



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

22 June 2023

**DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR**

No. 2023 - 0282

**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 Apixaban 2.5 mg and 5 mg film-coated tablet, Dabigatran 110 mg and 150 mg capsule, and Rivaroxaban 15 mg and 20 mg film-coated tablet in the Philippine National Formulary (PNF)**

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).

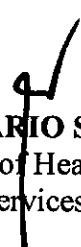
On 25 April 2023, the Secretary of Health approved the recommendation of the HTA Council for the government financing of **apixaban 2.5 mg and 5 mg film-coated tablet, dabigatran 110 mg and 150 mg capsule, and rivaroxaban 15 mg and 20 mg film-coated tablet** *for the prevention of myocardial infarction, cerebrovascular diseases and other cardiovascular events among patients with non-valvular atrial fibrillation (NVAF) and subgroups of NVAF* 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 updated list of medicines included in the Formulary. For details on the HTA recommendation, you may refer to the evidence summary posted on the HTA Philippines website and accessible through this link: [bit.ly/DOACsFinalESK](https://bit.ly/DOACsFinalESK).

*Final DOACs ESK*

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:

  
**MARIA ROSARIO S. VERGEIRE, MD, MPH, CESO II**  
Undersecretary of Health  
Public Health Services Team