

‘Suspect, probable, confirmed’: DOH shifts to new

April 12, 2020

TITLE: classification for patients screened for COVID-19

PAGE 1/ 1/2

DATE

‘Suspect, probable, confirmed’: DOH shifts to new classification for patients screened for COVID-19

Angela Coloma, ABS-CBN News

Posted at Apr 11 2020 03:06 PM

MANILA - The Department of Health (DOH) on Saturday issued a new classification system for persons being checked for coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) just as government geared for increased testing and cases in the country continued to rise.

Under Administrative Order No. 2020-0013, the DOH changed the classification to "suspect," "probable" and "confirmed," with the first two covering those previously tagged as persons under investigation.

It also removed the "person under monitoring" classification.

Under the new system, the DOH classifies those with symptoms but remain untested as "suspect," while those awaiting results are "probable."

Meanwhile, patients with positive results from official testing labs will be considered "confirmed" cases.



“The evidence of local and community transmission of COVID-19 necessitated a review on the assessment and classification of individuals with the aim of early detection and laboratory confirmation,” DOH said in the memorandum dated Thursday, April 9.

Under the new system, patients are classified as follows:

SUSPECT

A patient will be classified as "suspect" if they fall under any of the three:

1. Patient has the following symptoms:
 - Fever of at least 38 degrees C
 - Cough
 - Throat Pain

‘Suspect, probable, confirmed’: DOH shifts to new

April 12, 2020

TITLE: classification for patients screened for COVID-19

PAGE 1/ 2/2

DATE

And either of the two:

- Has travel history or lives in community with local COVID-19 transmission within 14 days since start of symptoms
- Had close contact with a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case within 14 days since start of symptoms

2. Patient has the following symptoms:

- Fever
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing

And is any of the following:

- 60 years old and above
- Has preexisting condition
- Has sensitive pregnancy
- A health worker

3. Patient experiences sudden onset of lung illness with severe symptoms of unknown origin and needs hospitalization

PROBABLE

A person will be classified as "probable" if he/she was earlier tagged as a "suspect" and has the following:

- still undetermined COVID-19 results
- test was not done in an official laboratory with RT-PCR test (reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction, considered the “gold standard” in COVID-19 testing)
- remains untested

CONFIRMED

A person will be considered a confirmed COVID-19 case if RT-PCR testing shows positive result for coronavirus.


As of April 10, around 4,195 COVID-19 cases have been recorded nationwide, with 140 recovering and 221 dead from the disease since the start of the pandemic.



INQUIRER.net 16 hrs · 🌐

The Department of Health released new classifications of COVID-19 patients in the country. "Persons under monitoring" (PUM) and "patients under investigation" (PUI) will be replaced as SUSPECT, PROBABLE, and CONFIRMED. | 🇵🇭 DOH

Bagong Klasipikasyon ng COVID-19



Lumang Klasipikasyon	Bagong Klasipikasyon
Hindi isang Person Under Monitoring (PUM) o Patient Under Investigation (PUI)	Hindi COVID-19 na kaso
PUM	Hindi kasama sa bagong klasipikasyon
PUI (mild, severe, critical) na wala pang test o hindi pa-natetest	SUSPECT
PUI (mild, severe, critical) na hindi tiyak/ tukoy and resulta ng test	PROBABLE
COVID-19 Positive	CONFIRMED

📌 OfficialDOHgov
 🐦 @DOHgovph
 🌐 doh.gov.ph
 📞 (02) 894-COVID / 1555

👍👎👏 659 196 Comments 547 Shares

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/142802334452/posts/10159003182729453/>



Frontline workers are seen during the COVID-19 outbreak in the Philippines

The STAR/Edd Gumban

Asymptomatic cases excluded in DOH's new COVID-19 classifications

[Ratzel San Juan](#) (Philstar.com) - April 11, 2020 - 4:26pm

MANILA, Philippines — The Department of Health on Saturday released a new set of guidelines for detecting cases of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) which no longer account for asymptomatic (no symptoms) cases with exposure history as "persons under monitoring."

Department of Health (Philippines) 17 hours ago

ALAMIN ang bagong klasipikasyon ng mga COVID-19 patients sa ating bansa:

Mapapalitan na ang PUM at PUI at gagamitin na ang SUSPECT, PROBABLE, at CONFIRMED. Ang bagong klasipikasyon ay naglalayon na magkaroon ng uniformed reporting upang mas maging tutok ang ating mga hakbang laban sa COVID-19!


Para sa kargadangang impromasyon sa Administrative Order 2020-0013 ay maaring bisitahin ang susunod na link: bit.ly/COVID19AO2020-0013...

[See More](#)

New Classification

The new classifications to be used – adapting provisions of the World Health Organization's interim [guidance](#) on global surveillance for COVID-19 – are "suspect," "probable" and "confirmed."

Bagong Klasipikasyon ng COVID-19



Lumang Klasipikasyon	Bagong Klasipikasyon
Hindi isang Person Under Monitoring (PUM) o Patient Under Investigation (PUI)	Hindi COVID-19 na kaso
PUM	Hindi kasama sa bagong klasipikasyon
PUI (mild, severe, critical) na wala pang test o hindi pa-natetest	SUSPECT
PUI (mild, severe, critical) na hindi tiyak/ tukoy and resulta ng test	PROBABLE
COVID-19 Positive	CONFIRMED

f OfficialDOHgov @DOHgovph doh.gov.ph (02) 894-COVID / 1555

"Since January 28...the Philippines has used decision tools to classify individuals as either Patients Under Investigation or Persons Under Monitoring," read the Health department's Administrative Order 2020-0013 dated [Thursday](#).

"However, the evidence of local and community transmission of COVID-19 necessitated a review on the assessment and classification of individuals with the aim of early detection and laboratory confirmation, especially among high risk and vulnerable populations, to guide appropriate clinical management and referral."

This amended the previous Administrative Order 2020-0012 dated [March 17](#) where PUMs are included in detection, reporting and epidemiologic investigation by disease surveillance officers.

"Because of local or community transmission in the [Philippines], its residents are assumed to have been exposed to the infection," read a note in the new guidelines explaining why PUMs are not included in the latest case definitions.

Philstar.com has attempted to reach Health Secretary Francisco Duque III for additional clarification but he has not responded as of writing.

