04 August 2021

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR
No. 2021- 0331

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**
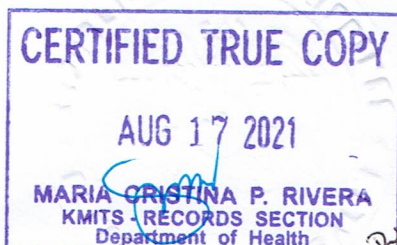
SUBJECT: **HEALTH TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT COUNCIL (HTAC RELEASES ITS UPDATED EVIDENCE SUMMARIES FOR COVID-19 VACCINE ASSESSMENTS**

By virtue of Republic Act 11223, otherwise known as the Universal Health Care (UHC) Act, health technology assessment (HTA) shall be institutionalized as a fair and transparent priority-setting mechanism to provide financing and coverage recommendations on health technologies to be funded by the Department of Health (DOH) and the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth).
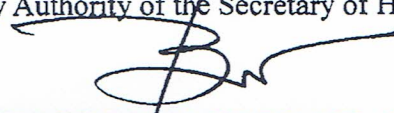
In fulfilment of its mandate of promoting evidence-informed health policy and decision-making, the Health Technology Assessment Council (HTAC) continues to update its assessments of health technologies. In light of emerging real world effectiveness and real world safety data, the HTAC considers new evidence in updating recommendations and has released the updated Evidence Summaries for the following COVID-19 Vaccine Assessments:

- Sputnik V Gam-COVID-Vac COVID-19 Vaccine for the prevention of COVID-19
- COVID-19 Vaccine (ChAdOx1-S [recombinant]) (COVID-19 Vaccine AstraZeneca) for the prevention of COVID-19
- Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine (BNT162b2) for the prevention of COVID-19
- Janssen Ad26.COV2.S (COVID-19) Vaccine for the prevention of COVID-19

For more information and guidance, please visit the HTA Philippines website at hta.doh.gov.ph.

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AUG 17 2021

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