



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

September 07, 2022

**DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL ORDER**  
No. 2022 - 3725

**SUBJECT: Appointment of the Health Technology Assessment Council Core and Subcommittees**

Section 34 of Republic Act (RA) No. 11223 otherwise known as the "Universal Health Care Act," provides that the health technology assessment (HTA) process shall be institutionalized as a fair and transparent priority setting mechanism to guide the DOH and the Philhealth in the development of policies and programs, regulation, and the determination of a range of entitlements such as drugs, medicines, pharmaceutical products, and other devices, procedures and services.

To operationalize the process, the Health Technology Assessment Council (HTAC), which is composed of health experts, shall be created within the DOH to undertake the following functions: (1) facilitate provision of financing and/or coverage recommendations on specific health technologies to be financed by DOH and Philhealth; (2) oversee, coordinate and perform the HTA processes within DOH and Philhealth; and (3) review and assess existing DOH and Philhealth benefit packages.

Section 34 (e) of RA 11223 also provides that the HTAC's core committee and subcommittee members shall be appointed by the Secretary of Health while the HTAC has not yet transitioned into an attached agency under the Department of Science and Technology (DOST). While the same provision of law sets forth the term for the said appointments, the designation of the undersigned as Officer-in-Charge of the DOH allows for temporary appointments to be made only for a maximum of six (6) months.

In the exigency of service, the following are hereby appointed as members of the HTAC core and subcommittees:

**CORE COMMITTEE:**

ETHICS PRACTITIONER	Marita V. Tolentino-Reyes, MD
PUBLIC HEALTH EPIDEMIOLOGIST	Ma. Carmen Cornelia-Tolabing, DrPH
HEALTH ECONOMIST	Aleli D. Kraft, PhD
CLINICAL TRIAL/ RESEARCH METHODS EXPERT	Cecilia C. Maramba-Lazarte, MD, MScID, MScCT
CLINICAL EPIDEMIOLOGIST/ EVIDENCE-BASED MEDICINE EXPERT	Jacinto Blas V. Mantaring III, MD, MSc
MEDICO-LEGAL EXPERT	Bu C. Castro, M.D. LI.B. FPSP
PUBLIC HEALTH EXPERT	Martha Bugnosen-Cayad-an, MD, MPH, CESO III
CITIZEN'S REPRESENTATIVE	Annabelle R. Borromeo, PhD, MHA, RN, CNS

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON DRUGS:**

Lizette Kristine F. Lopez, MD

Irisyl O. Real, MD, MCMMO, FPCP, FPSMO

Imelda G. Peña, RPh, DrPH

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON VACCINES:**

Jose Enrico H. Lazaro, PhD

Mary Anne J. Roldan-Castor, MD

Mediadora S. Claudio-Saniel, MD, MBA-H, FPCP,  
FPSMID

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON MEDICAL AND  
SURGICAL PROCEDURES:**

Maria Minerva P. Calimag, MD, PhD

Prof. Ma. Isabelita C. Rogado, RN, MAN

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON CLINICAL  
EQUIPMENT AND DEVICES:**

Prof. Agnette dP. Peralta, MSc

Marc James dC. delos Santos, MD

Prof. Catherine Manuela K. Lee-Ramos, MSc

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON PREVENTIVE  
AND PROMOTIVE HEALTH:**

Limuel Anthony B. Abrogena, MD

Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, PhD

Luz Barbara P. Dones, MPH, RN

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADITIONAL  
MEDICINE:**

Isidro C. Sia, MD, PhD

Martin D. Camara, DC

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON OTHER HEALTH  
TECHNOLOGIES:**

Iris Thiele Isip Tan, MD, MSc, FPCP, FPSEM

Raymond Francis R. Sarmiento, M.D.

Josefina Angeles Tuazon, RN, MN, DrPH

The Core Committee shall be responsible for the development and submission of final recommendations to policy and decision-makers, based on the evidence appraisal of the different subcommittees. HTA Subcommittees shall support the HTA Core Committee in achieving a timely, effective, efficient and responsive technology appraisal process by performing the initial review of HTA reports and submissions of the industry, evidence review groups and other actors which submit evidence to the HTA Council for purposes of technology appraisal.

The Core Committee and subcommittees hereby appointed under this Order shall serve for a term of not longer than six (6) months, without prejudice to extension or reappointment subject to pertinent laws, rules and regulations.

The HTAC may call upon technical resource persons from the PhilHealth, Food and Drug Administration, patient groups and clinical medicine experts as regular resource persons, and representatives from the private sector and health care providers as by invitation resource persons. The HTA Division under the Health Regulation Team shall provide secretariat support to the HTAC and conduct internal assessments, as deemed necessary.

The HTAC Core Committee and Subcommittees shall receive an honorarium following the provisions of the Department of Budget and Management (DBM) National Budget Circular No. 2007-510 dated 08 May 2007 with the subject, "Guidelines on the Grant of Honoraria to the Governing Boards of Collegial Bodies", Department Personnel Order No. 2019-5496-B, 2019-5496-A, and 2019-5496 "Creation of the Health Technology Assessment Council Core and Subcommittees".

Under this Order, all expenses incurred in the conduct of the committee's function as well as their honorarium shall be charged against the funds of the Health Technology Assessment Division, subject to the availability of funds and the usual accounting and auditing rules and regulations.

All other issuances inconsistent with this Order are hereby revised, modified, repealed or rescinded accordingly.

This Order shall take effect immediately.

**MARIA ROSARIO SINGH-VERGEIRE, MD, MPH, CESO II**  
Officer-In-Charge  
Department of Health