

## **Clarification on PhilHealth Circular No. 2025-0020: Implementing Guidelines for the PhilHealth Outpatient Emergency Care Benefit (OECB Package): Facility-based Emergency (Revision 1)**

The OECB Package, by its title, aims to provide financial protection for patients requiring emergency care. Furthermore, the operational definition of emergency care under PhilHealth Circular (PC) No. 2025-0020 is stated as follows:

“Emergency Care – addresses medical conditions requiring immediate attention to prevent death, serious harm, or deterioration. This includes emergent and urgent care.”

This advisory aims to clarify the stated coverage of the OECB Facility-based Emergency under PC No. 2025-0020 which states:

“The FBE benefit shall cover health services and commodities provided in emergency settings to PhilHealth beneficiaries in managing acute signs and symptoms requiring emergent care”

The benefit **covers emergency care** which includes **both emergent and urgent care** which is consistent with previous issuances relating to the OECB Package. Additionally, consultations for both are paid under the Essential Emergency Care List (Annex B of PC No. 2025-0020) which are listed below

<b>Item no.</b>	<b>Price Category</b>	<b>Price Item</b>	<b>Fixed Fee</b>	<b>Charging Unit</b>
0004	ED Consultation	Emergent ER Consultation (outpatient)	P707.00	Per use
0005	ED Consultation	Urgent ER Consultation (outpatient)	P260.00	Per use

Further inquiries may be referred to PhilHealth Action Center at (02) 8662-2588 or email at [actioncenter@philhealth.gov.ph](mailto:actioncenter@philhealth.gov.ph) or any PhilHealth Regional Offices and Local Health Insurance Offices.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.

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

Date signed: December 17, 2025