In its interim guidance cited by the DOH, the WHO previously said that "countries may need to adapt case definitions depending on their local epidemiological situation and other factors."

Meanwhile, the Health department's dedicated live COVID-19 [tracker](#) — which previously included PUIs and PUMs among its displayed indicators — is offline and "under maintenance."

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2020/04/11/2006613/asymptomatic-cases-excluded-dohs-new-covid-19-classifications?fbclid=IwARod214IlyqzA8JGgMah7dKkSDYwpTGQq8UzWhzbfAqHWERfABPQfgh8rbk>

COVID-19 RESPONSE

DILG to advise LGUs against spraying, misting disinfectants —exec

Published April 11, 2020 10:27am

Local government units will be discouraged from spraying or misting as a means of disinfection against coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), the Department of the Interior and Local Government said Saturday, after the Department of Health found no proof that such methods are effective.

“Since they [in the DOH] lead the IATF (Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging and Infectious Diseases), and since this is a health matter, we respect their advisory and will advise all LGUs accordingly,” Interior Undersecretary and spokesperson Jonathan Malaya told GMA News Online.

Last Friday, the Health department announced that [spraying, or misting does not protect against COVID-19](#) and may even cause harm.

According to the DOH, there is no evidence to support that spraying of surfaces or large scale misting of areas, indoor or outdoor with disinfecting agents, kills the virus.

The DOH made the statement while [LGUs have been disinfecting roads and establishments through spraying and misting](#).

Instead, the DOH advised the public to soak objects or surfaces to be disinfected to kill the virus.

It pointed out that spraying may cause pathogens to be dispersed; cause skin irritation and the inhalation of chemicals, leading to respiratory side effects; and may result in environmental pollution. —**Ted Cordero/LBG, GMA News**



Spraying o misting vs. COVID-19, 'di rekomendado ng DILG

April 11, 2020 @ 11:53 AM 19 hours ago
Views: 160

Manila, Philippines – Hindi hinihikayat ang mga local government units na mag-spray o magsagawa ng misting bilang disinfection laban sa coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), ayon sa Department of the Interior and Local Government.

bagkus posible pa lalong makapahamak.

“Since they [in the DOH] lead the IATF (Inter-Agency Task Force on Emerging and Infectious Diseases), and since this is a health matter, we respect their advisory and will advise all LGUs accordingly,” ani Interior Undersecretary and spokesperson Jonathan Malaya sa isang panayam.

Sa kabila nito, inabisuhan naman ng DOH ang publiko na ibabad ang mga bagay para ma-disinfect ito at mapatay ang virus.

Maaari anilang kumalat ang pathogens sa pag-spray na maaaring magdulot ng skin irritation, pag-inhale sa mga kemikal, at polusyon. **Remate News Team/FGDC/Jocelyn Tabangcura-Domenden**

COVID-19 found in air samples up to 13 feet from

April 12, 2020

TITLE: patients

PAGE 1/ 1/2

DATE



COVID-19 found in air samples up to 13 feet from patients

(Agence France-Presse) - April 11, 2020 - 9:19am

WASHINGTON, United States — A new study examining air samples from hospital wards with COVID-19 patients has found the virus can travel up to 13 feet (four meters) -- twice the distance current guidelines say people should leave between themselves in public.

The preliminary results of the investigation by Chinese researchers were published Friday in *Emerging Infectious Diseases*, a journal of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

They add to a growing debate on how the disease is transmitted, with the scientists themselves cautioning that the small quantities of virus they found at this distance are not necessarily infectious.

The researchers, led by a team at the Academy of Military Medical Sciences in Beijing, tested surface and air samples from an intensive care unit and a general COVID-19 ward at Huoshenshan Hospital in Wuhan. They housed a total of 24 patients between February 19 and March 2.

They found that the virus was most heavily concentrated on the floors of the wards, "perhaps because of gravity and air flow causing most virus droplets to float to the ground."

High levels were also found on frequently touched surfaces like computer mice, trashcans, bed rails and door knobs.

"Furthermore, half of the samples from the soles of the ICU medical staff shoes tested positive," the team wrote. "Therefore, the soles of medical staff shoes might function as carriers."

Airborne threat?

The team also looked at so-called aerosol transmission -- when the droplets of the virus are so fine they become suspended and remain airborne for several hours, unlike cough or sneeze droplets that fall to the ground within seconds.

They found that virus-laden aerosols were mainly concentrated near and downstream from patients at up to 13 feet -- though smaller quantities were found upstream, up to eight feet.

Encouragingly, no members of the hospital staff were infected, "indicating that appropriate precautions could effectively prevent infection," the authors wrote.

They also offered advice that bucks orthodox guidelines: "Our findings suggest that home isolation of persons with suspected COVID-19 might not be a good control strategy" given the levels of environmental contamination.

Aerosolization of the coronavirus is a contentious area for scientists who study it, because it is not clear how infectious the disease is in the tiny quantities found in ultrafine mist.

The World Health Organization has so far downplayed the risk.

US health authorities have adopted a more cautious line and urged people to cover their faces when out in public in case the virus can be transmitted through normal breathing and speaking.



Hangin mula 4 metro sa COVID-19 patient, prone sa virus

April 11, 2020 @ 3:41 PM 15 hours ago
Views: 245

Washington – Lumabas sa bagong pag-aaral na ang air samples mula sa hospital wards na may COVID-19 patients ay kayang makaabot hanggang apat na metro o 13 talampakan.

Ito ang isinapubliko ng Chinese researchers sa Emerging Infectious Diseases, journal ng US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Pinagunahan ang naturang pananaliksik ng Academy of Military Medical Sciences sa Beijing kung saan sinuri ang surface at air samples mula sa intensive care unit at general COVID-19 ward sa Huoshenshan Hospital sa Wuhan.

Mayroon itong 24 pasyente buhat noong February 19 hanggang March 2.

Napag-alaman na kadalasang nasa lapag ng wards ang mga virus dahil sa gravity at daloy ng hangin.

“Furthermore, half of the samples from the soles of the ICU medical staff shoes tested positive,” saad dito.

“Therefore, the soles of medical staff shoes might function as carriers.”

