



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

24 October 2022

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. 2022- 0579

FOR : **ALL UNDERSECRETARIES AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES; MINISTER OF HEALTH – BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (MOH-BARMM); DIRECTORS OF CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT (CHD) AND HEALTH FACILITIES AND SERVICES REGULATORY BUREAU; CHIEFS OF CHD – REGULATORY LICENSING AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION AND MOH-BARMM REGULATORY LICENSING AND ENFORCEMENT CLUSTER; PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION; LOCAL CHIEF EXECUTIVES; OWNERS/HEADS OF PRIMARY CARE FACILITIES AND ALL OTHER STAKEHOLDERS CONCERNED**

SUBJECT : **Further Extension of Moratorium for Compliance of Primary Care Facilities with the Licensing Requirements of Birthing Service, Clinical Laboratory, and Ambulance Service**


The Administrative Order No. 2020-0047, titled “Rules and Regulations Governing the Licensure of Primary Care Facilities in the Philippines” was amended on September 6, 2021 to provide extension of moratorium for primary care facilities (PCFs), by phases, to comply with the licensing standards and requirements of ancillary services. PCFs may submit a duly notarized Memorandum of Undertaking (MOU) for the noncompliant ancillary services during this moratorium period. The implementation of this amendment has facilitated licensing of more PCFs resulting in 265 licensed PCFs by September 30, 2022.

With the approval of the Health Facilities and Services Regulatory Bureau’s proposal to adopt an Agile Regulatory Pathway for Primary Care Facilities by the DOH Executive Committee on October 12, 2022, strategic adjustment of timelines for the licensing for PCFs shall be implemented. It is imperative to realign the moratorium period provided to PCFs that have secured MOUs.

Therefore, duly notarized MOUs, expressing the commitment of the PCFs to fully comply with the birthing service, ambulance service, and clinical laboratory, either through establishment of the said services within the PCF or Memorandum of Agreement with DOH-licensed health facilities, shall be accepted until October 1, 2023.

Dissemination of information to all concerned is requested.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:


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