



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

August 27, 2020

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. 2020 – 0324

TO: ALL UNDERSECRETARIES AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES; DIRECTORS OF BUREAUS AND SERVICES AND CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT; MINISTER OF HEALTH – BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO; EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF SPECIALTY HOSPITALS, CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS, HOSPITALS, SANITARIA AND INSTITUTES; PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION; DIRECTORS OF TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION CENTERS AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT: COMPLIANCE TO EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 104, "IMPROVING ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE THROUGH THE REGULATION OF PRICES IN THE RETAIL OF DRUGS AND MEDICINES"

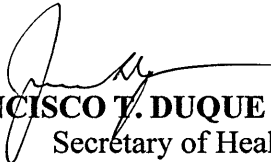
The Department of Health reiterates that all drug establishments must comply with the Executive Order No. 104, "*Improving Access to Healthcare through the Regulation of Prices in the Retail of Drugs and Medicines*," whose implementation began on 02 June 2020.

The Maximum Retail Price (MRP) shall be imposed on all public and private retail outlets, including drugstores, hospitals and hospital pharmacies, health maintenance organizations and the like while the Maximum Wholesale Price (MWP) shall be imposed on all manufacturers, wholesalers, traders, distributors and the like. No public or private entity shall be allowed to sell, reimburse or demand from the public or patients payment in an amount higher than the MRP or MWP.

Administrative fines not less than Fifty thousand pesos (PhP 50,000.00) nor more than Five million pesos (PhP 5,000,000.00) shall be imposed for violations of the MWP and/or MRP approved by the President of the Philippines in accordance with the Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act No. 9502, "Universally Accessible Cheaper and Quality Medicines Act of 2008 (Rule 82 under Chapter XIV Sanction and Penalties)."

Likewise, all drug outlets shall make the *List of Medicines under the MRP and Frequently Asked Questions* available in a conspicuous place within their establishment. This is part of the licensing requirement of the Food and Drug Administration. Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials on the MRP policy can be downloaded at www.pharmadiv.doh.gov.ph.

All Centers for Health Development (CHDs) are hereby directed to disseminate this information to the following: drugstore chains, independent drugstores, local and national government hospitals, local government units, private hospitals, pharmaceutical manufacturers, importers, distributors, traders, wholesalers and all other public and private offices involved in the procurement, acquisition and reimbursement of drugs and medicines, for their strict compliance.


FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III MD, MSc
Secretary of Health