



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
 REGION IV-A CALABARZON



9 February 2026

Regional Memorandum

No. 105 s.2026

UPDATES ON THE SCHOOL-BASED DEWORMING PROGRAM

To: **Schools Division Superintendents**
All Others concerned

1. The Department of Education Regional Office IV-A CALABARZON, through the Education Support Services Division-School Health Section, announces the following regarding the School-Based Deworming Program:
 - a. Relative to agreements during the Engagement Meeting on Community and School-Based Deworming held October 2–3, 2025, and conducted by the Department of Health – Center for Health Development CALABARZON in coordination with the Department of Education Region IV-A CALABARZON, data will be sex-disaggregated.
 - b. Furthermore, discussion of Department of Education Memorandum OUGOPS 2026-08-0829 entitled *Updated Reporting Mechanism for School-Based Deworming Program and Conduct of National Parasite Prevalence Survey* held February 3, 2026, it was agreed that data will be age-segregated as follows:

	New Nomenclature	Former Nomenclature
New Age Disaggregation Data Reporting	5-14 years old	Enrolled Grade Level Kinder to G8 + Special Needs Education (SNED)
	15-19 years old	Enrolled Grade Level G9 to 12 + Alternative Learning System (ALS)
Names of Rounds	January July	Round 2 Round 1

The revised reporting format can be accessed through <https://tinvurl.com/2026-DEWORMING>



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Certificate No. PHP QMS
 22 93 0085

c. The updated accomplishment and reporting schedule is as follows:

School Year and Round	Dates	Deworming Accomplishment	Submission Date
SY 2023-2024 Round 1	September- November 2023	14.69%	
Round 2	March-May 2024	33.79%	
SY 2024-2025 Round 1	September- November 2024	36.14%	
Round 2	January- March 2025	41.62%	
SY 2025-2026 Round 1	July- September 2025		
January	January- March 2026		April 2, 2026
SY 2026-2027 July	July- September 2026		October 1, 2026
January	January- March 2027		April 1, 2027

d. This Office recognizes the efforts of all Schools and Schools Divisions in implementing this program to reach the target of at least 85% of the target population by 2028.

e. Funds for the purchase of deworming tablets, soap, and other paraphernalia can be charged to the downloaded Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) in Schools (WinS) School-Based Program Support Funds for 2026. The Schools Division Offices may use their SBFP-PSF to augment the funds for this purpose, subject to the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

2. For concerns and inquiries, contact Dr. Pearl Oliveth S. Intia, Medical Officer IV at pearl.intia@deped.gov.ph.

3. Immediate dissemination and strict compliance of this Memorandum is desired.


ATTY. ALBERTO T. ESCOBARTE, CESO II
 Regional Director



School-Based Deworming Program Updated Reporting Mechanism and Support to National Parasite Prevalence Survey

BLSS - School Health Division <blss.shd@deped.gov.ph>

Mon, Jan 19, 2026 at 9:56 AM

To: DEPED I ILOCOS REGION <region1@deped.gov.ph>, DEPED II CAGAYAN VALLEY <region2@deped.gov.ph>, DEPED III CENTRAL LUZON <region3@deped.gov.ph>, DEPED REGION IV-A CALABARZON <region4a@deped.gov.ph>, DEPED V BICOL REGION <region5@deped.gov.ph>, MIMAROPA REGION <mimaropa.region@deped.gov.ph>, REGION VIII EASTERN VISAYAS <region8@deped.gov.ph>, DepEd VI Western Visayas <region6@deped.gov.ph>, DepEd Region VII Central Visayas <region7@deped.gov.ph>, DEPED IX ZAMBOANGA PENINSULA <region9@deped.gov.ph>, DEPED X NORTHERN MINDANAO <region10@deped.gov.ph>, DEPED XI DAVAO REGION <region11@deped.gov.ph>, DEPED XII SOCCSKSARGEN <region12@deped.gov.ph>, DEPED REGION XIII CARAGA <caraga@deped.gov.ph>, "Negros Island Region (NIR)" <nir@deped.gov.ph>, DEPED CORDILLERA ADMINISTRATIVE REGION <car@deped.gov.ph>, MBHTE BARMM <mbhte.barmm@deped.gov.ph>, DEPED NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION <ncr@deped.gov.ph>
Cc: Marjorie Pudín <marjorie.pudin@deped.gov.ph>, Kae Kryzzl Paragas <kaekryzzl.paragas@deped.gov.ph>, Jose Ezra Rostrata <jose.rostrata@deped.gov.ph>, Pearl Oliveth Intia <pearl.intia@deped.gov.ph>, Maria Anna Irene San <mariaannairene.san@deped.gov.ph>, Israel Parra <israel.parra@deped.gov.ph>, MELCHOR KIM KWAN <melchorkim.kwan@deped.gov.ph>, Rogelio Villamor <rogelio.villamor@deped.gov.ph>, Angelica Rodriguez <angelica.rodriguez001@deped.gov.ph>, AHMAD AMEENKAR WATA III <ahmadameenkarii.wata@deped.gov.ph>, Myra Yee <myra.yee@deped.gov.ph>, Marra Medrano <marra.medrano@deped.gov.ph>, Edelyn Grace Jamila <edelyngrace.jamila@deped.gov.ph>, Jumer Carlon <jumer.carlon@deped.gov.ph>, Raymond Damoslog <raymond.damoslog@deped.gov.ph>, Connie Gapanayao <connie.gapanayao001@deped.gov.ph>, Connie Gapanayao <connie.gapanayao@deped.gov.ph>

