



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

22 February 2021

**DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR**

No. 2021 - 0075

**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, HOSPITALS AND SANITARIA AND OTHERS CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT: Compliance to dissemination of the recommendations of the Health Technology Assessment Council (HTAC)**

By virtue of Republic Act No. 11223, otherwise known as the Universal Health Care (UHC) Act, all health technologies to be funded by the Department of Health (DOH) and Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) must have undergone health technology assessment (HTA). As part of the commitment of DOH towards achieving Universal Health Care (UHC) through evidence-informed policy-making, Administrative Order 2020-0041 or the new implementing guidelines on HTA was released. It serves to inform policy, coverage, and funding allocation on health technologies. This is also the basis of the HTA process (see HTA Process Guide: <https://hta.doh.gov.ph/philippine-hta-process-guide/>).

Our stakeholders are involved in the majority of the process steps, specifically in topic nomination, prioritization, scoping and protocol development, assessment, resolution and dissemination of the decision of the Secretary of Health following the HTAC recommendations. One of the strategic commitments of the DOH Health Regulation Team with the Office of Strategy Management is to effectively communicate 100% of HTAC recommendations to relevant stakeholders, and to accommodate all anticipated requests (i.e., referral of resource persons) for capacity building activities of our stakeholders.

In this light, all centers for health development, national drugs 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, hospitals and sanitararia and others concerned are hereby enjoined to ensure that all HTAC recommendations are immediately shared to their networks to inform their policies and overall implementation. Should you opt to submit your updated directories for direct dissemination by HTAU, you may send them through [hta@doh.gov.ph](mailto:hta@doh.gov.ph).

Get to know more about HTA Philippines by visiting our website at [hta.doh.gov.ph](https://hta.doh.gov.ph). We look forward to your compliance as HTAC commits to deliver on its mandate to assist the government in achieving Universal Health Care with the best available evidence even as the nation is in the midst of this unprecedented health crisis.

**CERTIFIED TRUE COPY**  
FEB 26 2021  
*[Signature]*  
CORAZON S. DELA CRUZ  
ASST. DIR. - RECORDS SECTION  
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Your full cooperation in this endeavor is expected and highly appreciated. Thank you very much.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:



**GERARDO V. BAYUGO, MD, MPH, CESO I**  
Undersecretary of Health  
Health Regulation Team

