

Republic of the Philippines Department of Health

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 May 2021

DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUMNo. 2021- **0227**

FOR:

ALL 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's (HTAC) Recommendations

on COVID-19 health technologies

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). Considering the public health emergency, the HTA Council (HTAC) aims to generate evidence-informed health technology recommendations amidst rapidly evolving evidence.

As such, please be informed that the Secretary of Health has approved the final HTAC recommendations on the following COVID-19 health technologies:

- 1. Janssen Ad26.COV2.S (COVID-19) Vaccine for the prevention of COVID-19
- 2. Use of Rapid Antigen Test Kits for the Diagnosis of COVID-19 (April 2021 Reassessment)

For your information and guidance.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:

GERARDO V/. BAYUGO, MD, MPH, CESO I

Undersecretary of Health Health Regulation Team