



Republic of Palau
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

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PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

The Healthcare Fund is advising the public that we will continue to cover for medical referrals to the Republic of China Taiwan. At this time, strict protocol measures are still in place for all international travelers to the ROC. The Central Epidemic Command Center (CECC) in Taiwan announced that international patients may seek medical treatment in Taiwan, except for non-urgent medical care including health check up and aesthetic medicine.

We wish to share with the public the following information on the Coronavirus (COVID-19) for referral patients to Taiwan as required by the CECC effective July 22, 2020:

1. All referral cases from Palau must submit a health insurance certificate or proof of financial eligibility, an affidavit for mandatory quarantine, a health declaration document (an English language certificate of a NEGATIVE COVID-19 RT-PCR test result issued within three (3) days of boarding).
2. The medical institution (hospital) in Taiwan shall apply to the Ministry of Health and Welfare (MOHW) for an entry permit for medical treatment. Processing time for Shin Kong Wu Ho Su Memorial Hospital is at least one (1) week; Wang Fang Hospital is at least two (2) weeks; EDA Hospital is at least three (3) weeks.
3. Palau patients and escorts referred to Taiwan medical institution must wear face masks at all time, and for all outpatient care patients and escorts must undergo a 14-day hotel quarantine, all inpatient care patients and escorts must undergo a 14-day quarantine at the medical institution upon entry into the country. All patients and escorts must take one COVID-19 test before starting medical care.
4. Patients with cough and/or fever will be tested and referred to a physician of infectious disease department before proceeding to quarantine room.
5. Patients who tested positive for COVID-19 will be isolated immediately for treatment.
6. Patients who tested negative for COVID-19 with no symptoms may proceed to the medical institution for medical treatment, those requiring urgent medical care may be admitted to a designated ward or negative pressure isolation ward in the medical institution already accepting to treat them. They shall receive their treatment after one negative test result and be given care according to the standards for caring COVID-19 suspected cases during the 14 day quarantine.
7. All Outpatient care patients and escort must take COVID-19 test after quarantine before receive treatment.

Effective August 1, 2020 Shin Kong Wu Ho Su Memorial Hospital only accepts eight (8) direct admission cases from Palau. Wang Fang Hospital can accept at most five (5) direct admission cases and on a case by case basis. EDA hospital and Taiwan Adventist Hospital needs preapproval and on cases by case basis. The Healthcare Fund provides coverage for inpatient case quarantine cost up to 14 days and one (1) COVID-19 test fee for the insured patient at an approved Taiwan medical institution. Flights to and from Taiwan shall continue to be on chartered flight schedule as determined by the Ministry of Health.