Good day DepEd Regional Offices!

This is to respectfully share with you the **OM-UGOPS-2026-08-08029 OUGOPS Memorandum on the Updated Reporting Mechanism for School-Based Deworming Program and Conduct of National Parasite Prevalence Survey (NPPS)**. Kindly disseminate to all concerned SDOs in your region.

The Department of Education, through the Bureau of Learner Support Services - School Health Division (BLSS-SHD), supports the Department of Health (DOH) on the implementation of the Soil-Transmitted Helminthiasis Mass Drug Administration (STH MDA) in schools, and the conduct of the National Parasite Prevalence Survey, in coordination with the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM).

In line with this, DepEd, through the BLSS-SHD, would like to request the following:

- For the School Health and Nutrition Unit personnel to closely coordinate with the DOH Center for Health Development (CHD) STH MDA program managers for the facilitation of the deworming rounds and submission of reports based on the updated reporting mechanism starting FY 2026; and
- For the assistance and support of ROs and SDOs through the School Health and Nutrition Unit for the continued implementation of the National Parasite Prevalence Survey.

Thank you very much.

Respectfully yours,

BLSS School Health Division

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Department of Education
Bureau of Learner Support Services
School Health Division
Rm. 302, 3rd Floor, Mabini Bldg.
DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue

Pasig City 1600
(02) 6329935

3 attachments

 [OM-OUGOPS 2026-08-08029] OUGOPS Memo - Deworming Updated Reporting Mechanism and NPPS
.pdf
815K

 Annex A - DOH DC-2025-0537_Advisory on the Conduct of Harmonized Mass Drug Administration
Activities for Schistosomiasis and Soil-transmitted Helminthiasis.pdf
6971K

 Annex B - DOH DC 2025-0404_Advisory on the Conduct of the NPPS for SCH and STH by RITM (Phase
I).pdf
572K



ORD-UM01-2026-52



Republika ng Pilipinas
Department of Education
OFFICE OF THE UNDERSECRETARY FOR GOVERNANCE AND OPERATION

MEMORANDUM
OM-OUGOPS-2026 08 08029

**TO : ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS
ALL SCHOOLS DIVISION SUPERINTENDENTS
ALL SCHOOL HEADS CONCERNED
ALL OTHER CONCERNED**

FROM : MALCOLM S. GARMA
Undersecretary



**SUBJECT : UPDATED REPORTING MECHANISM FOR SCHOOL-BASED
DEWORMING PROGRAM AND CONDUCT OF NATIONAL
PARASITE PREVALENCE SURVEY (NPPS)**

DATE : January 5, 2026

The Department of Education, through the Bureau of Learner Support Services – School Health Division (BLSS-SHD), supports the Department of Health (DOH) on the implementation of the Soil Transmitted Helminthiasis Mass Drug Administration (STH MDA) in schools, and the conduct of the National Parasite Prevalence Survey in coordination with the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM).

A. School-Based Deworming Program

Following the issuance of the DOH Department Circular No. 2025-0537 titled *“Advisory on the Conduct of Harmonized Mass Drug Administration Activities for Schistosomiasis and Soil-transmitted Helminthiasis”* to facilitate timely reporting and accurate evaluation of STH MDA coverage in schools and communities, the reporting mechanism for school-based deworming program shall adopt the following changes, **effective January 2026 onwards:**

New Age Disaggregation Data Reporting	1-4 years old 5-14 years old 15-19 years old
Names of Rounds and Deadline for Reporting	January Round: Every March 31 st July Round: Every September 30 th



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Telephone Nos. (02) 8633-5313; (02) 8631-8492
Email Address: ouogops@deped.gov.ph | Website: www.deped.gov.ph



School Health and Nutrition personnel are encouraged to **closely coordinate with the DOH Center for Health Development (CHD) STH MDA program managers** for the facilitation of the deworming rounds and submission of reports based on the updated reporting mechanism.

