

HEALTH ADVISORY



Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
1 Lower Navy Hill Road, Navy Hill, Saipan, MP 96950



12:19PM
10/8/2019

CHCC-PR-20-008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

“CHCC Hemodialysis Unit and Chemotherapy Unit are Open”

Please be advised that the CHCC Outpatient Pharmacy, Dialysis Unit, and Chemotherapy Unit are open today Tuesday, October 8. Hemodialysis patients will be contacted by a hemodialysis staff to reschedule treatment. All CHCC administrative offices and clinical services, Women’s Clinic, Children’s Clinic, Family Care Clinic, WIC Clinic, Dental Clinic and Physical Therapy will remain closed for today. Please keep an eye on the CHCC Facebook page @cnmichcc for updates.

In the wake of Super Typhoon Hagibis, the CHCC would like to provide the public with the guidelines to protect their health and safety:

1. The heavy rainfall and debris from the typhoon have made ideal conditions for mosquitoes to breed. Considering the dengue outbreaks in neighboring regions, we urge the community to Fight the Bite; avoid being bitten by mosquitoes and get rid of breeding areas in and around your home. Dengue is passed from person to person only by infected mosquito bites, and although there is no evidence of on-island dengue transmission, it is still important to protect yourself and your family against bites.
2. Many families are likely using generators if their electricity is off. Please be mindful to use generators only outdoors in well ventilated areas, at least 20 feet away from windows and doors. Never use a generator inside your home, even if the windows are open, to avoid the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning. Carbon Monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless gas that can cause sudden illness or death if inhaled. It is emitted by generators, gas stoves, grills, and other propane, butane, gasoline, charcoal, and wood burning devices.
3. Leptospirosis is a bacterial disease that affects humans and animals. It is caused by bacteria of the genus *Leptospira*, which can be found in dirty water. Please be especially careful when handling rainwater, floodwater, or runoff. You can help prevent Leptospirosis by treating water to make it safe to use by boiling or using an appropriate chemical treatment, and covering cuts or abrasions with waterproof bandages or other coverings that seal out water. Please do not wade, swim in or swallow flood water or any fresh water than may contain animal urine or may be contaminated by runoff.
4. Handwashing can help prevent illness. Wash your hands briskly for at least 20 seconds with soap and clean water or use a hand sanitizer with at least 62 percent alcohol if there is no access to soap and clean water. Regular handwashing, is one of the best ways to remove germs, avoid getting sick, and prevent the spread of germs to others.

For more information about CHCC programs, please follow us on Facebook and Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/index.php/press-releases>

CHCC Point of Contact:

Zoe Travis, *Communications and Public Relations Specialist*

(670) 234-8950 Ext. 3359, communications@chcc.gov.mp