



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

12 November 2015

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. 2015 – 0392

TO:

ALL DIRECTORS OF BUREAUS UNDER THE OFFICE OF HEALTH REGULATIONS, REGIONAL OFFICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND THEIR REGULATION, LICENSING AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISIONS (RLED), DIRECTOR OF THE HEALTH FACILITY DEVELOPMENT BUREAU, LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT:

Additional Clarification on the Requirement of a License to Operate (LTO) a Birthing Facility Pursuant to Administrative Order (A.O.) No. 2012-0012 known as “Rules and Regulations Governing the New Classification of Hospitals and Other Health Facilities in the Philippines”

Annex-C of Administrative Order No. 2012-0012 known as “Rules and Regulations Governing the new Classification of Hospitals and Other Health Facilities” explicitly states the minimum licensing requirements of a birthing home facility in terms of personnel, equipment and physical facilities.

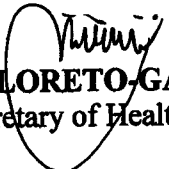
After the issuance of Annex-C of the above-mentioned Administrative Order, there have been continuous dialogues and consultations among the Health Facilities and Services Regulatory Bureau (HFSRB), health professionals and other stakeholders concerned, particularly on the requirements for licensing of birthing homes such as inadequate number of training providers for some trainings required and construction/renovation of physical facilities which are yet to be completed.

To address these concerns, Annex-C of Administrative Order No. 2012-0012 shall be amended and a one year moratorium is given to Birthing Homes to complete all requirements on or before December 31, 2016.

Furthermore, the processing of application for Permit to Construct (PTC) of birthing homes shall be decentralized to the regional offices of the Department of Health through the Regulatory Licensing and Enforcement Division, starting March 1, 2016.

This is in line with the aim of HFSRB, as the DOH Licensing Agency, to enhance access to quality and affordable health facilities and services to realize DOH goal of *Kalusugang Pangkalahatan* in accordance with the Aquino Health Agenda of Universal Health Care.

Dissemination of this information to all concerned is requested.


JANETTE LORETO-GARIN, MD, MBA-H
Secretary of Health