B. National Parasite Prevalence Survey (NPPS)

In 2025, DOH and RITM has collaborated to conduct the first phase of the NPPS to establish an updated baseline data to support national targets as outlined in the Philippine Multi-Disease Elimination Plan 2024-2030. To support this, DepEd, through the Governance and Operations Strand has issued *OUGOPS Memorandum No. OM-OUGOPS-2025-08-05567* titled "Regional Orientation and Planning Workshop for the Conduct of National Parasite Prevalence Survey" which involved survey sites in Region III and CAR.

For 2026, we respectfully request the **assistance and support of Regional and School Division Offices (ROs and SDOs) through the School Health and Nutrition Unit** for the continued implementation of the national survey. ROs and SDOs, through their respective Compliance Officers for Privacy, shall ensure that activities related to the administration of surveys adhere to the relevant provisions of Republic Act No. 10173, otherwise known as the *Data Privacy Act of 2012*, and its Implementing Rules and Regulations and other relevant issuances from the National Privacy Commission. Further, updates regarding the activities related to the conduct of NPPS may be communicated through a separate advisory by the Bureau of Learner Support Services.

Accommodation expenses for the conduct of the activities related to NPPS shall be borne by the organizer, DOH and RITM. Meanwhile, transportation and other related expenses of DepEd participants shall be charged to local funds or program support funds (PSF), subject to usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

For questions and concerns, please contact the Bureau of Learner Support Services – School Health Division, through (02) 8632-9935 or email at blss.shd@deped.gov.ph.



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Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Office of the Secretary



November 12, 2025

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR
No. 2025 - 0537

TO: ALL DIRECTORS OF CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HEALTH OF BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (MOH-BARMM), CHIEFS OF DOH HOSPITALS, MEDICAL CENTERS, SANITARIA, TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION CENTERS, ATTACHED AGENCIES, LOCAL HEALTH SYSTEMS DIVISION CHIEFS, AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT: Advisory on the Conduct of Harmonized Mass Drug Administration Activities for Schistosomiasis and Soil-transmitted Helminthiasis

The Department of Health (DOH), through the Schistosomiasis Control and Elimination Program (SCEP) and the Integrated Helminth Control Program (IHCP) continues to implement strategies aimed at reducing the **burden of schistosomiasis (SCH)** in endemic areas and **soil-transmitted helminthiasis (STH)** nationwide. Both diseases, comprising two (2) of at least six (6) NTDs of public health importance in the Philippines, continue to affect the health and well-being of the communities, impact their psychosocial and cognitive development, as well as their productivity and economic growth, especially in impoverished and geographically isolated communities.

Mass drug administration (MDA) is one of the cornerstone strategies of these programs targeting the most at-risk age groups for helminth and schistosomiasis infection. Through the provision of chemotherapeutic interventions to these high-risk groups, the MDA efforts have led to the reduction of transmission as well as the prevalence and intensity of infections in affected communities.

According to the 2024 report from the Epidemiology Bureau - Field Health Services Information System (EB-FHSIS) the national coverage for MDA for the IHCP is 53.58% for the 1 to 4 years old age groups, 28.26% for the 5 to 9 years old age groups, and 21.68% for the 10 to 19 years old age groups. The overall MDA coverage from the IHCP reports is at 41%. Meanwhile, the SCEP reports a 37% increase in the MDA coverage for 2024. This marks a marginal increase from the 35% coverage from 2023. Based on the reported MDA coverage from the past five years, the program target of 85% coverage for both IHCP and SCEP MDA has not been reached. The number of cases of acute and chronic schistosomiasis reported by the FHSIS currently stands at 2,175 and 1,745, respectively.

Anent to this, all SCEP and IHCP Regional and MOH-BARMM Program Managers are directed to observe the following to ensure the harmonious implementation and operationalization of the MDA activities for SCEP and IHCP, effective January 2026 onwards:

1. Conduct of school and community-based MDAs

- a. To further provide guidance on the coordinated efforts for the successful implementation of MDA activities, DepEd Memorandum OM-OUOPS-2025 on the conduct of school-based deworming activities is hereby being reiterated. This issuance requires for schools to be in close coordination with their respective local health units, to ensure harmonious conduct of MDAs.
- b. To coordinate with their respective DepEd School Division Offices (SDOs) for school-based MDA activities and with local government for community-based MDA regarding the preparation of masterlists of target population for SCH (5-65 years old) and for STH (1-19 years old) MDA in both the schools and communities respectively (Please see **Annexes A and B** for the step-by-step guide in facilitating masterlists).

2. Reporting of Mass Drug Administration Accomplishment Reports (MDA AR)

- a. To facilitate timely reporting and accurate evaluation of MDA coverage, the Department would like to emphasize that catch-up MDA reporting must strictly observe the following deadlines, as reflected in the table below.

Further, a separate reporting form for the Program and Field Health Services Information System (FHSIS) will be used until such time that the target population is harmonized. The program report recommends the use of **Actual Population** based on the masterlists obtained.

