



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

April 17, 2020

DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

No. 2020 – 0193

TO : **DIRECTORS OF CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT (CHDs), CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS, HOSPITALS, SANITARIA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF SPECIALTY HOSPITALS, MINISTER OF HEALTH – BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (MOH-BARMM), LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGU) HEALTH FACILITIES AND OTHER CONCERNED**

SUBJECT : **GUIDELINES ON THE UTILIZATION OF THE MAXIMUM PRICE IN THE RANGE USED IN THE CALCULATION OF THE 2019 DRUG PRICE REFERENCE INDEX (DPRI) FOR ALL DRUGS AND MEDICINES**

Recognizing the mandate of Republic Act No. 11223 otherwise known as “*Universal Health Care Act*” to guide DOH-owned health care providers by price reference indices and Republic act No. 9502 otherwise known as “*Universally Accessible Cheaper and Quality Medicines act of 2008*” to institute a fair, transparent and rational drug pricing system in the country, the Drug Price Reference Index (DPRI) aims to maximize government funds in the expenditure for essential medicines by minimizing the observed variations of prices of medicines across public health facilities.

Due to the on-going global concern on the spread of Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) and to ensure the adequate supplies of drugs and medicines in the government agencies, government hospitals, hospital managed by the DOH including specialty centers, government-owned and controlled hospital corporations, local government hospitals, all other types of government hospitals, Centers for Health Development and Ministry of Health – Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (MOH-BARMM) the Department of Health hereby allowed to utilize the maximum price in the range used in the calculation of the 2019 DPRI for all Drugs and Medicines (without adding the inflation cost).

All CHDs and MOH-BARMM are hereby directed to disseminate the information to all Provincial Hospitals, Municipal Hospitals, City Hospitals, and Local Government Units and extend necessary assistance therefor.

This issuance shall remain in effect only for the duration of the abovementioned situation.

For strict and prompt compliance.


MARIA ROSARIO SINGH-VERGEIRE MD, MPH, CESO IV
OIC – Undersecretary of Health
Health Regulation Team