

Protocol for release of items from the WHO SARS Outbreak Stock, Guam

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Background

A starter stock of supplies and equipment for responding to suspected SARS patients and contacts has been placed in Guam, at the Department of Public Health and Social Services (DPHSS) Laboratory. This stock is available to the 5 US-affiliated Micronesian Pacific island jurisdictions.

This can meet only small immediate needs, should SARS be suspected. All hospitals and health departments should augment their own stocks as much as possible, and should be seeking funds and other sources for more supplies and equipment should SARS become more widespread.

Given that global and Regional demands could be great, it is not currently possible for WHO to commit to replenishing this stock, although donors are being sought. Therefore it is important that each hospital and health department consider ways to add to their own supplies.

Circumstances which might prompt a request

- Identification of one or more suspect SARS cases (based on WHO case definition) who will be placed under either hospital or home isolation.
- Identification of one or more contacts of a suspect SARS case, who will be placed under home or other quarantine.

Recommended procedure

This procedure should be followed by all health departments eligible to use these supplies: that is, Guam, Northern Mariana Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Marshall Islands, and Palau.

1. Official request from health department to WHO, via usual channels (Flowchart, Annex 1)
(officially this is from the Director or Secretary of Health to the WHO Representative; however when urgency dictates, this might go more directly, if approved at country level, from the hospital or public health staff responsible – e.g. the EpiNet focal point or equivalent) to the WHO technical officer (the WHO responsible officer) concerned, but with copies to all official channels)
2. Request may be made by e-mail, fax, or telephone call with written confirmation copy.
3. After agreement on the items and quantities to be released, WHO will contact Guam DPHSS to ask that they make available the required items. This request will be copied to both the Guam Director, DPHSS, and to the person responsible for maintaining the stock.
4. WHO will also contact a courier agency in Guam to arrange pick-up at DPHSS and delivery to the requesting site. WHO may delegate the responsibility for contacting the courier agency.

What to request

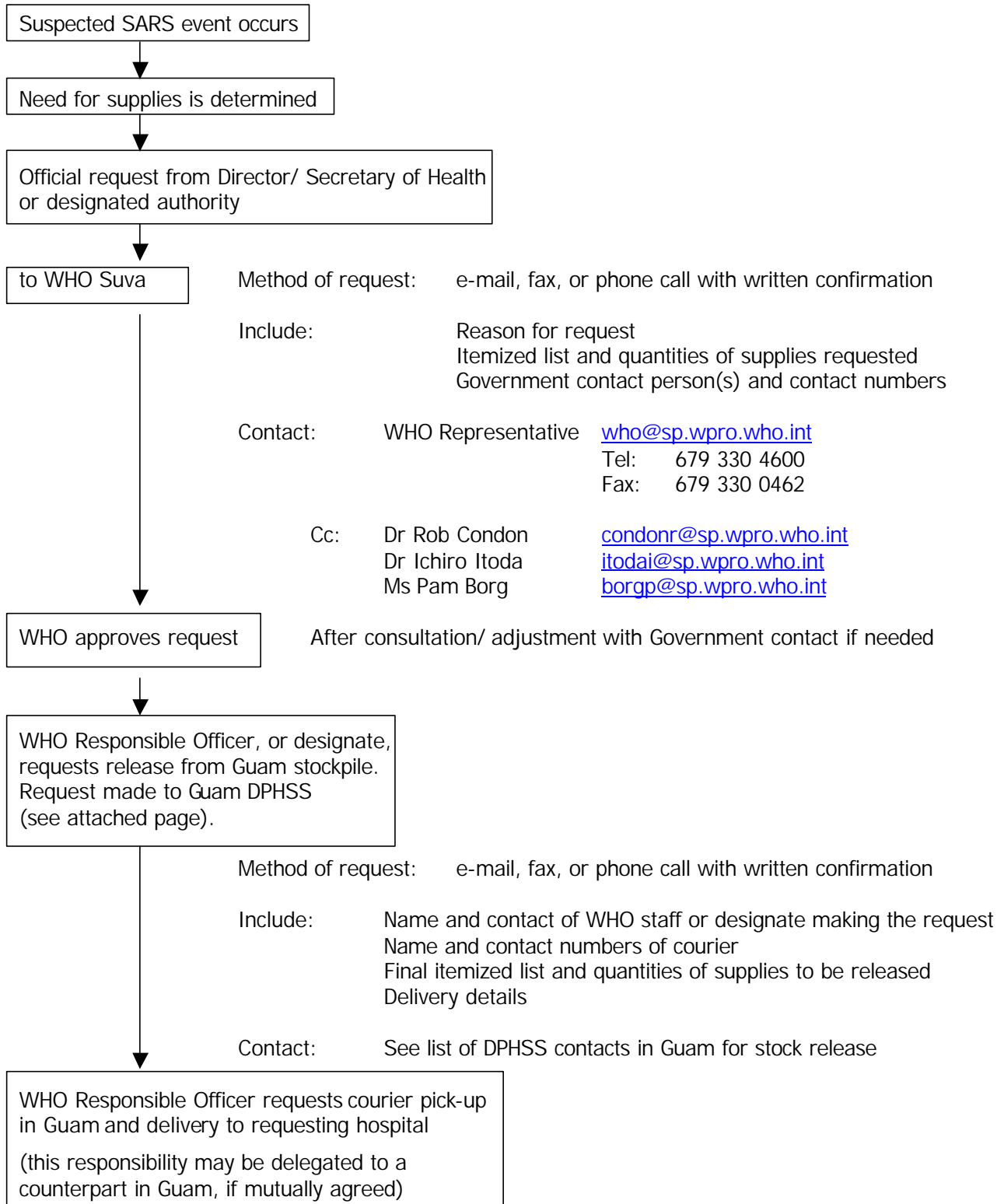
The Guam-based stockpile inventory is attached, with WHO instructions for use (Annex 2). The entire stock would provide supplies for only a matter of days. The amount of actual release will need to be discussed between the WHO responsible officer and the requesting department. In general, countries should try to limit a single request to between 10% and 50% of each stock item. However it is understood that some circumstances could dictate larger releases.

