

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
BATANGAS CITY

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD

EXCERPT FROM THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION HELD BY THE
MEMBERS OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF BATANGAS CITY
ON MARCH 8, 2022 VIA ZOOM APPLICATION

PRESENT:

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Hon. Emilio Francisco A. Berberabe Jr., | Presiding Officer |
| Hon. Alyssa Renee A. Cruz, | Councilor |
| Hon. Aileen Grace A. Montalbo, | “ |
| Hon. Nestor E. Dimacuha, | “ |
| Hon. Karlos Emmanjuel A. Buted, | “ |
| Hon. Gerardo A. Dela Roca, | “ |
| Hon. Oliver Z. Macatangay, | “ |
| Hon. Nelson J. Chavez, | “ |
| Hon. Julian B. Villena, | “ |
| Hon. Michael Thomas T. Pastor, | “ |
| Hon. Isidra “Ched” M. Atienza, | “ |
| Hon. Maria Aleth A. Lazarte, | “ |
| Hon. Lorenzo A. Gamboa, Jr., | “ |
| Hon. Angelito “Dondon” A. Dimacuha, | ABC-Rep. |
| Hon. Marjorie A. Manalo, | SK-Fed. Pres. |

“On motion of Councilor Macatangay duly seconded, the following Resolution was Adopted:

RESOLUTION NO. 43 S. 2022

**ADOPTING THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH REGARDING THE
CONSULTATIVE MEETING WITH THE HEADS/DIRECTORS OF HOSPITALS AND
MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS IN BATANGAS CITY**

RESOLVED, to adopt the report of the Committee on Health and the recommendations stated therein on the Consultative Meeting with the Heads/Directors of Hospitals and Medical Institutions in Batangas City.

UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 43 S. 2022 was approved by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Batangas City during its Regular Session held on March 8, 2022.


LUNINGNING A. AQUINO
Board Secretary III

NOTED:


ATTY. OLIVA D. TELEGATOS
Secretary

ATTESTED:


EMILIO FRANCISCO A. BERBERABE, JR.
Presiding Officer

**Republic of the Philippines
Batangas City**

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANGLUNGSOD

COMMITTEE REPORT

**TO: The Presiding Officer and Members
Sangguniang Panlungsod
Batangas City**

FROM: The Committee on Health

**SUBJECT: Consultative Meeting with the Heads/Directors of Hospitals and Medical
Institutions in Batangas City**

On February 15, 2022, the Committee hosted a mixed virtual and face to face consultative meeting with the heads and directors of hospitals and medical institutions in Batangas City to determine the City's current medical and health environment. The Committee Hearing was in response to various issues brought to the knowledge of the Sangguniang Panlungsod involving procedures and protocols implemented in hospitals in Batangas City allegedly resulting to the detriment of the welfare of patients.

The following attended the Committee Hearing:

1. Dr. Ramoncito Magnaye – Batangas Medical Center
2. Ms. Rhea Torino – Batangas Health Specialists Medical Center
3. Dra. Allen Santos – Batangas City Health Office
4. Dr. Dandy Ian Niño Calingasn – Batangas City Health Office
5. Ms. Elna Collera – St. Patrick's General Hospital and Medical Center
6. Ms. Maravic Andal – St. Patrick's General Hospital and Medical Center
7. Dr. Virgilio Pascual – Jesus of Nazareth Hospital
8. Mr. Federico Callo – Brgy. Poblacion 11, Batangas City
9. Mrs. Roshila Cenizal – Brgy. Poblacion 11, Batangas City
10. GMA Network news personnel

The issues brought up for discussion are the common observations and experiences of the public when accessing hospital services. Primarily, there are claims where hospitals turned away or refused to admit emergency cases which resulted to death of patients. The pandemic magnified the problems on under-staffed hospitals, small number of nurses and other medical or paramedical staff, full-capacity status of hospitals which seriously affected the services of ERs, delivery rooms, and maternal health care. There were vehement opposition from patients, especially emergency cases, regarding the requirement for RT-PCR and/or Antigen swab test results before admission to hospitals. Aggravating the situation was that hotlines were generally poorly manned or unfunctional. To underscore all these is the required monetary deposit to be paid before admission to confinement in hospitals.

The Committee emphasized the implementation of RA 10932 also known as the "Anti-hospital Deposit Law" which prohibits hospitals or medical clinics to solicit, demand or accept any deposit or any other form of advance payment as a pre-requisite for administering basic emergency care or to refuse to administer medical treatment. This law imposes increased penalties upon violator hospitals and medical institutions. The Sangguniang Panlungsod understands the side of hospitals and their need for appropriate revenue, considering that private hospitals are infused with private investments. There is no doubt that public health and welfare will be largely affected if these private hospitals could not operate due to depreciated capital. Nevertheless, hospitals should formulate and enforce sound policies where patients will not be denied emergency medical assistance on the reason of the "no-deposit, no admission" policy.

A consensus was reached that hospitals should implement better procedure for the admission of patients. This will provide more efficient and safer the queuing of patients before admission and improve the process of attending to emergency cases. Methods should be put in place where non-emergency cases shall be afforded the necessary assessment or consultation and treatment while emergencies shall be prioritized.

Communication lines should be open at all times. Patients could be given appropriate advice and their needs attended to even just through telephone consultation. This will save precious time and space in the already burdened hospital facilities. At the same time, patients' needs, and fears could be addressed by appropriate professional consult through communication. Online consultation is likewise recommended.

Dr. Ramoncito Magnaye of BatMC committed to personally look into reports concerning a child patient who was refused admission into the hospital who allegedly died after.

The Committee shall look into the possibility of providing free medicines and supplies usually prescribed for COVID-19 patients as a form of assistance to constituents. Public information shall also be tapped to keep people aware of the policies and procedures they need to observe when accessing medical attention in the hospitals within Batangas City.


Recommendations:

Considering the foregoing, the Committee recommends the following:


1. Establish an effective coordination system with hospitals in Batangas City to monitor their adherence to policies and procedures that promote public welfare;
2. Craft and propose an ordinance which will address the welfare of the public in availing the services of hospitals and medical facilities; and
3. Adoption of this Committee Report.

Respectfull submitted, March 8, 2022.


COMMITTEE OF HEALTH


HON. OLIVER Z. MACATANGAY
Chairman


HON. MARIA ALETH A. LAZARTE
Member


HON. MICHAEL THOMAS T. PASTOR
Member

HON. AILEEN GRACE A. MONTALBO
Member


HON. LORENZO A. GAMBOA JR.
Member


HON. KARLOS ESMANJUEL A. BUTED
Member

HON. MARJORIE A. MANALO
Member