



December 19, 2002

**PhilHealth Circular**

No. 42 s. 2002

*[Signature]*  
 TO

: ALL CONCERNED

SUBJECT

: **Reimbursement of Radionuclides and High Energy Radiation and Electrons used in Radiation Therapy as Drugs and Medicines**

Pursuant to PhilHealth Board Resolution No. 510, s. of 2002, the Corporation approves the reimbursement of radio-nuclides and high-energy radiation and electrons used in radiation therapy as drugs and medicines.

Radiotherapy is still included in the compensable list of surgeries and procedures enumerated in the Relative Value Scale 2001. As such, reimbursements for operating room (OR) fees are allowed. It is still classified a catastrophic case with corresponding reimbursement limits prescribed in the Benefit Schedule. The 'single period of confinement in 90 days rule' applies, which expressly provides a maximum cumulative benefit limit for admissions of a similar nature made within 90days.

Therefore, examples for the reimbursement of radiation therapy are as follows:

**Example no. 1: External Beam Cobalt treatment in a tertiary hospital**

Treatment Day	Professional Fees	OR Fee	Laboratories and Supplies	Drugs and Medicines	
1	P400	P300	P560 (itemized)	Drug A	P80
				Drug B	P150
				Radio-nuclides	P400
2 and so on	P400	P300	NONE	Radio-nuclides	P400
<i>Maximum benefit limit in 90 days</i>	<i>P16,000</i>	<i>P3,490</i>	<i>P14,000</i>	<i>All drugs and medicine including radionuclides</i>	<i>P16,000</i>

**Example no. 2: Brachytherapy in a tertiary hospital**

Treatment Day	Professional Fees	OR Fee	Laboratories and Supplies	Drugs and Medicines	
1	P800	P600	P1,060 (itemized)	Drug A	P250
				Radio-nuclides	P1,500
<i>Maximum benefit limit in 90 days</i>	<i>P16,000</i>	<i>P3,490</i>	<i>P14,000</i>	<i>All drugs and medicine including radionuclides</i>	<i>P16,000</i>

All other rules governing the reimbursement of radiotherapy still applies. This order shall take effect for all discharges of January 1, 2003.

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**FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III, MD, MSc**  
 President & CEO