Samantala, tinitingnan din ang aerosol transmission kung saan ang fine droplets ng virus ay nananatiling airborne ng ilang oras. **Remate News Team/FGDC**

Coronavirus found in air samples up to 13 feet from patients, says study

Agence France-Presse

Posted at Apr 11 2020 05:34 PM

WASHINGTON - A new study examining air samples from hospital wards with COVID-19 patients has found the virus can travel up to 13 feet (four meters) -- twice the distance current guidelines say people should leave between themselves in public.

The preliminary results of the investigation by Chinese researchers were published Friday in Emerging Infectious Diseases, a journal of the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

They add to a growing debate on how the disease is transmitted, with the scientists themselves cautioning that the small quantities of virus they found at this distance are not necessarily infectious.

The researchers, led by a team at the Academy of Military Medical Sciences in Beijing, tested surface and air samples from an intensive care unit and a general COVID-19 ward at Huoshenshan Hospital in Wuhan. They housed a total of 24 patients between February 19 and March 2.

They found that the virus was most heavily concentrated on the floors of the wards, "perhaps because of gravity and airflow causing most virus droplets to float to the ground."

High levels were also found on frequently touched surfaces like computer mice, trashcans, bed rails and doorknobs.

"Furthermore, half of the samples from the soles of the ICU medical staff shoes tested positive," the team wrote. "Therefore, the soles of medical staff shoes might function as carriers."

AIRBORNE THREAT?

The team also looked at so-called aerosol transmission -- when the droplets of the virus are so fine they become suspended and remain airborne for several hours, unlike cough or sneeze droplets that fall to the ground within seconds.

They found that virus-laden aerosols were mainly concentrated near and downstream from patients at up to 13 feet -- though smaller quantities were found upstream, up to eight feet.

Encouragingly, no members of the hospital staff were infected, "indicating that appropriate precautions could effectively prevent infection," the authors wrote.

They also offered advice that bucks orthodox guidelines: "Our findings suggest that home isolation of persons with suspected COVID-19 might not be a good control strategy" given the levels of environmental contamination.

Aerosolization of the coronavirus is a contentious area for scientists who study it, because it is not clear how infectious the disease is in the tiny quantities found in ultrafine mist.

The World Health Organization has so far downplayed the risk.

US health authorities have adopted a more cautious line and urged people to cover their faces when out in public in case the virus can be transmitted through normal breathing and speaking.

Source: <https://news.abs-cbn.com/spotlight/04/11/20/coronavirus-found-in-air-samples-up-to-13-feet-from-patients-says-study>

WHO: Hasty lifting of lockdowns could spark deadly

April 12, 2020

TITLE: resurgence

PAGE 1/ 1/2

DATE



WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said that while some states were considering ways to ease the restrictions which have placed around half of humanity under some form of lockdown, doing so too quickly could be dangerous.

AFP/Fabrice Coffrini

WHO: Hasty lifting of lockdowns could spark deadly resurgence

(Agence France-Presse) - April 12, 2020 - 12:00am

GENEVA – Any premature lifting of restrictions imposed to control the COVID-19 pandemic could lead to a fatal resurgence of the new coronavirus, the World Health Organization warned Friday.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said that while some states were considering ways to ease the restrictions which have placed around half of humanity under some form of lockdown, doing so too quickly could be dangerous.

“I know that some countries are already planning the transition out of stay-at-home restrictions. WHO wants to see restrictions lifted as much as anyone,” he told a virtual press conference in Geneva.

“At the same time, lifting restrictions too quickly could lead to a deadly resurgence. The way down can be as dangerous as the way up if not managed properly.

“WHO is working with affected countries on strategies for gradually and safely easing restrictions.”

Tedros spelled out six factors that should be considered before restrictions could be safely eased.

He said that transmission would have to be controlled; sufficient public health services made available; outbreak risks in care homes minimized; preventative measures imposed in workplaces and schools; virus importation risks managed and communities made aware of and engaged in the transition.

WHO: Hasty lifting of lockdowns could spark deadly

April 12, 2020

TITLE: resurgence

PAGE 1/ 2/2

DATE

Africa acceleration

The global death toll has gone over 100,000. More than 1.6 million infections have been recorded globally, according to an AFP tally, since the virus first emerged in China in December.

Tedros welcomed signs that its spread was slowing in some of the hardest-hit countries in Europe – citing Spain, Italy, Germany and France.

But he also warned of an “alarming acceleration” of the virus elsewhere, highlighting Africa, where he said it was beginning to emerge in rural areas.

“We are now seeing clusters of cases and community spread in more than 16 countries” on the continent, the former Ethiopian health minister said.

“We anticipate severe hardship for already overstretched health systems, particularly in rural areas, which normally lack the resources of those in cities.”

Tedros said that even the countries with the world’s strongest health systems had been caught by surprise by COVID-19. He urged them to reinforce their healthcare provision rather than plunge into a “cycle of panic and neglect.”

In many countries, “we’re now in a phase of panic because there is this dangerous, invisible virus which is wreaking havoc,” he said.

“But that should actually lead into asking questions on what to do to strengthen our system.

“No country is immune.”

Exit strategy

The WHO director-general also said he was particularly concerned by the large numbers of cases being recorded among health workers – with more than 10 percent reportedly infected in some nations.

“When health workers are at risk, we’re all at risk,” he said.

Tedros said evidence from some countries, including China, Italy and the United States, showed that health workers were being infected outside healthcare facilities, in their homes and communities.

Switching to the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, he said a new case had been reported, just three days before a deadline that would have marked the official end to the long epidemic.

WHO emergencies director Michael Ryan said some 2,600 alerts were still being investigated every day in the DRC, with thousands of samples taken every week.

“Maybe that’s our lesson for COVID-19: there is no exit strategy until you’re in control of the situation, and you must always be ready to go back again and start again,” he said.

Source: <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2020/04/12/2006715/who-hasty-lifting-lockdowns-could-spark-deadly-resurgence>

LATEST

One-third of COVID-infected Pinoys abroad now okay



Published 20 hours ago
on April 11, 2020 10:50 AM
By [Concept News Central](#)



Good news from DFA to worried families of overseas Filipinos.

The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) reported over the weekend that 172 or 27.1 percent of the 634 coronavirus disease 2019 (Covid-19) cases among overseas Filipinos have recovered

“To date, the DFA reports a total of 634 confirmed Covid-19 cases among our nationals across the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, and the Middle East/Africa, of which 27.1% have recovered and 12.5% fatalities recorded,” DFA Assistant Secretary Eduardo Meñez said in a statement.