Emphasizing the following significant changes for **Program reporting for STH:**

Updates	Specific Changes
1. New age disaggregation	1-4 years old 5-14 years old 15-19 years old
2. Name of rounds	January Round July Round
3. Deadline of reporting	January Round: Every March 31st July Round: Every September 30th

Meanwhile, below are the noted updates for **Program reporting for SCH:**

Updates	Specific Changes
1. New age disaggregation	5-14 years old 15-19 years old 20-59 years old 60 years old and above
2. Deadline of reporting	January MDA: Every March 31st

In addition, a Program prescribed template will be used which are disaggregated by age and implementation unit: province or city-based for STH and municipality-based for SCH.

IHCP MDA AR: <https://tinyurl.com/2026-IHCP-MDAAR>

SCEP MDA AR: <https://tinyurl.com/2025-SCEP-MDAAR>

- b. To align with and adopt the updated and revised FHSIS indicators for calendar year (CY) 2026 by the Epidemiology Bureau (EB) which will be released through a separate issuance in time for the conduct of the January 2026 MDA. The target population to be used is **Projected Population**.
- c. To orient and cascade the new SCH and STH FHSIS indicators to all concerned implementing units. Further, all SCEP and IHCP Regional and MOH-BARMM Program Managers are directed to coordinate with their respective FHSIS regional coordinators as necessary. This is to ensure that the program coordinators at the implementing units are provided with the necessary information and efficiently collect the relevant data accordingly.

3. Use of the Deworming Card for STH MDA

To adopt the Soil-transmitted Helminthiasis Deworming Card to systematically track the individual patient compliance with the administration of chemotherapeutic drugs for MDA:

Implementing Guidelines:

- a. Each child from ages 1 to 19 years old will be given an individual deworming card. The card shall be safekept and maintained by the parent, guardian, or health worker responsible for the child.
- b. The card will be brought and presented to the school/ rural health facility for each scheduled deworming activity (i.e., January Round and July Round) and the health worker administering the deworming medicines is responsible for recording the date, confirmation of receipt of deworming, and other pertinent information.
- c. The STH Deworming Card shall serve as the official documentation for the receipt of deworming medicines.

Please see **Annex C** for the deworming card template.

4. Pharmacovigilance

To report adverse drug reactions (ADRs) especially those with severe reactions to the physician or nearest healthcare facility. Healthcare providers are further advised to report suspected ADRs to the FDA through their online reporting platform which can be accessed at <https://www.fda.gov.ph/pharmacovigilance-reportingpatient>, through email at pharmacovigilance@fda.gov.ph, or through direct email to the FDA with the accomplishment FDA Suspected Side Effects Reporting Form (**Annex D**). The form can also be downloaded through <https://www.fda.gov.ph/pharmacovigilance-forms>. FDA can also be contacted through telephone at (02) 8809-5596.

a. On intervals for SCH and STH MDA

The co-administration of praziquantel and albendazole is permissible during MDA activities. While both praziquantel for schistosomiasis and albendazole for soil-transmitted helminthiasis are established safe and well-tolerated, side effects are common and should be anticipated by healthcare workers.

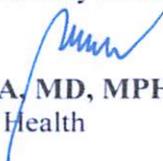
Potential side effects of praziquantel include abdominal discomfort, recurrent diarrhea, fever, drowsiness, syncope, headache, malaise, sweating, and urticarial reactions. Meanwhile, potential side effects of albendazole include local hypersensitivity, erratic worm migration, mild abdominal pain, and diarrhea. These side effects may occur within 10 hours to 1 week after administration of praziquantel or albendazole. (Department of Health, 2004; Department of Health, 2010; Inobaya et al, 2015; Kabatende et al., 2022).

During the conduct of the MDA, healthcare workers must monitor the patients closely both during and after the administration of the medication and manage adverse events according to severity (**Annex E**). ADRs associated with praziquantel and albendazole are generally mild and can be managed through simple interventions (**Annex F**). For further guidance on managing or addressing the common side effects after deworming, kindly refer to DOH Administrative Order 2015-0054 Section V ([tinyurl.com/aefd-2015-0054](https://www.tinyurl.com/aefd-2015-0054)).

This Department Circular, issued under the Schistosomiasis Control and Elimination Program and the Integrated Helminth Control Program, provides additional guidance on the conduct of mass drug administration and its related activities as a supplement to Department Circular No. 2024-0429 and the 2025 MDA Advisory. All other previous issuances and guidance inconsistent with the provisions of this circular are hereby repealed.

