



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

16 February 2022

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. 2022 - 0105

FOR: ALL CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT, NATIONAL DRUG POLICY COMPLIANCE OFFICES, LEAGUES OF CITIES, PROVINCES AND MUNICIPALITIES, PROFESSIONAL HEALTH SOCIETIES, DIRECTORS OF BUREAUS AND REGIONAL OFFICES, BARMM MINISTER OF HEALTH, CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS AND SANITARIA, AND OTHER CONCERNED

SUBJECT: Nomination of Topics for Health Technology Assessment Prioritization

Pursuant to Republic Act 11223, otherwise known as the "Universal Health Care Act," all health technologies that will be funded by the Department of Health and the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) shall undergo health technology assessment (HTA). This aims to ensure the rational utilization of various health technologies that will be funded by the government.

We would like to inform you that HTA Philippines will open the call for topic nomination under the General HTA process track tentatively scheduled in March 2022. This shall be opened to all external stakeholders, aside from the DOH and PhilHealth. Details of this activity will be posted through the HTA Philippines website (hta@doh.gov.ph).

In line with this, we would like to reiterate that national health programs and hospitals are mandated to submit **topic nominations** provided that they are internally prioritized based on their medium-term procurement plans, and **vetted by the head of the Office** (e.g., director) pursuant to Department Memorandum 2021-0079 with the subject: "*Endorsement of Topic Submissions from National Health Programs for Health Technology Assessment*" wherein all topic submissions should have been duly endorsed and signed by the head of the Office.

Moreover, as stipulated in the HTA Process Guide, appropriate topic nomination forms and complete documentary requirements must be submitted to Health Technology Assessment Unit (HTAU) once the call for topic nomination is opened. The topic nomination forms and documentary requirements are accessible via this link: <https://hta.doh.gov.ph/topic-nomination/> Kindly note that incomplete requirements will not be processed.

To guide you in submitting **priority topics/health technologies** (e.g., 3-year priority plan), we **prepared a guide which is aimed at extracting the program or office's objectives, goals, level of priority, and timelines** for procurement and assessment of the Health Technology Assessment Council (HTAC). This is accessible through this link: <https://bit.ly/sample-3-yearprioritytopicsforHTA>

Should your good Office plans to submit topics for assessment, we are kindly requesting that this form be accomplished and submitted to HTAU **on or before 02 March 2022** for alignment with our work streams prior to your anticipated official submission of accomplished forms.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us at hta@doh.gov.ph.

Thank you very much and best regards.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:


ATTY. CHARADE MERCADO-GRANDE
Undersecretary of Health
Health Regulation Team