There are 383 are still undergoing treatment.

p/jhd

LATEST

Fight vs health workers' deployment ban 'not over'



Published 18 hours ago
on April 11, 2020 01:07 PM
By [Concept News Central](#)



Not giving up Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. says he'll push for deployment ban lifting.

Saying it is the right of every Filipino to travel and work abroad, Foreign Affairs Secretary Teodoro Locsin Jr. said on Saturday he would oppose the temporary deployment ban on Filipino health workers ordered by the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA).

The POEA's ban came as calls were made for Filipino health workers to stay in the country so they can help in the fight to contain the coronavirus disease 2019 pandemic.

"The fight is not over. We will fight the ban in the IATF (Interagency Task Force)," Locsin said. "We will fight the ban in Cabinet. We will never surrender our constitutional right to travel and our contractual right to work where there is need for our work."

In its 2 April resolution, the POEA said that while the national health emergency brought about by COVID-19 exists, health workers should be at hand to practice their calling in the country.

Bodies 'piled up' in morgue hallway – East Ave

April 12, 2020

TITLE: Hospital spokesperson

PAGE 1/ 1/2

DATE

Bodies 'piled up' in morgue hallway – East Ave Hospital spokesperson

By [Paolo Barcelon and Carolyn Bonquin, CNN Philippines](#)

Published Apr 11, 2020 11:05:13 PM



One of the country's major hospitals involved in the fight against the novel coronavirus says, bodies have "piled up" in the hallway of its morgue facility. (FILE PHOTO)

Metro Manila (CNN Philippines, April 11) – One of the country's major hospitals involved in the fight against the novel coronavirus says, bodies have "piled up" in the hallway of its morgue facility.

East Avenue Medical Center (EAMC) spokesperson Dr. Dennis Ordoña told CNN Philippines, this is because the hospital did not have sufficient equipment, such as freezers, to store additional human remains.

"Ang capacity lang po kasi noon [morgue] is for 5 patients. Ang pinakamataas po na na-record po namin ay 20 na mga cadavers na hindi po napi-pick-up," the doctor says.

Ordoña adds that some of the bodies have been staying in the morgue for at least four days. He says, "honestly po, may mga bangkay na po doon na nangangamoy na. Umaabot na din po admittedly 'yung amoy sa ibang areas po ng hospital."

[TRANSLATION: Our hospital morgue is built for only 5 patients. The highest number we've recorded so far are 20 remains which have not yet been picked up. Honestly, there are bodies that have started to smell. We admit, that the stench reaches other areas of the hospital.]

The hospital made the confirmation after news anchor Arnold Clavio posted on his Instagram account Saturday morning about what was allegedly going on inside a hospital in Metro Manila.

Citing a "frontliner" in the hospital as his source, Clavio said, "Nagkalat sa hallway ng ospital ang mga bangkay. Sa isang ward, may 15-20 ang Covid-19 positive. Sa tatlong ward, puno ng PUI (Person Under Investigation)," Clavio said.

[TRANSLATION: Dead bodies are littered along the hospital hallway. In one ward, there are 15-20 (patients) who tested positive for COVID-19. Three other wards are full of PUIs.]

Ordoña confirmed to CNN Philippines that it was indeed East Avenue Medical Center that Clavio was referring to in the post. He then refuted the claim made by Clavio's source, saying that the bodies were not located in the hospital's hallway, but in the morgue hallway, which was a separate facility from the main hospital.

Bodies ‘piled up’ in morgue hallway – East Ave

April 12, 2020

TITLE: Hospital spokesperson

PAGE 1/ 2/2

DATE

Ordoña added that so far, none of the bodies have tested positive for COVID-19, saying that they will wait for test results to know if they have the virus – hence they are considered as persons under investigation (PUIs).

The spokesperson says, on a typical day - the remains of a dead person only stays in the morgue for a short while. It would then be collected from the hospital after six hours for cremation or for temporary storage in a freezer.

Speaking in the vernacular, Ordoña says, this process is mandatory, whether or not the deceased patient’s bills have been settled.

He adds, the hospital is coordinating with local government units where the deceased person used to live, if relatives of the deceased wouldn’t be able to claim their relatives’ remains due to the ongoing implementation of the enhanced community quarantine; or if they are unable to pay for the cremation processes.

Under Section 4.6 of the Interior Department’s guidelines for handling PUI and COVID-19 deaths, local governments “shall designate and commission reputable funeral parlors and crematoriums to handle the remains of confirmed COVID-19 cases and PUIs.” They are also mandated to shoulder logistical, fuel, and salary expenses involved in the process.

As of 4 p.m. Saturday, Ordoña says 6 bodies remain uncollected in the morgue.

In the end, Ordoña said that the hospital is open for donations of personal protective equipment, body bags, and a mobile morgue or freezer to store human remains. He also says the hospital will not cease operations.

He says, “*sa ngayon po, ang maihilingi lang po namin is suporta mula po sa lahat ng mga Pilipino, whether private po ito or government. Kami naman po sa East Avenue ay hindi aatras, hindi po kami titigil na magserbisyo.*”

[TRANSLATION: The only thing we can ask now is support from our fellow Filipinos, whether the private sector or the government. We, at East Avenue (Medical Center) will not back down, we will not stop our operations.]

No order to stop counting deaths - DOH

In a statement sent to reporters, East Avenue Medical Center (EAMC) director Dr. Alfonso Nuñez said they did not get any “directive, order or statement” from both the Quezon City local government and Health Secretary Francisco Duque III.

Nuñez also says they are continuously recording and reporting COVID-related death numbers to the Health Department’s Regional Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit.

The hospital made the pronouncement after Clavio also posted on his Instagram account about about an alleged order not to report deaths inside a “certain hospital in Metro Manila.”

Ordoña confirmed to CNN Philippines that it was indeed East Avenue Medical Center that Clavio was referring to in the post.

The Health Department also said that all hospitals and health centers are mandated “to report on consultations and/or admissions, and the status thereof” that fit the DOH’s coronavirus case definitions.

Source: <https://www.cnnphilippines.com/news/2020/4/11/east-avenue-hospital-morgue-hallway.html>



Philippine Star 14 hrs · 🌐

A shipping container is placed at the entrance of Baseco Beach in Tondo, Manila to prohibit the residents and visitors from entering the beach area. This is an effort made by the barangay officials to prevent any mass gathering in line with the enhanced community quarantine.