All concerned are hereby enjoined.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:


GLORIA J. BALBOA, MD, MPH, MHA, CEO VI, CESO III
Assistant Secretary of Health

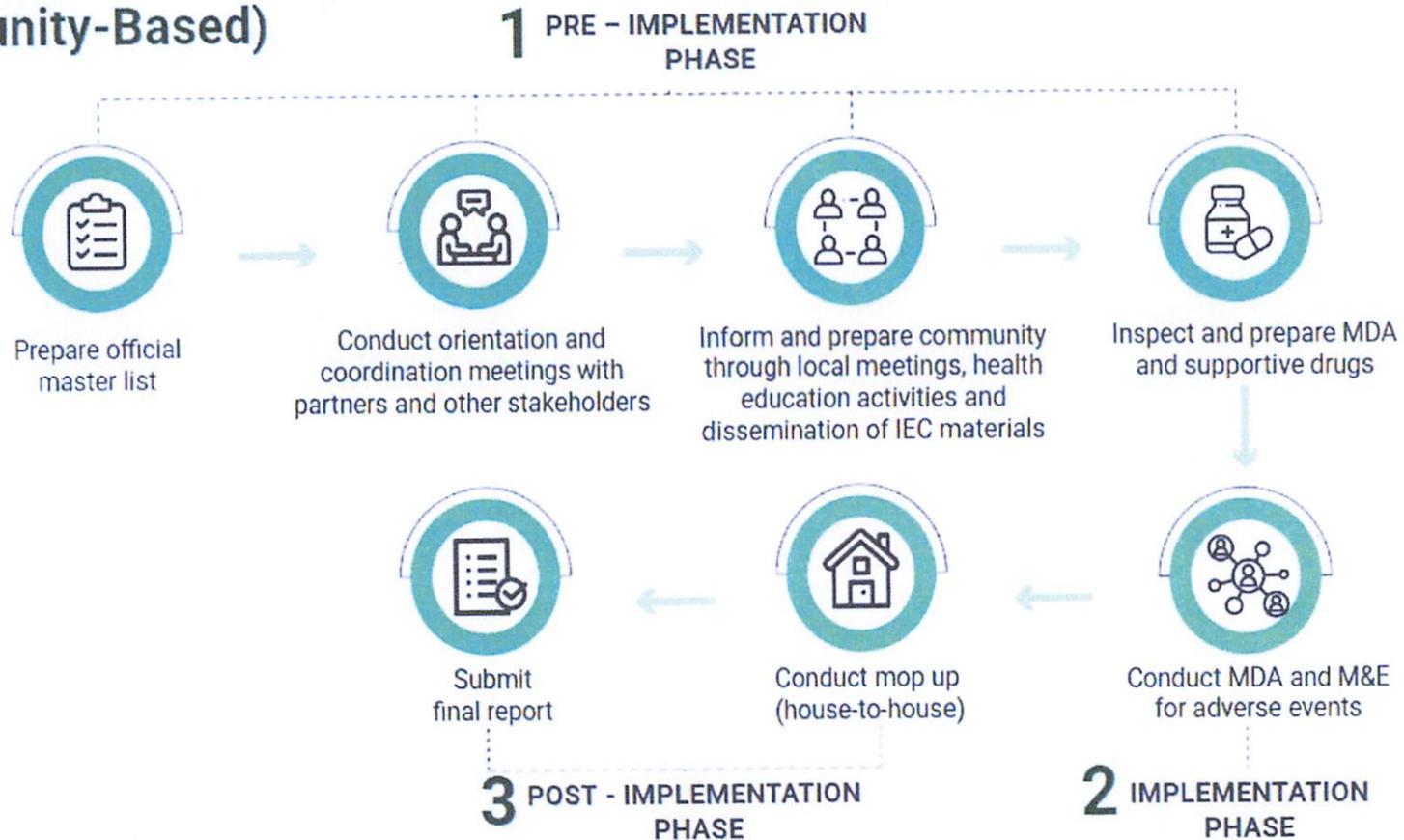
Annex A. Step by Step Conduct of School-based Mass Drug Administration

STEP BY STEP PROCESS OF CONDUCTING MDA (School-Based)



Annex B. Step by Step Conduct of Community-based Mass Drug Administration

STEP BY STEP PROCESS OF CONDUCTING MDA (Community-Based)



Annex C. IHCP Deworming Card

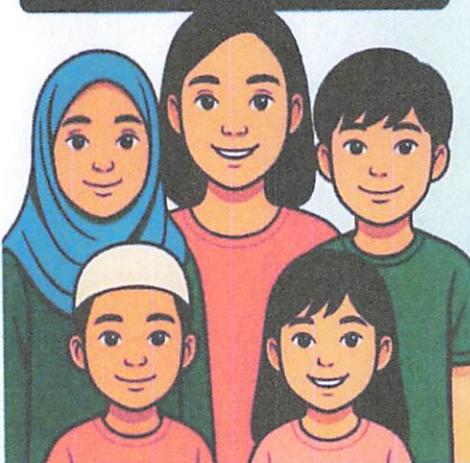
(tinyurl.com/dohdewormingcard)

(Front cover)



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
INTEGRATED HELMINTH CONTROL PROGRAM

CHILD DEWORMING CARD



**MALUSOG AT MASIHLANG
BATANG PILIPINO**



Child's Information

Name of Child: _____

Date of Birth: / / Gender: Male Female
Month Day Year

Name of Parents/Guardian: _____

Address: _____

Contact for Queries:

Local Health Center/RHU/BHS _____
Contact Number: _____

 _____
FACILITY NAME

 _____
PROVINCE/CITY

 _____
REGION

INTEGRATED HELMINTH CONTROL PROGRAM

"Awareness & Mass Drug Administration Month"

Let's do the **WORMS**.



