



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Health  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

15 September 2022

**DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR**

No. 2022 - 0491

**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 to the Health Technology Assessment Council (HTAC) Core Committee and Subcommittee Members**

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The Department of Health (DOH) created the Health Technology Assessment Council (HTAC) on 11 October 2019 to efficiently and effectively implement the Republic Act 11223 or the Universal Health Care Act. It is composed of a Core Committee composed of nine (9) voting members, and seven (7) Subcommittees. Since its creation, the HTAC has accomplished its mandates as stipulated in *Administrative Order 2021-0041* or the Implementing Guidelines on HTA which was signed by the Secretary of Health on 08 September 2020: (1) facilitate provision of financing and/or coverage recommendations on health technologies to be financed by DOH and PhilHealth; (2) oversee and coordinate the HTA process within DOH and PhilHealth; and (3) review and assess existing DOH and PhilHealth benefit packages.

The HTAC has been informing government procurement decisions through its recommendations on COVID-19 technologies, urgent DOH National Program topics and other minor inclusion requests for drugs and vaccines already listed in the Philippine National Formulary.

In line with this, the DOH is starting the **call for nominations to the following HTAC positions:**

**A. Seven (7) positions to the Core Committee** who will develop and submit final recommendations to policy- and decision-makers based on the evidence appraisal of the different subcommittees:

1. Public Health Epidemiologist
2. Health Economist
3. Clinical Trial/Research Methods Expert
4. Clinical Epidemiologist/Evidence-Based Medicine Expert
5. Public Health Expert
6. Sociologist/Anthropologist
7. Citizen's Representative

B. **Twenty-one (21) members to the following Subcommittee (SC)** who will (a) exercise control over the expected quality, quantity, and timeliness of the HTA reports to be submitted to the Core Committee; (b) consider the submissions of the industry, assessment teams, inputs from experts and patients for the preliminary recommendations to the Core Committee; (c) evaluate the compliance of the assessment teams, with the agreed methodological standards in conducting assessments; and (d) review and endorse the initial appraisal report to the HTA Core Committee for final discussion and recommendation:

1. SC on Drugs (3)
2. SC on Vaccines (3)
3. SC on Clinical Equipment and Devices (3)
4. SC on Medical and Surgical Procedures (3)
5. SC on Preventive and Promotive Health (3)
6. SC on Traditional Medicine (3)
7. SC on Other Health Technologies (3)

Given the crucial role of the Council in evidence-based recommendations, the following are the qualifications of the HTAC members:

- Person of moral and intellectual integrity;
- A recognized specialist in their respective field of expertise;
- With at least 3 years experience in evidence appraisal; and,
- Willingness to disclose conflicts of interest.

Relative thereto, we are kindly requesting your good Office for nominees to the said position. The nominees will be evaluated according to their educational attainment, relevance of work experience (e.g., at least 3 years of experience in evidence appraisal), relevance of training experience within the last ten (10) years, publications and conflicts of interest.

We hope to receive the names and contact details of your nominees on or before **26 October 2022**, and we shall reach out to them on the requirements and how to proceed with the application.

Kindly submit the list of your nominees at [hta@doh.gov.ph](mailto:hta@doh.gov.ph). If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us through the same email address.

Thank you very much and best regards.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:



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