



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
HAGÅTÑA, GUAM 96910  
U.S.A.**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 2014-12**

**RELATIVE TO DIRECTING THE CONDUCT OF AN ISLAND-WIDE MEASLES VACCINATION CAMPAIGN USING THE MEASLES, MUMPS, AND RUBELLA (MMR) VACCINE AMONG INDIVIDUALS 1 TO 49 YEARS OF AGE FROM AUGUST THROUGH OCTOBER 2014 TO PROTECT RESIDENTS FROM IMMINENT THREAT OF MEASLES INFECTION AND OUTBREAKS CURRENTLY CIRCULATING IN THE ASIA/PACIFIC REGION FROM SUSTAINING TRANSMISSION IN OUR ISLAND COMMUNITY.**

**WHEREAS**, measles is a highly contagious viral disease, which presents symptoms such as blotchy rash, high fever, cough, runny nose, red/watery/swollen eyes, and tiredness approximately 7-14 days after infection;

**WHEREAS**, a measles infection can lead to severe complications causing death and disability, including: pneumonia (which often is the cause of death in young children), ear infections (which can result in permanent hearing loss), diarrhea (which leads to dehydration), pregnancy complications for those infected while pregnant, and, in rare cases, encephalitis (an inflammation of the brain that can lead to convulsions, deafness, and mental retardation);

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization Regional Committee of the Western Pacific Region has declared a goal to eliminate measles in the region, and Guam is a member state of the region;

**WHEREAS**, measles remains a significant, and preventable, cause of death and disability worldwide and poses an imminent public health threat to the people of Guam due to sustained transmission in the region;



**WHEREAS**, according to the World Health Organization about 47,000 cases of measles and 77 deaths were reported in the Philippines from January 1 through June 20, 2014. Ongoing measles outbreaks in the Federated States of Micronesia (247 cases, 1 death), other Asian countries, and in the U.S. Mainland have produced a record number of cases in 2014;

**WHEREAS**, it is recommended that travelers to the Philippines and FSM protect themselves by making sure they are vaccinated against measles. Clinicians should keep measles in mind when treating patients with fever and rash, especially if the patient has recently traveled internationally;

**WHEREAS**, Guam health officials reported laboratory-confirmed cases of measles on March 28, 2014 in a 4-year old child, and on July 18, 2014 in a 10-month old child, raising concerns over the potential for sustained transmission of the measles virus among unvaccinated individuals;

**WHEREAS**, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended to all six U.S.-Affiliated Pacific Islands to implement mass vaccination campaigns against measles for individuals 1 to 49 years of age, and is providing the Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) vaccine in support of such efforts given the risk for measles transmission in the Pacific region;

**WHEREAS**, in addition to measles, the MMR vaccine also provides protection against mumps and rubella diseases;

**WHEREAS**, a 1964 rubella outbreak in Guam resulted in 459 cases of rubella, with more than 40 children becoming deaf. In 2010, an outbreak of mumps resulted in 502 cases;

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that 75,000 individuals on Guam ages 1 to 49 years of age who are unvaccinated, or received only one dose of MMR, will need a dose of MMR vaccine; and

**WHEREAS**, it has been proven that sustaining high MMR immunization coverage is effective in combating measles, mumps and rubella infections and deaths, and in interrupting the transmission and spread of these diseases.





**NOW, THEREFORE, I, EDDIE BAZA CALVO, I Maga'låhen Guåhan,** Governor of Guam, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Organic Act of Guam, as amended, and the laws of Guam, do hereby ORDER as follows:

1. Pursuant to 10 G.C.A. Section 19104(m), Section 19401, and Section 19402, a public health emergency for the measles virus is declared for Guam, and the measles virus is declared to be an imminent threat to the health, safety, and welfare of the people of Guam.
2. An MMR Vaccination Campaign is declared for Guam and shall run from August through October 2014.
3. The Department of Public Health and Social Services, through the Director, shall be the primary public health authority to lead in the implementation of the MMR Vaccination Campaign. As such, the Director is empowered to call upon all agencies of the Government of Guam for assistance in the implementation of this Executive Order, including, but not limited to the following:
  - a. Guam Homeland Security/Office of Civil Defense;
  - b. Guam Department of Education; and
  - c. Guam Fire Department.

As the lead agency, the Department of Public Health and Social Services shall stand-up the Public Health Incident Command Center (PHICC) to develop and mobilize campaign strategies; work with partner organizations and entities to communicate and implement campaign messages and plans; conduct advocacy and social mobilization activities; provide and distribute MMR vaccines in a timely manner; and monitor and assess campaign progress toward meeting goals.



4. The Department of Public Health and Social Services shall continue to coordinate vaccination campaign response efforts. The Guam Homeland Security/Office of Civil Defense shall provide and facilitate technical assistance to the access of critical infrastructure and key resources relating to vaccination campaign plans. The Department of Education shall ensure high immunization coverage in all schools by informing staff and parents/guardians of school children about the campaign, and mobilizing school nurses (school health counselors) to become vaccinators for the campaign and assist with vaccination events in schools in coordination with the Department of Public Health and Social Services. The Guam Fire Department shall assist in providing Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) staff as vaccinators, as available.
5. The Department of Public Health and Social Services, in cooperation with partner organizations, shall pursue and undertake all necessary measures to meet the planned and response activities for the MMR Vaccination Campaign.
6. The Director of the Department of Public Health and Social Services shall exercise the authority granted to him pursuant to Chapter 19 of Title 10 of Guam Code Annotated;
7. Pursuant to 10 G.C.A. Section 19608, the Chairpersons of the Guam Board of Medical Examiners, the Guam Board on Nurse Examiners, and the Guam Board of Pharmacy Examiners are authorized to take appropriate measures relative to their respective Boards to relax any licensing standards requirements in order to allow for a wider scope of professionals to assist as vaccinators in direct response to the MMR Vaccination Campaign. This includes Government of Guam, Department of Defense and Guam National Guard medical professional/para-





professionals (e.g., physicians, nurses, medics/corpsmen, retired medical personnel, and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel).

8. The Department of Public Health Social Services shall issue continued CDC guidance, updates and assistance on school-based mitigation activities (e.g., vaccination events) and convene meetings with school officials (Government of Guam and Department of Defense) concerning coordination response activities; activation of school personnel with a recognized Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) or Registered Nurse (RN) professional license designation to perform as vaccinators and; other activities directly related to the MMR Vaccination Campaign.
9. All non-government organizations, residents of Guam, and other concerned constituents are encouraged to contribute to the success of the campaign through information dissemination, social mobilization, recruitment of volunteers, and other appropriate means.

**SIGNED AND PROMULGATED** at Hagåtña, Guam, this 14<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2014.



  
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**EDDIE BAZA CALVO**  
*I Maga'Låhen Guåhan*  
Governor of Guam