W Wash Hands



Q Observe proper use of toilet



R Reduce exposure
to unwashed, uncooked, and undercooked food



M Mass Deworming / Magpapurga
S wear Slippers / Shoes



Ano ang mga sintomas ng taong may bulate sa tiyah?



Pamumutla o anemia



Paglaban ng bulate sa puwet sa ilong, sa bibig at sa tinga



Kawalan ng ganang kumain



Malaking tiyan



Pagbaba ng timbang



Pananakit ng tiyan



Malnutrisyon



Pagiging matamlay at madaling mapag-od



Pagdumi nang may kasamang dugo



Kung nakaranas ng sintomas ng **Soil-transmitted helminthiasis**, komarsula sa inyong pinapanatilihan ng health center



Annex D. FDA Suspected Side Effects Reporting Form



SUSPECTED SIDE EFFECTS REPORTING FORM

"Saving Lives Through Vigilant Reporting"

CONFIDENTIAL

*** FIELDS ARE MANDATORY. Please fill all fields as completely as possible.**
 Attach additional documents if necessary. See information overleaf.

Initial report Follow-up

Version 6.0

PATIENT INFORMATION

*Patient's Name or Initials: _____ *Sex: Male Female Weight (kg): _____ Height (cm): _____
 *Age (at time of onset) _____ Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy): ____/____/____
 Medical record number: _____ Patient's address _____

SUSPECTED MEDICINES / VACCINES

*Medicine/Vaccine (Reg. No. or Brand, if any)	Batch/Lot No.	Dosage & frequency	Route	Date started <small>(dd/mm/yyyy)</small>	Date stopped <small>(dd/mm/yyyy)</small>	Reason for using
_____	_____	_____	_____	____/____/____	____/____/____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	____/____/____	____/____/____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	____/____/____	____/____/____	_____

SIDE EFFECT(S) / ADVERSE REACTION(S)

*Date started (dd/mm/yyyy) ____/____/____ time _____
 *Describe the side effects or reaction or problem:

Results of tests and procedures.
(Tests and procedures performed to diagnose or confirm the reaction/event, including those test done to investigate or to exclude a non-drug cause. Results of test/procedures may be attached.)

Do you consider the reaction to be serious? yes no
 If yes, reason:
 death (date: _____) life-threatening
 hospitalization/prolonged (date of admission: _____) disabling
 congenital-anomaly other medically important condition

Relevant medical history and concurrent condition:
(Pertinent information to understand the case such as disease, conditions such as pregnancy, allergies, surgical procedures, psychological trauma, etc.)

Was this a medication error? yes no
 Action taken: medicine withdrawn Is treatment given? yes no
 dose reduced If yes, please specify: _____
 no change

Outcome of reaction:
 recovered (date: _____) not yet recovered
 with sequelae? fatal
 no unknown
 yes, describe: _____

Did the reaction recur on readministration of suspected medicine(s)?
 yes no not applicable

List all other medicines/vaccines taken at the same time (including diluent)

Medicine/Vaccine (DR. XY No. or Brand, if any)	Batch/Lot No.	Dosage & frequency	Route	Date started <small>(dd/mm/yyyy)</small>	Date stopped <small>(dd/mm/yyyy)</small>	Reason for using
_____	_____	_____	_____	____/____/____	____/____/____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	____/____/____	____/____/____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	____/____/____	____/____/____	_____

no other medicines used

REPORTER INFORMATION

*Name: _____
 Address: _____
 *Contact/Mobile No.: _____
 Email: _____
 Signature/ initials: _____

Date of report (dd/mm/yyyy): ____/____/____

*Reporter qualification:
 physician nurse
 pharmacist dentist
 other health professional
 patient/consumer

Thank you for your time completing this form!

