



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Agriculture  
**BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY**  
Visayas Ave., Diliman, Quezon City  
**GaBAI sa Pag-unlad ng Paghahayupan**

(+632) 8528-2240 director@bai.gov.ph www.bai.gov.ph @bai.gov.ph

**MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR**

NO. 99  
Series of 2022

**SUBJECT : ADVISORY ON THE HANDLING AND MANAGEMENT OF ALL CASE IN PET BIRDS IN VETERINARY CLINICS AND HOSPITALS**

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act 8485 (RA 8485) *The Animal Welfare Act of 1998* as amended by RA 10631, aimed to protect and promote the welfare of all terrestrial, aquatic and marine animals in the Philippines by supervising and regulating the establishment and operations of all animal facilities where they are bred, treated, maintained, or kept, either for sale or trade or for training purposes as well as the transport in any form of public or private transportation facility to provide maximum comfort and to manage and control the spread of animal disease and death and to prevent any cruelty from being inflicted upon the animals;

**WHEREAS**, R.A. 11332 *An Act Providing Policies and Prescribe Procedures on Surveillance and Response to Notifiable Diseases, Epidemics, and Health Events of Public Health Concern, such as Avian Influenza, and Appropriating Funds therefor, Repealing for the Purpose Act No. 3573, otherwise known as the "Law on Reporting of Communicable Diseases"* provides penalty for non-cooperation of persons and entities on mandatory reporting of notifiable diseases or health events of public concern;

**WHEREAS**, there is a recent detection of Avian Influenza type A subtype H5N1 on an Indian Ring-necked Parakeet (*Psittacula sp.*) from a private aviary in Pasay City, National Capital Region;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Avian Influenza Protection Program and DA AC No. 8 series of 2021, which provides the lists of notifiable animal diseases in the country and guidelines on reporting to the Veterinary Authority, Avian Influenza (AI) Type A subtypes H5 and H7 are reportable to the Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI);

**WHEREAS**, pet bird refers to all species of parrots, parakeets, lovebirds, budgerigars, cockatiels, finches, canaries, pigeons, doves, pheasants and all other avicultural species;

**WHEREAS**, additional safety measures are necessary to prevent further spread of the Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) to the remaining disease-free areas in the country;



**WHEREAS**, there is an urgent need to protect the health of the public against the subject zoonotic disease;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, all Veterinary Practitioner in veterinary clinics and hospitals are hereby directed to take extra precaution in the handling and managing of all cases in pet birds showing respiratory signs. Thorough history taking, implementation of strict biosecurity measures, routine cleaning and disinfection of the facility shall be observed at all times.

Veterinary Practitioners have the legal and moral duty to report and advise their clientele the mandatory reporting of any case of unusual deaths in pet birds to their respective Local Government Veterinary/ Agriculture Office, Department of Agriculture Regional Field Office and/ or at the Bureau of Animal Industry.

Please be guided accordingly.

Done this 2nd day of August 2022.

  
**REILDRIN G. MORALES, DVM, MVPHMgt.**  
Officer-in-Charge, Director