

## Republic of Palau SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

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## **PUBLIC ANNOUCEMENT**

(February 25, 2021)

This is an important announcement regarding approved referral cases to a hospital facility in the Republic of China (ROC) Taiwan. The Healthcare Fund (HCF) would like to advise the public that due to the strict measures set forth by Taiwan Centers for Disease Control (CDC), all of the hospital facility accepting medical referrals from Palau have designated a limited number of quarantine units for Palau patients. In Taiwan, it is still mandatory for all travelers entering Taiwan to quarantine for 14 days at a designated quarantine site. The following hospitals have informed the Healthcare Fund on their bed capacity and quarantine units set for Palauan patients seeking treatment in their facility.

Hospital	Quarantine Rooms	Notice
Shin Kong Hospital (SKH)	8 rooms	1-2 week notice
Wan Fang Hospital	5 rooms	2-3 week notice
Eda Hospital	Case by case	2-3 week notice
TAH Hospital	Case by case	2-3 week notice
Cheng Hsin Hospital	None	None
Shuang Ho Hospital	Case by case	2-3 week notice

In regards to referral cases, approved patients are either referred <u>Inpatient status</u> or <u>Outpatient Status</u>. Inpatient status means patient requires direct admission to a hospital and quarantined at an isolation room for 14 days. Outpatient status means patient does not require direct admission and cleared to stay in a quarantine hotel for a period of 14 days. Quarantine hotels are not covered under NHI.

Effective immediately, the HCF will set a number of referral cases per month based on the available quarantine rooms of the hospitals in Taiwan. Going forward, the number of inpatient cases will be limited to eight (8) patients to SKH and up to five (5) patients to Wan Fang. The HCF will work with the other hospitals on a case by case basis in accepting Palau patients. The number of outpatient cases will be up to 5 patients or more depending on available quarantine hotels and patients' ability to pay in advance for quarantine hotels and other related expenses

All referral cases must have approval by The Medical Referral Committee (MRC) and submit to HCF no later than 2 weeks prior to flight departure from Palau. To this date, all travel to Taiwan remain on chartered flight schedule as determined by the Ministry of Health.