👍❤️😬 395 7 Comments 16 Shares

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/134752476678442/posts/1733007566852917/?app=fbl>

 ABS-CBN News  12 hrs · 

TINGNAN: Isang dambuhalang isda ang napadpad sa dalampasigan ng Barangay Sapu Padido, Malapatan, Sarangani, Sabado.

Ayon sa Bangsamoro Communication Network Inc. Soccsksargen Chapter, buhay pa ang ocean sunfish nang unang makita at sinubukan pa nilang ibalik sa dagat pero bumalik ito sa pampang hanggang sa bawian ng buhay.

Nasa 1 metro ang lapad nito at isa't kalahating metro naman ang laki. Agad ding inilibing ang isda. ( BCN Soccsksargen Chapter) | via Yen Mangompit, ABS-CBN News



Source: <https://www.facebook.com/abschnNEWS/posts/10158203922395168>

TINGNAN: Dambuhalang kamoteng kahoy nadiskubre sa Bayugan City

Lorilly Charmane D. Awitan, ABS-CBN News

Posted at Apr 11 2020 01:45 PM | Updated as of Apr 11 2020 01:46 PM

BAYUGAN CITY, Agusan del Sur - Ikinagulat ng isang lalaki ang nadiskubreng dambuhalang kamoteng kahoy sa Sitio Wilderness sa Mt. Carmel dito sa siyudad, Biyernes.

Ayon kay Jhungie Librias, pumunta sila sa lugar para kumuha ng gulay.

“First time ko pa talaga maka-experience na makakita ng ganoon kalaki,” ani Librias.

Nasa 15 kilo ang timbang ng kamoteng kahoy at may haba itong isang metro.



May bigat na 15 kilo ang kamoteng kahoy na nakita sa Sitio Wilderness sa Mt. Carmel sa Bayugan City.

Larawan mula kay Jhungie Librias

Sa ngayon, hindi muna nila ito niluluto.

Planong isangguni muna nila sa Department of Agriculture at ipasuri ang malaking kamoteng kahoy para masiguro kung ligtas itong kainin.

Source: <https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/04/11/20/tingnan-dambuhalang-kamoteng-kahoy-nadiskubre-sa-bayugan-city>

Toy manufacturers look to reduce carbon footprint

Associated Press / 05:22 PM April 11, 2020



INQUIRER.net Stock Photo

NEW YORK—Taking a toy out of the box can make a mess.

Hardly eco-friendly, the process can yield more clutter from plastic and cardboard than the actual toy.

But there are moves to change that as some toy manufacturers say they're going green with a series of environmentally friendly initiatives: Army soldiers and Kermit the Frog aren't the only toys that are green.

“Companies are trying to be more environmentally conscious with their products, whether it's using their packaging that has less plastic or making sure that their packaging is part of the toy ... it's really taking over the industry and we're going to see a lot more of it this year,” says Maddie Michalik, senior editor for *Toy Insider* magazine.

These initiatives range from using minimal packaging and recycled packing materials to opting for bio-based plastics rather than their petroleum counterpart. Some have even made the formerly discarded box part of the play experience.

Mattel—the maker of Barbie, Hot Wheels, Fisher Price—is touting several of its lines as sustainable, including a Woodland Friends edition of the popular Mega Bloks as well as an upcoming version of its traditional Fisher-Price Rock-A-Stack.

“Those are now made of bio-based sugar cane plastic. And we'll be taking that into other lines rolling out throughout the years,” said Mattel's Senior Public Relations Manager Scott Shaffstall.

Mattel says it also reduced packing waste by using 93% recycled or sustainably sourced materials, and by 2030 has the goal that its toys will be made from 100% recycled, recyclable or bio-based plastic materials.

Prof. Tensie Whelan, the former head of the Rainforest Alliance and current director of New York University's Stern Center for Sustainable Business, says focusing on sustainability practices in the toy industry is long overdue.

"We've got 60 million kids under 14 in the United States. We've got 90% of toys made of plastic. We have chemical issues, waste disposal issues, social supply chain issues. So, a lot of things that need to be addressed," Whelan said.

She points out that while manufacturers are introducing eco-friendly initiatives, it's hard to verify their sustainability claims, noting "you'd have to be looking at waste, carbon emissions, water emissions, the product themselves what their supply chain partners are doing. And none of that is very transparent."

Whelan believes Mattel is making positive commitments when it comes to materials used in manufacturing and reducing packaging. She also cites Hasbro and Lego for making strides when it comes to reducing packaging and using safer materials. But she says the toy industry as a whole has much more work to do.

"I think there's still plenty of room to improve on packaging, to reduce the packaging and also to use far less plastics," Whelan said.

And manufacturers seem to be listening. MGA Entertainment unveiled a biodegradable ball as part of its L.O.L Surprise! Doll line. MGA also unveiled a new product line from Little Tikes made from a blend of recycled resins.

Educational Insights has focused on educational toys for young children for more than 50 years. For their Design and Drill: Bolt Buddies Pick-It-Up Truck they've made the packaging part of the play experience.

At Toy Fair New York in February, product manager Stacie Palka demonstrated how the toy and its packing come together so there is little waste as the box the toy is shipped in becomes part of the toy.

"What they can do is use this for color packaging to unfold and create this play set. So, it really extends the play pattern because you've got a set that you can use for pretend play," Palka said.

Another company, the Netherlands-based Safari Ltd., offers the BioBuddi line of toy blocks, much like Lego and Mega Bloks, that uses sugar cane in the manufacturing process.

The company's general manager, Job Nijssen, says their mandate is to reduce our carbon footprint in the manufacturing process, while at the same time setting an example for its young consumers.

"We want to produce products for children, but also teach children about environmental education," Nijssen said. **CL /ra**

Source: <https://technology.inquirer.net/98228/toy-manufacturers-look-to-reduce-carbon-footprint#ixzz6JLUtdaHy>

'Hope' the giraffe born in New Orleans amid pandemic

Associated Press / 12:43 PM April 11, 2020



Hope, a baby giraffe and her mother Sue Ellen, at Freeport-McMoRan Audubon Species Survival Center in New Orleans. (Audubon Nature Institute via AP)

NEW ORLEANS — The Audubon Nature Institute in New Orleans welcomed a new resident, a baby giraffe named Hope.