**Annex F. Management of Common Adverse Events
(For Soil- Transmitted Helminthiasis)**

WAYS TO MANAGE COMMON ADVERSE EVENTS

Common Adverse Effects
(Albendazole for STH)



**Local sensitivity
or allergy**

Give antihistamine



**Mild abdominal
pain**

Give antispasmodic



Diarrhea

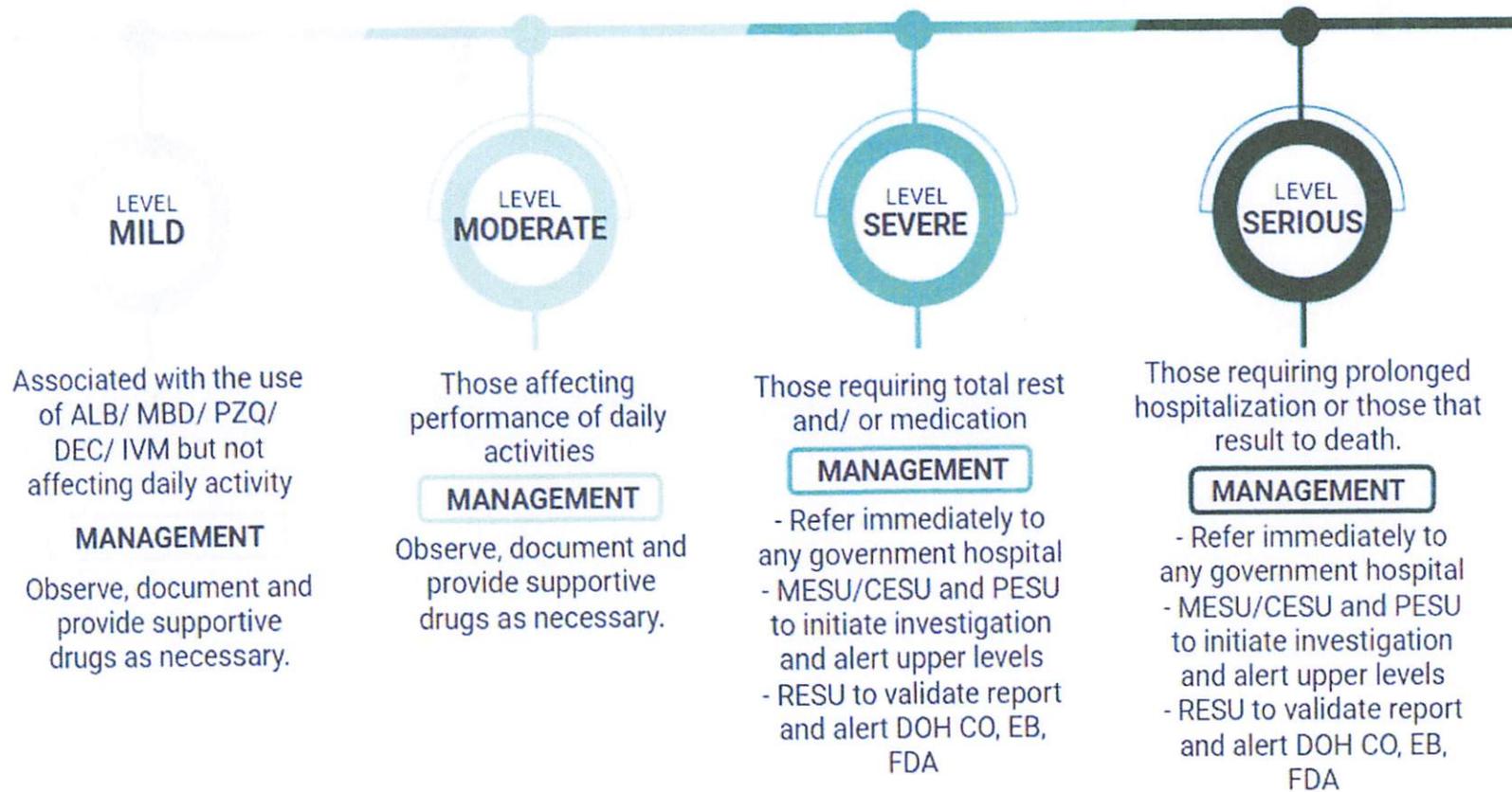
Give oral
rehydrating solution



**Erratic worm
migration**

Pull out the worms
from mouth /nose

Annex E. Management of Adverse Events



CONFIDENTIALITY

Any information including attachment/s related to the identities of the reporter and patient will be kept confidential.

The report is for safety information purposes and will not be used against the practice of the reporting healthcare professional.

WHAT TO REPORT

Please report any of the following:

- All serious adverse reactions
- All adverse reactions related to newly introduced medicines and vaccines
- Medication errors, lack of efficacy, overdose, off-label use that resulted to serious adverse reactions
- Adverse reactions suspected to be related to a product defect

Report even if you are not sure that the drug caused the event!

For follow-up reports:

Any follow-up information that has already been reported may be sent to us in another form or through other reporting channels. Please indicate that it is a follow up report.

HOW TO REPORT

Suspected adverse reaction may be reported through any of the following:

- Mail or Direct submission to:

FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION
Center for Drug Regulation and Research
Civic Drive, Filinvest City, Alabang, Muntinlupa City 1781

or

FDA Regional Field Office near you

- Email to pharmacovigilance@fda.gov.ph
- Online reporting:
<https://primaryreporting.who-umc.org/Reporting/Reporter?OrganizationID=PH>
- Telephone: (02) 8809 5596

This form can be downloaded from

<https://www.fda.gov.ph/pharmacovigilance/>

WHY DO WE NEED TO REPORT

Every time you report a side effect you are contributing to improve the safety of medicines and vaccines used by Filipinos.

