
- (671) 687-6170 (ADA Dedicated Number)

If you are severely ill, call 911 immediately.

The medical triage hotline is available Monday - Saturday, 8 a.m. - 10 p.m., and Sunday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

For the latest information on COVID-19, visit <u>dphss.guam.gov</u> or <u>guamrecovery.com</u>. For inquiries on COVID-19, contact 311 through a local number, or call the Joint Information Center at (671) 478-0208/09/10.

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