



Republic of the Philippines  
**PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION**  
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**PHILHEALTH CIRCULAR**

No. 14 s. 2001  
*dry*

**TO :** ALL ACCREDITED INSTITUTIONAL AND PROFESSIONAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS, REGIONAL MANAGERS, CENTRAL AND REGIONAL CLAIMS PROCESSING UNITS, MEDICAL EVALUATORS AND ALL CONCERNED

**SUBJECT :** Reiteration of policies on Medical Evaluation

In order to minimize the incidence of slashing or reduction in claim applications, the following guiding policies on medical evaluation based on the existing system are hereby reiterated and clarified:

1. Routine laboratory procedures shall only be compensated if pertinent to the diagnosis and management of the patient's illness. The frequency of individual laboratory procedures allowed shall be within medically acceptable limit as indicated for the illness.
2. Only drugs and medicines pertinent to the illness (*as indicated in the final diagnosis in Claim Form 2*) and the quantity needed for the confinement shall be compensated. Drugs not indicated for the illness shall be disallowed or slashed. Quantity of appropriate drugs and medicines claimed more than the confinement need shall be reduced.

Reduction forms are provided to the hospitals when drugs, laboratories and/or supplies are slashed/reduced.

3. In the evaluation of drugs and medicines, the preparation and presentation (*eg: tablet, capsule, vial, syrup, etc.*) must also comply with the Philippine National Drug Formulary (PNDF) and other PhilHealth circulars.

*Example: Co-amoxiclav vial is not in the PNDF but is included in the list of additional reimburseable drugs as provided for in PhilHealth Circular No. 36, s-2000. However, the inclusion of said drug is specifically indicated for pneumonia cases only. Claims for Co-amoxiclav vial therefore, will not be paid if administered for illnesses other than pneumonia.*

4. Claims for drugs and medicines should be written in generic terminology.

5. Items claimed such as drugs and medicines, supplies and laboratories should be in their proper groupings in Claim Form 2. All drugs and medicines should be in part III, while supplies, laboratories and others should be reflected in part IV. Items which are misclassified in the claim shall be transposed or transferred to their proper grouping. This process may cause reduction in benefit claims if the total charges for a particular grouping (*such as drugs and medicines, laboratory ... etc.*) where misclassified items are transposed into exceeded the allowable ceiling.

*Example: Supplies being claimed and listed in part III under drugs and medicines shall be transferred to part IV under supplies, laboratories and others. In case the maximum allowable benefit for supplies has already been consumed, the items transposed in excess of the allowable benefit will not be compensated.*

6. Contrast Media or Radiopaque dyes are considered drugs, and claims for such shall be referred to the PNDF listing accordingly.

7. Claims for histopath or biopsy will be compensated only when required for accurate diagnosis of the patient's illness (eg, tumor/mass, ruptured appendicitis, ovarian cyst, etc.). However, exceptions include sebaceous cyst, tendon/ganglion cyst or intradermal inclusion cysts and other similar mass/lesions which can be easily identified.

8. For reference in the accomplishment of claim forms and computation of benefits for deduction, please refer to the list of PhilHealth compensable and non-compensable supplies and others attached as Annex A.

Please be guided accordingly.



**ENRIQUE M. ZALAMEA**

President & CEO



## COMPENSABILITY OF SUPPLIES &amp; OTHERS

| Supplies & Others                   |                                   |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Compensable                         |                                   | Not Compensable                    |
| abdocath/cathlon                    | Microscope (OR use)               | hospital admission kit             |
| ambulance                           | Nebulizer (use of)                | blood bag (empty)                  |
| ambu bag ( use of )                 | nelaton (FR)                      | nursery kit                        |
| bandage (elastic or gauze)          | Nasogastric tube (NGT)            | UV light for room sterilization    |
| bili -light                         | Orthofix                          | stat fee                           |
| blade (scalpel/razor)               | Oxygen cannula                    | nebulization fee                   |
| blood transfusion set               | Oxygen mask                       | RR use of the following:           |
| butterfly set                       | penrose drain                     | cardiac monitor                    |
| cardiac monitor (ICU/Room use)      | peri-light                        | pulse oximeter                     |
| catheter (condon/foley, etc)        | plaster/tape                      | respirator                         |
| cautery ( use of )                  | plaster of paris                  | IV insertion/push fee              |
| cord clamp (not in routine NB care) | plate and nail (ortho)            | icebag                             |
| cotton/cottonballs                  | Respirator (for ICU/Room)         | nursing fee                        |
| Dermelon                            | scalp set                         | catheterization                    |
| dressing/dressing kit               | steam inhalation (use of machine) | ID band                            |
| endotracheal tube                   | screw                             | vacutainer                         |
| eye pad/shield                      | spinal needle                     | lancet (for CBC)                   |
| fleet enema set                     | stockinette                       | specimen bottles, cups, containers |
| foley bag                           | stopcock                          | diapers/napkin                     |
| gauze                               | suction tube tip                  | urinal/bedpan                      |
| gloves                              | sutures                           | sterilization                      |
| histopath                           | syringes (disposable)             | ER fee                             |
| Intrafix                            | Urine bag (wee bag)               | thermometer                        |
| IV set (micro/macro, soluset)       | viscoat (viscoelastic)            |                                    |
| KY jelly                            | wadding sheet                     |                                    |
| Needles (disposable)                |                                   |                                    |

**OPERATING ROOM FEE INCLUSION LIST:**

Considered part of Operating Room Fee

Anesthesia Machine  
 Cautery machine                      OR/RR use:  
 use of instruments                      cardiac monitor  
 pulse oximeter                              respirator  
 suction/tips (use of machine)              pulse oximeter  
 ECG  
 drapes/linen  
 cap, mask, gowns  
 spinal set excluding needle (epidural set)  
 zephiran (or other soaking solution)  
 betadine & other OR prep. materials & services  
 pack (abdominal/OB, etc)  
 vaginal speculum  
 fetal monitor

27/02/01