



[FAQs \(/faq\)](#)

[Health Maps \(https://healthatlas.doh.gov.ph\)](https://healthatlas.doh.gov.ph)

AUXILIARY MENU ☰

YOU ARE HERE: [HOME \(/\)](#)

[Home \(/\)](#) [About DOH \(/about-us\)](#) [Policies and Laws](#) [Information Resources](#) [Press Releases \(/press-releases\)](#)
[Secretary's Corner](#) [Procurement \(/procurement\)](#) [Beat COVID-19 \(/2019-nCoV\)](#) [Health Systems](#)

DOH, EAMC, OTHER PARTNERS UNVEIL CENTER FOR EMERGING AND RE-EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Press Release/17 August 2020

The Department of Health (DOH) and the East Avenue Medical Center (EAMC) today unveiled the six-storey Center for Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Disease (CERID) to address the need to manage severe and critical cases of COVID-19 in Metro Manila.

According to EAMC Medical Center Chief Dr. Alfonso Nuñez, the CERID will have its own independent Emergency Room that can accommodate up to 40 patients. It will also have its own Operating Room plus Labor and Delivery Room to cater to COVID19 patients that need to be treated for other medical conditions.

Moreover, it will also have two Intensive Care Units (ICU) that can accommodate up to 30 critical patients, equipped with 8 - 10 Hemodialysis units. Ward type rooms and isolation rooms are available to ensure that these patients meet the minimum health standards to prevent further spread of the infection. The new building will also have an infirmary to cater to the needs of the Health Care Workers who may inadvertently contract the disease.

CERID was constructed with the help and support of the Inter-Agency Task Force, headed by Health Secretary Francisco T. Duque III, the National Implementation Task Force, headed by Secretary Carlito Galvez, and COVID-19 treatment czar Health Undersecretary Leopoldo Vega.

CERID was not initially intended to be an infectious disease center, but with the need to increase facilities to accommodate COVID19 patients, DOH in partnership with the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) headed by isolation Czar Secretary Mark Villar, further improved the building to meet the highest standards of safety protocol for infectious diseases.

Partner agencies in the future will make necessary improvements to complete one of the two ICUs of the facility with an integrated Hemodialysis unit in the area. Further, partners from the private sector will also provide EAMC-CERID with fully functional medical equipment good for 50 isolation rooms and 20 ICU beds.

In order to be fully operational, EAMC shall hire additional 900 Health Human Resources, including 77 medical specialists, 279 medical officers, 177 nurses and nursing aides, and 468 paramedical personnel and other support services. In the meantime, the existing EAMC personnel shall serve part of the new center to augment the existing needs of the community. To increase healthcare workers in CERD, Region 1 Medical Center will send 20 medical personnel to assist in the fight against the contagious virus.