

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Designated COVID-19 testing hospitals for seafarers to Korea

The Embassy of the Republic of Korea in the Philippines has issued its list of designated COVID-19 testing facilities for all seafarers entering Korea on vessels, as part of its stricter implementation on the submission of PCR certificates.

PCR or polymerase chain reaction for COVID-19 certificate is among the requirements for entry visa to Korea for seafarers from the Philippines, as health protocol of the South Korean government to control and prevent the spread of COVID-19 cases among seafarers.

The embassy-designated hospitals include St. Luke's Medical Center in BGC Taguig and Quezon City, Makati Medical Center, Manila Doctor's Hospital, The Medical City, Lung Center of the Philippines, Baguio Medical Center, PRI Medical Center, The Medical City Clark, ARC Hospital, University of Cebu medical Center, QualiMed Hospital, and Divine Word Hospital.

Starting September 8, 2020, the Korean Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (KCDC) will impose penalties to seafarers on the following violations, including the submission of PCR certificates where issuance date is over 48 hours before the departure date; submission of PCR certificate issued by non-designated hospitals, and submission of forged, altered or fake PCR certificates.

Non-submission of PCR certificate is also counted as violation.

Seafarers who will violate the said regulations would be incarcerated up to 1 year or fine up to 10 million won, and will face restriction on the future entry of ships charged of the above-mentioned violations. ###