



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

22 January 2020

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. 2020 - 0011

FOR: ALL DIRECTORS OF BUREAUS AND CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT, MINISTER OF HEALTH – BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION FOR MUSLIM MINDANAO (MOH-BARMM), CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS, HOSPITALS AND SANITARIA, AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT: Non-acceptance of requests for exemption from the Philippine National Formulary

In light of the recently signed Republic Act No. 11223 otherwise known as the Universal Health Care (UHC) Act, requests for exemption from Executive Order No. 49 s. 1993 (Directing the mandatory use of the Philippine National Drug Formulary (PNDF) Volume I as the Basis for Procurement of Drug Products by the Government) shall no longer be accepted and processed. As stated in the law, investments on any health technology or development of any benefit package by the DOH and PhilHealth shall be based on the positive recommendations of the Health Technology Assessment (HTA), therefore all health interventions must undergo the said process. Further, in view of the establishment of the HTA Council, the process and methods guides are currently being developed, and part of which is setting up an expedited process for the assessment of health interventions that will be used for public health emergencies.

For your information and guidance.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health


ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE

Assistant Secretary of Health
Health Regulation Team