Sue Ellen, a middle-aged giraffe at the Freeport-McMoRan Audubon Species Survival Center, gave birth Monday, according to a Friday news release.

Audubon Nature Institute President and CEO Ron Forman said Hope was the perfect name for the calf, especially as New Orleans has been hit hard during the coronavirus pandemic.

“What name could be more fitting than 'Hope' in these challenging times?” Forman said. “Hope is what has sustained our community through seemingly insurmountable crises in the past and what we must hold onto as we continue on in the coming days and weeks. May we all take comfort in the reminder that, even in the darkest of days, life continues, undaunted.”

Species Survival Center curator Michelle Hatwood said the staff had known the calf was on the way for 15 months but said it can be tough to pinpoint a likely delivery date for giraffes.

The calf was born 6-feet (1.8-meters) tall, weighing in at 189 pounds (86 kilograms).

Located on 1,200 acres of land west of downtown New Orleans, the center is now home to 13 giraffes, the release said. The new calf was the eighth giraffe born at the center as part of the Alliance for Sustainable Wildlife conservation breeding partnership with San Diego Zoo Global.

The giraffes reside in a 46-acre forested area and spend most of their day foraging and looking for their favorite leaves to eat.

Since the coronavirus pandemic began in Louisiana, the Audubon Nature Institute has been forced to close its facilities to the public. It's asking federal officials for assistance in providing funds to larger nonprofits like zoos and aquariums.

Disrespect for animals caused COVID-19 pandemic-

April 12, 2020

TITLE: primatologist

PAGE 1/ 1/2

DATE



Disrespect for animals caused COVID-19 pandemic — primatologist

(Agence France-Presse) - April 11, 2020 - 5:27pm

PARIS, France — World-renowned British primatologist Jane Goodall says the coronavirus pandemic was caused by humanity's disregard for nature and disrespect for animals.

Goodall, who is best known for trail-blazing research in Africa that revealed the true nature of chimpanzees, pleaded for the world to learn from past mistakes to prevent future disasters.

During a conference call ahead of the release of the new National Geographic documentary "Jane Goodall: The Hope", the 82-year-old also said everyone can make a difference.

How do you view this pandemic?

Goodall: It is our disregard for nature and our disrespect of the animals we should share the planet with that has caused this pandemic that was predicted long ago.

Because as we destroy, let's say the forest, the different species of animals in the forest are forced into a proximity and therefore diseases are being passed from one animal to another, and that second animal is then most likely to infect humans as it is forced into closer contact with humans.

It's also the animals who are hunted for food, sold in markets in Africa or in the meat market for wild animals in Asia, especially China, and our intensive farms where we cruelly crowd together billions of animals around the world. These are the conditions that create an opportunity for the viruses to jump from animals across the species barrier to humans

Disrespect for animals caused COVID-19 pandemic-

TITLE: primatologist

PAGE 1/ 2/2

April 12, 2020

DATE

What can we do about these animal markets?

It's really good that China closed down the live wild animal markets, in a temporary ban which we hope will be made permanent, and other Asian countries will follow suit.

But in Africa it will be very difficult to stop the selling of bush meat because so many people rely on that for their livelihoods.

It will need a lot of careful thought on how it should be done, you can't just stop somebody doing something when they have absolutely no money to support themselves or their families, but at least this pandemic should have taught us the kind of things to do to prevent another one.

What can we hope for?

We have to realise we are part of the natural world, we depend on it, and as we destroy it we are actually stealing the future from our children.

Hopefully, because of this unprecedented response, the lockdowns that are going on around the world, more people will wake up and eventually they can start thinking about ways they can live their lives differently.

Everyone can make an impact every single day.

If you think about the consequences of the little choices you make: what you eat, where it came from, did it cause cruelty to animals, is it made from intensive farming -- which mostly it is -- is it cheap because of child slave labour, did it harm the environment in its production, where did it come from, how many miles did it travel, did you think that perhaps you could walk and not take your car.

(Also consider) ways that you could perhaps help alleviate poverty because when people are poor they can't make these ethical choices. They just have to do whatever they can to survive -- they can't question what they buy, they must buy the cheapest, and they are going to cut down the last tree because they are desperate to find land on which they can grow more food.

So what we can do in our individual lives does depend a little bit on who we are, but we all can make a difference, everybody can.

COVID-19 WATCH

Dos and don'ts of wearing gloves to avoid virus transmission

Published 16 hours ago
on April 11, 2020 03:02 PM
By **TDT**



A health worker wears a protective outfit while working in the collection of nasal swab samples to be tested for COVID-19 at a drive-through point in Panama City. (AFP)

For many, gloves have become essential in helping to avoid transmission of the coronavirus, as they cover our hands and protect us when touching surfaces that have been exposed to the virus.

Disease control and prevention experts said COVID-19 transmission through respiratory droplets is more common than through direct contact and it has yet to advise non-healthcare workers to wear gloves when going outside.

For those who plan on wearing gloves anyway, here are some dos and don'ts regarding their usage during this pandemic:

Do: Wear gloves while cleaning

Gloves and proper air circulation are two important elements when cleaning your house, especially the surfaces in your house that are commonly touched, such as doorknobs, light switches, handles, desks, toilets, faucets, sinks and electronic devices. If someone in your house may have COVID-19, it is recommended to prepare special gloves for cleaning and disinfecting purposes.

Do: Wash your hands before and after wearing gloves

Even if you think your hands are clean, it's important to take precautionary measures by washing your hands with soap for a minimum of 20 seconds or alcohol-based hand sanitizer before and after putting on gloves to prevent contamination.

Do: Wear gloves when taking care of a sick person

Gloves are necessary when handling the dirty laundry of a person infected by COVID-19. Discard your gloves afterward and wash your hands thoroughly.

Dos and don'ts of wearing gloves to avoid virus

April 12, 2020

TITLE: transmission

PAGE 1/ 2/2

DATE

Don't: Hastily remove your gloves

According to the CDC, among the proper ways to take off your gloves to prevent further contamination is by slipping your fingers into the second glove and inverting it inside out while slowly releasing it from your hand. It is important to do this carefully.

Don't: Choose the wrong gloves

Thomas Russo, infectious disease division chief at the University of Buffalo, told The Huffington Post that rubber gloves like the ones used by medical staff were easier to properly remove compared to others, such as gloves with thick fabric.

