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PRESS RELEASE

MOHW Warns of False Health Advisory WhatsApp Message

Belmopan, August 15, 2023.

The Ministry of Health & Wellness (MOHW) is aware of a WhatsApp message in circulation concerning a new COVID-19 variant, "COVID-Omicron XBB". The message did not originate from the MOHW, nor is it endorsed by the ministry.

The MOHW urges the public to disregard the WhatsApp message and not share it or any information not verified by an official source. The public is reminded that the MOHW is the official source of health information on behalf of the Government of Belize. All press releases or public information released by the ministry is channeled through the Government of Belize Press Office or directly from the ministry bearing its official letterhead or that of the GOB Press Office. While the ministry has used text blast messaging for COVID-19 information, WhatsApp has not been used.

The public can access official information from the Ministry of Health and Wellness on the following platforms:

Website: www.health.gov.bz

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Belizehealth

Instagram: www.instagram.com/ministryofhealthandwellness

TikTok: www.tiktok.com/@mohw.bz

YouTube: www.youtube.com/@ministryofhealthwellness5344

The ministry can be contacted on its toll-free number: 0-800-664-2273 or by calling 822-2325, 828-6711 or 613-1096.

Ends

For more information, please contact: Claudette Dakers Norales Information Officer Ministry of Health & Wellness 828-6711