Drugs and vaccines are registered to and evaluated by the FDA considering the quality of the products. However, no medicine is guaranteed 100% safe. Although they are carefully tested and evaluated, some side effects or adverse reactions may become evident only after the product is in use by the general population.

Your report may contribute to:

- the identification of previously unrecorded or unrecognized rare or serious side effect;
- changes in product safety information or labelling, or other regulatory actions such as product recall or removal from the market;
- international data regarding benefit, risk or effectiveness assessment of medicines and vaccines;

Regulatory actions are imposed by the FDA to secure the safety of the public. It also provide consumers and healthcare professionals guidance on the rational use of medicines and vaccines.

(For Schistosomiasis)

WAYS TO MANAGE COMMON ADVERSE EVENTS

Common Adverse Effects
(Praziquantel for SCH)



**Local sensitivity
or allergy**

Give antihistamine



**Mild abdominal
pain, discomfort**

Give antispasmodic



Diarrhea

Give oral
rehydrating solution



**Fever, headache,
dizziness**

Give analgesic/
anti-inflammatory drugs;
Give antivertigo drugs,
if necessary

REFERENCES

1. Department of Education (2025). DepEd Memorandum OM-OUOPS-2025-08-80848: "Advisory on the School-based Deworming Program" <https://tinyurl.com/DepEd-Memo-2025-08-80848>
2. Department of Health (2024). "Advisory on the Additional Guidance on the STH and SCH MDA Activities" <https://tinyurl.com/ihcp-2024-advisory-jan2025mda>
3. Department of Health (2024). Department Circular No. 2024-0429: "Guidelines on the Conduct of Mass Drug Administration (MDA) for Soil-Transmitted Helminthiasis (STH) for July 2024" <https://tinyurl.com/ihcp-dc-2024-0249>
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Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Office of the Secretary



August 28, 2025

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR
No. 2025 - 0404

TO: ALL DIRECTORS OF CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HEALTH OF BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (MOH-BARMM), CHIEFS OF DOH HOSPITALS, MEDICAL CENTERS, SANITARIA, TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION CENTERS, ATTACHED AGENCIES, LOCAL HEALTH SYSTEMS DIVISION CHIEFS, AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT: Advisory on the Conduct of the National Parasite Prevalence Survey for Schistosomiasis and Soil-Transmitted Helminthiasis by the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (Phase I)

The Department of Health (DOH), through the Integrated Helminth Control Program (IHCP) and the Schistosomiasis Control and Elimination Program (SCEP), acknowledges the need to update the National Parasite Prevalence Survey (NPPS) for Schistosomiasis (SCH) and Soil-Transmitted Helminthiasis (STH). The latest NPPS was conducted last 2015 through the collaborative efforts of the DOH and the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) with the objectives of determining the prevalence of STH infections using the Kato-Katz technique among individuals ages 5-16 years old, and updating the prevalence of *S. japonicum* in the country, particularly in endemic areas to determine the intensity of infections.

For this year, the DOH and RITM will be collaborating again to conduct NPPS. This is to establish an updated baseline data to support national set targets for both the IHCP and SCEP, as outlined in the Philippine Multi-Disease Elimination Plan 2024- 2030 (MDEP), particularly for the possible elimination of Schistosomiasis with a decrease of the proportion of heavy intensity infection to <1%. Further, the updated results would guide the Program in adjusting the frequency of mass drug administration (MDA) for both diseases, which is a vital strategy in reducing the burden of disease, per the World Health Organization (WHO) recommendation.

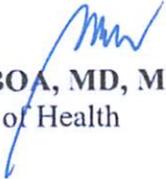
Relative to this, the **Centers for Health Development (CHDs) and the Ministry of Health - Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (MOH-BARMM) Regional Program Managers and Coordinators for SCEP and IHCP** are hereby being requested to provide **full support and assistance on the conduct of NPPS** during the full course of the implementation, which will take 2-3 years such as the following but not limited:

- Coordination with the concerned implementing units and facilities and other relevant offices;
- Provision of vehicle and other logistical support, if available;
- Allocation of space for interim/makeshift laboratory set-up or for other necessary equipment for the survey, if available;

- Assistance of regional or provincial health care workers (e.g., medical technologists, barangay health care workers, etc.), if available;
- Cascade the needed assistance to all concerned implementing units; and
- Other relevant support that would contribute to the successful conduct of the study.

All concerned are hereby enjoined.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:


GLORIA J. BALBOA, MD, MPH, MHA, CEO VI, CESO III
Assistant Secretary of Health