“Even if you remember to decontaminate your gloves, you might not be able to do it optimally,” Russo said.

Don't: Touch your face while wearing gloves

Debra Goff, infectious disease specialist at the Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center, said that gloves could give one a “false sense of security” especially because traces of the virus on a surface will stick to your gloves instead of your hands. As such, you are at risk of getting contaminated if you touch your face with the gloves.

Don't: Forget about your personal hygiene

Practicing personal hygiene and physical distancing are still crucial even if you're wearing gloves as gloves alone won't keep you safe from the virus, as stated by Public Health England. (Jakarta Post)

S. Korea reports recovered coronavirus patients

April 12, 2020

TITLE: testing positive again

PAGE 1/ 1/2

DATE

S.Korea reports recovered coronavirus patients testing positive again

Published April 10, 2020 7:33pm

SEOUL - South Korean officials on Friday reported 91 patients thought cleared of the new coronavirus had tested positive again.

Jeong Eun-kyeong, director of the Korea Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (KCDC), told a briefing that the virus may have been "reactivated" rather than the patients being re-infected.

South Korean health officials said it remains unclear what is behind the trend, with epidemiological investigations still under way.

The prospect of people being re-infected with the virus is of international concern, as many countries are hoping that infected populations will develop sufficient immunity to prevent a resurgence of the pandemic.

The South Korean figure had risen from 51 such cases on Monday.

Nearly 7,000 South Koreans have been reported as recovered from COVID-19, the disease caused by the new coronavirus.

"The number will only increase, 91 is just the beginning now," said Kim Woo-joo, professor of infectious diseases at Korea University Guro Hospital.

The KCDC's Jeong raised the possibility that rather than patients being re-infected, the virus may have been "reactivated."

Kim also said patients had likely "relapsed" rather than been re-infected.

False test results could also be at fault, other experts said, or remnants of the virus could still be in patients' systems but not be infectious or of danger to the host or others.

"There are different interpretations and many variables," said Jung Ki-suck, professor of pulmonary medicine at Hallym University Sacred Heart Hospital.

"The government needs to come up with responses for each of these variables."

South Korea on Friday reported 27 new cases, its lowest after daily cases peaked at more than 900 in late February, according to KCDC, adding the total stood at 10,450 cases.

The death toll rose by seven to 211, it said.

The city of Daegu, which endured the first large coronavirus outbreak outside of China, reported zero new cases for the first time since late February.

S. Korea reports recovered coronavirus patients

April 12, 2020

TITLE: testing positive again

PAGE 1/ 2/2

DATE

With at least 6,807 confirmed cases, Daegu accounts for more than half of all South Korea's total infections.

The spread of infections at a church in Daegu drove a spike in cases in South Korea beginning in late February.

The outbreak initially pushed the tally of confirmed cases much higher than anywhere else outside of China, before the country used widespread testing and social distancing measures to bring the numbers down. **-Reuters**

A boy from a remote Amazonian tribe has died, raising concerns about Covid-19's impact on indigenous people

By Harmeet Kaur and Mia Alberti, CNN

Published Apr 11, 2020 12:01:18 PM



(CNN) -- A teenager from an isolated Amazonian tribe who tested positive for Covid-19 has died, raising concerns about the coronavirus' impact on the region's indigenous people.

The 15-year-old boy, a Yanomami from the village of Rehebe on the Uraricoera River, died Thursday, according to Brazil's Ministry of Health.

He had been in the intensive care unit in Roraima General Hospital in Boa Vista, the capital of Roraima state, since April 3. The hospital has not revealed his cause of death, the Ministry of Health said.

Brazil's health minister said that the boy had tested positive for Covid-19, during a press conference on Wednesday.

"Today we had a confirmed case in the Yanomami, which concerns us a lot," he said. "This is a government concern for indigenous health."

The Yanomami live in the rainforests and mountains of northern Brazil and southern Venezuela, according to Survival International, an organization that seeks to protect indigenous rights. The largest relatively isolated tribe in South America, there are an estimated 38,000 Yanomami today, the organization's website says.

The Socio-Environmental Institute (ISA) said the virus had spread among the Yanomami through miners who had illegally entered indigenous territory.

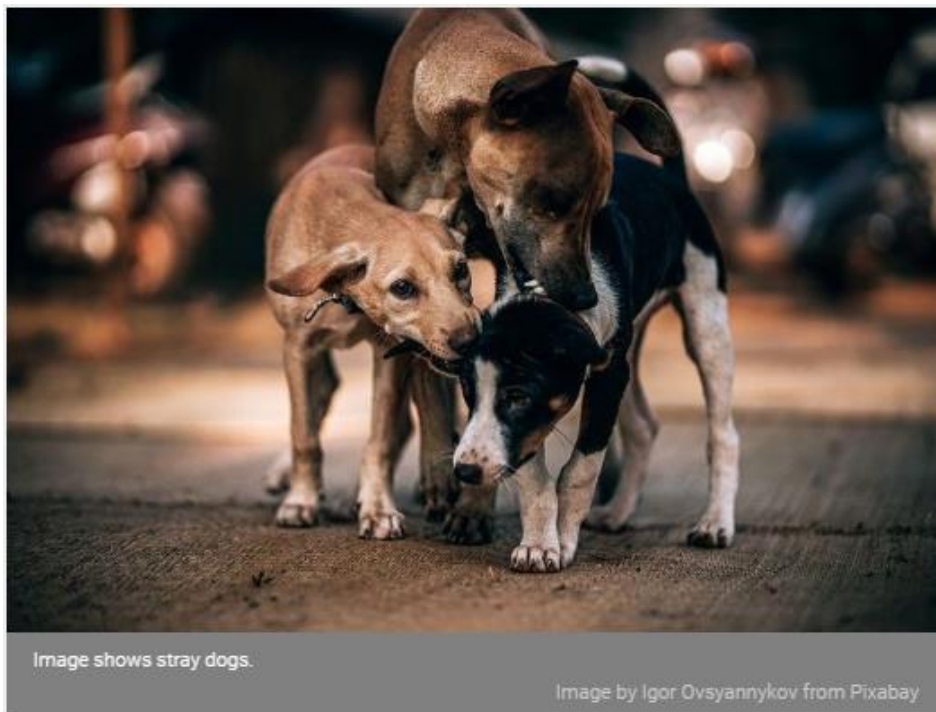
"Today, without a doubt, the main vector for the spread of COVID-19 inside the Yanomami Indigenous Territory is the more than 20,000 illegal miners that go in and out of the territory without any control," ISA said in a statement on its website.

