

## Virgin Coconut Oil Producers and Traders Association of the Philippines, Inc.

Unit 802 Platinum 2000, 7 Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan City, Philippines

Tel. No.: +632 7273948

Email: <u>info@vcophilippines.com</u>;

vcophilippines@gmail.com Visit us at: www.vcophilippines.com

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## Statement of the Virgin Coconut Oil Association of the Philippines (VCOP) regarding the report on the PGH study on the use of VCO to treat hospitalized COVID-19 patients

A recent news report was released stating that: "hospitalzed Covid-19 patients did not significantly benefit from VCO as adjunct therapy." This was based on a recently completed clinical trial conducted at the Philippine General Hospital (PGH).

As a group, we wish to declare that:

- 1. VCOP supports the DOST program to search for affordable, effective and science-based responses to COVID-19.
- 2. A previous study has already shown that VCO is effective for mild cases of COVID-19 which can prevent progression to serious cases of COVID-19. This is also consistent with the testimonials that we have gathered from those who took VCO for mild COVID-19.
- 3. VCO should be studied further as prophylaxis against this virus. Prevention is an essential strategy.
- 4. Pharmaceutical companies have not been successful in developing safe and effective anti-covid drugs despite the millions of dollars that they have spent. The drugs that are being used in hospitals now are very expensive and of partial efficacy only.
- 5. According to some experts, the COVID-19 pandemic may have reached the endemic stage. This means that we will have to co-exist with this virus. Therefore, it is imperative that we develop a more holistic and affordable strategy against this virus. We believe that VCO can be part of that strategy.
- 6. We must remain **OPEN-MINDED**, **THOROUGH**, and **AGGRESSIVE** in undertaking scientific studies on the use of Virgin Coconut Oil against this virus.

VCO is a natural, sustainable, and highly renewable resource of our country that is accessible and affordable for all Filipinos.

Sincerely yours,

MARCO REYES, RChE

President