Payment

The requesting country should normally expect to pay courier shipping charges. However if this is not possible, discuss with WHO.

Annex 1

Flowchart for requesting supplies from the WHO SARS Outbreak Stock



Guam contacts for release of SARS stock

NOTE: This list is primarily for WHO Suva use.

Countries should contact WHO Suva with requests, ~~abn~~ the protocol, and WHO will contact Guam.

The stock is held at the Guam Department of Public Health and Social Services, in the storage area of the Public Health Laboratory. Physical address:

Department of Public Health and Social Services
123 ChalanKareta, Route 10, Mangilao, Guam 96913

The following people may be contacted to request release of items from the stock. Normally this request would come from WHO Suva, or its designate.

Primary contact:

Director of Public Health
(Mr PeterJohn Camacho) director@dphss.govguam.net
Tel: 1 671 734 4958 (home)
 1 671 888 2746 (cell)
 1 671 735 7305 (office)
Fax: 1 671 734 2066

Laboratory staff:

Dr Severino David smdavid@dphss.govguam.net
Tel: 1 671 735 7283 or 7265 (office)
 1 671 477 2693 (home)

Ms Joy Villanueva Tel: 1 671 735 7153 (office)
 1 671 633 6092 (home)

Ms Lea Wisau Tel: 1 671 735 7153 (office)
 1 671 734 4804 (home)

Ms Emy Santos Tel: 1 671 735 7153 (office)
 1 671 637 6772 (home)

Back-up Dr Michael O'Leary mjoleary@guam.net
Tel: 1 671 888 4869 (cell)
 1 671 637 6704 (home)

Contact numbers of couriers in Guam:

FedEx Tel: 1 671 633 4000 Fax: 1 671 633 0125

DHL Tel: 1 671 646 1765 / 1784 Fax: 1 671 646 9354

TNT Tel: 1 671 734 4371 Fax: 1 671 734 6800
e-mail: tntgum@kuentos.guam.net

UPS Tel: 1 671 649 2877 / 4877 Fax: 1 671 649 4885
e-mail: jlbaker@ite.net