"The Yanomami, as many other indigenous people, are among the groups most vulnerable to the impacts of COVID-19 and should be urgently protected, under the risk of genocide with the complicity of the Brazilian State."

The Association of the Indigenous People of Brazil (APIB) said the boy was the third indigenous person to die of Covid-19 in Brazil.

Brazil has recorded more than 18,176 confirmed cases of Covid-19 and more than 957 deaths as of Friday, according to Johns Hopkins University Center for Systems Science and Engineering.

Source: <https://cnnphilippines.com/world/2020/4/11/Amazonian-tribe-COVID-19.html?fbclid=IwAR2DpENBaAZKF0pO2ZB4hw3wO3s1rNUWwvhEiENPdGy1ZYoHnUkEAcNoBpc>



Rights group welcomes draft rules that could end China dog meat trade

(Agence France-Presse) - April 11, 2020 - 2:03pm

PEKIN, China — Draft rules by Chinese authorities that specify dogs as "companion animals" rather than livestock were hailed by a rights group Thursday as an "encouraging" step towards ending the dog meat trade in the country.

China's Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs published a list of animals that can be traded for meat Wednesday that included pigs, cows, chickens and sheep, but excluded dogs and cats.

The new list also specified that livestock refers to animals that have been domesticated and bred by people for a long time in order to provide products such as meat, eggs and fur.

China in recent weeks banned the sale of wild animals for food, citing the risk of diseases spreading from animals to humans.

The illegal animal trade has been blamed for the emergence of the new coronavirus outbreak that has spread across the globe and killed more than 87,000 people.

While trade and consumption made a comeback despite similar measures taken after the 2003 SARS outbreak, there are signs that such moves are being taken more seriously this time.

The southern city of Shenzhen passed a law last week banning the consumption of wild animals, including dog and cat meat, a step also welcomed by animal rights activists.

Humane Society International said in a statement Thursday that the latest draft document "could signal a critically important shift in China's desire to see an end to the dog and cat meat trade".

Rights group welcomes draft rules that could end

TITLE: China dog meat trade

PAGE 1/ 2/2

April 12, 2020

DATE

"Coming so soon after Shenzhen's dog and cat meat ban, it is incredibly encouraging," said its international media director Wendy Higgins.

"This is the first time the national government in China has explicitly explained why dogs... are excluded from the official livestock list, stating that these are companion animals and not for eating," she added.

The animal protection group estimates some 10 million dogs a year are killed for China's dog meat trade.

According to activists, thousands are killed for a festival in the town of Yulin in southern Guangxi province every year, and eaten to mark the late-June summer solstice.

An extraordinary feat pulled off by a lizard could suggest the species is going through a rare evolutionary transition

By Harmeet Kaur, CNN

Published Apr 11, 2020 12:42:32 PM



(CNN) — For most of the animal kingdom, babies are born in one of two ways: their parent either lays eggs or gives birth to live offspring.

Recently, a three-toed skink (*Saiphos equalis*) pulled off an extraordinary feat: It laid three eggs and delivered another baby through live birth in the same pregnancy. That suggests that the lizard species is in a rare transitional form between egg-laying and live-bearing animals, according to a study published in *Molecular Ecology* last month.

"We affectionately call the three-toed skink 'the weirdest lizard in the world' -- but it can tell us a lot about the evolution of reproductive strategies," Camilla Whittington, one of the study's lead authors and an evolutionary biologist at the University of Sydney, wrote in an email to CNN.

It was the first record of egg-laying and live birth in a single pregnancy

Three-toed skinks, found in Australia, are already a fascinating species for evolutionary scientists, explains Whittington. One reason is that some populations reproduce by laying eggs, while others reproduce through live birth.

The mode skinks use to reproduce generally corresponds with their environment. Skinks around the Sydney area lay eggs, albeit ones with thin shells and embryos that are almost completely developed. In northern parts of Australia, the skinks give birth to live young.

But never before had scientists seen a species lay eggs and experience live birth in a single pregnancy until it was observed in the three-toed skink last year, Whittington wrote. It was the first record of a vertebrate doing so.

Why this could be happening

There are a couple of explanations as to why the skink both laid eggs and had a live baby in the same pregnancy, Whittington said.

One is that it was a form of "bet-hedging," meaning that the ability to switch between laying eggs and live birth could provide the lizard an advantage in unpredictable environments.

"For example, if it's cold or dry, it might be risky to lay eggs in an unprotected nest, and better for the mums to carry the babies until development is complete," she wrote. "If there are a lot of predators around and pregnant mums find it harder to escape, it might be risky to carry babies to term. Mothers that are able to act flexibly could therefore have an advantage in an unpredictable environment."

Another explanation is that some feature of the environment could have caused the skink in question to lay part of her clutch abnormally early. Still, Whittington said, two of the skink's eggs hatched to healthy baby lizards, which means that if this phenomenon happened in the wild, the babies could still be viable.

An extraordinary feat pulled off by a lizard could suggest
TITLE: the species is going through a rare evolutionary transition PAGE 1/ 2/2

April 12, 2020
DATE

Scientists don't yet know what course evolution is taking

The finding could mean that the skink is transitioning to only laying eggs or only experiencing live birth. But scientists say it's too soon to tell which direction it's moving in.

In general, animals that give birth to live young have evolved from ancestors that laid eggs and it would be rare for an animal to evolve in the other direction, according to Whittington. And it's worth pointing out that when this skink does lay eggs, the embryos are almost fully developed and hatch much more quickly than other egg-laying lizards.

Still, it's "impossible" to determine what course natural selection is taking in this skink species, Whittington said. Their research shows that the uterus of the "transitional" three-toed skinks and live-bearing three-toed skinks function similarly, which could make it possible for the species to reverse from live-bearing to egg-laying, she said.

"At the moment, we can't rule out the possibility that the transitional animals could be descended from live-bearing ancestors -- which is why we are continuing to study these amazing lizards," she wrote.

"To complicate things, if the environment changes, the direction of selection could change too! In some environments, natural selection might favour laying eggs. In others, it might be more advantageous to give birth to live young."

And that, Whittington said, is what makes evolution such a fascinating process.