



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

11 April 2023

**DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR**

No. 2023 - 0169

**FOR : ALL UNDERSECRETARIES AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES; DIRECTORS OF CENTRAL OFFICE BUREAUS, SERVICES, AND CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT; MINISTER OF HEALTH - BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANO; NATIONAL DRUG POLICY COMPLIANCE OFFICERS; EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF SPECIALTY HOSPITALS; CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS, HOSPITALS AND SANITARIA; HEALTH FACILITIES; LEAGUES OF CITIES, PROVINCES AND MUNICIPALITIES, PROFESSIONAL HEALTH SOCIETIES; AND, ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT : Inclusion of Dapagliflozin 10 mg Film-coated Tablet in the Philippine National Formulary**

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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).

**On 31 March 2023**, the Secretary of Health approved the HTA Council's recommendation for the government financing of **Dapagliflozin 10 mg single-dose film-coated tablet** *as an add-on treatment to metformin (MET) for adults with Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus (T2DM) who have or are at a high risk of having cardiovascular disease and/or diabetic nephropathy* through its inclusion in the PNF. The public is encouraged to refer to the Electronic PNF (ePNF), accessible at <https://pnf.doh.gov.ph>, to view the newly-included drug. For details on the HTA recommendation, you may refer to the evidence summary posted on the HTA Philippines website at [bit.ly/FinalESDapagliflozin](http://bit.ly/FinalESDapagliflozin).

Kindly disseminate this to all concerned officials in your areas of responsibility so that they may be appropriately guided in the procurement and reimbursement of drugs. All are enjoined to ensure rational procurement, distribution, and use of drugs in all government and private facilities.

Your full cooperation in this endeavor is highly appreciated.

For your information and guidance.

By authority of the Secretary of Health:

  
**ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO-GRANDE, MPSA**  
Assistant Secretary  
Health Regulation Team