

Implementation Updates and Clarifications on the PhilHealth Outpatient Emergency Care Benefit (OECB Package)

Starting **February 14, 2025**, outpatient emergency cases managed in the emergency department of PhilHealth accredited Level 1, 2 and 3 hospitals are covered by the **Facility-Based Emergency (FBE) benefit** in accordance with the Outpatient Emergency Care Benefit Package outlined in PhilHealth Circular 2024-0033. Ambulance services coverage for the Prehospital Emergency (PHE) benefit is still undergoing cost study and shall be announced on a succeeding PhilHealth Advisory for implementation. For the applicable rules and regulations on payment, please refer to the said Circular.

In preparation for the implementation of the OECB Package, clarification on the price items under the Essential Emergency Care List (EECL) are as follows:

| Item no. | Price Category | Price Item | Clarification |
|----------|----------------|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 0020 | ED Service | Vital Signs Monitor | This service shall cover electronic devices for monitoring (such as cardiac monitor or its equivalent device) and does not include manual checking of vital signs. |
| 0072 | Laboratory | Blood transfusion | This pertains to laboratory processing of blood products and not the procedure of transfusing blood to the patient. |

Revision on the EECL shall be posted in the PhilHealth website for the details of the dosage forms of certain therapeutics. Furthermore, Random Blood Sugar shall be included in the EECL for implementation and shall be included in the updated online publication through the PhilHealth website.

Additionally, there shall be no separate application for accreditation of hospitals as an FBE Provider as their capability to provide the said benefit is already part of their accreditation as a hospital. However, should hospitals have extension facilities for FBE, a certification stating the name of affiliated extension facility and its complete address must be submitted to their respective PhilHealth Regional Offices, for updating.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.

(Sgd.) EDWIN M. MERCADO, MD, MHA, MMSc
 Acting President and Chief Executive Officer

Date Signed: February 14, 2025

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