



**PHILHEALTH CIRCULAR**

No. 35 ,s-2006

**TO : ALL ACCREDITED HOSPITALS AND ALL CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT : Revised Survey Tools and Additional Accreditation Requirements**

Due to the changes in hospital licensure requirements per Administrative Order # 147 s. 2004 as amended by Administrative Order 2005-0029 of the Department of Health the Corporation has revised the survey tools for the accreditation of hospitals at all levels. Further, since licensing requirements are minimum requirements to ensure safety and quality of health care services being rendered to members of the National Health Insurance Program, the Corporation has added the following requirements for accreditation of hospitals:

**I. Personnel**

**A. Manpower Complement**

|                               | Level 1  | Level 2  | Level 3  | Level 4  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| <b>Physicians*</b>            | 2 MDs for ≤ 10 beds, one additional MD for every additional 5 beds   | 4 MDs for ≤ 20 beds, one additional MD for every additional 5 beds                                     | 15 MDs for ≤ 50 beds, one additional MD for every additional 3 beds; at least 3 physicians to go on 24-hour duty | 15 MDs for ≤ 50 beds, one additional MD for every additional 3 beds; at least 5 physicians to go on 24-hour duty |
| <b>Registered Nurses (RN)</b> | 3 RNs for ≤ 12 beds, one additional RN for every additional 6 beds   |  | 15 RNs for ≤ 50 beds, one additional RN for every additional 4 beds  |  |
| <b>Midwife/Nursing Aides</b>  | Optional for ≤ 24 beds; 1 for 25 beds and one additional midwife/nursing aide for every additional 12 beds | 1 midwife/nursing aide for ≤ 24 beds, one additional midwife/nursing aide for every additional 12 beds |  |  |

\*No Physician should go on duty for more than 48 hours

**B. Exemptions**

A Level 1 hospital may request for exemption from the minimum requirement of "two physicians" if they are located in the following areas:

- Poor municipalities as attested by the National Statistical Coordination Board and by the National Anti-Poverty Commission;
- Areas with security problems;
- Hard-to-reach areas.

In such cases the hospital shall submit to the Corporation a copy of the Memorandum of Agreement with physician-reliever in case the only physician-on-duty has to leave the hospital to ensure continuous presence of a physician in the hospital at all times.

PhilHealth surveyors must verify the request of the hospital in their respective regions before action may be undertaken by the Corporation.

**II. Emergency Drugs**

Listed below are the required emergency drugs in the emergency room and intensive care unit of **hospitals** in different levels. These drugs are grouped according to their mechanism of actions.

| Level 1 (ER only)  | Level 2 (ER only)  | Level 3 (ER and ICU) | Level 4 (ER and ICU) |
|--|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| a. Cardiogenic Epinephrine<br>b. Anticonvulsant Diazepam ampule<br>c. Anti-histamine Diphenhydramine amp<br>d. Electrolytes D50-50 Na bicarbonate<br>e. Bronchodilator Salbutamol Nebule<br>f. Ca channel blocker Nifedipine | a. Cardiogenics Dopamine, Epinephrine and Dobutamine<br>b. Nitrates Isosorbide dinitrate<br>c. Beta-adrenergic blocker (any of the following) Atenolol, Metoprolol and Propranolol<br>d. Alpha-adrenergic blocker (any of the following) Prazocin and Terazosin<br>e. Anti-arrythmic agents (any of the following) Lidocaine, Digoxin and Amiodarone<br>f. Diuretics<br>g. Calcium channel blocker (any of the following) Nifedipine or Verapamil<br>h. Bronchodilator Salbutamol Nebule<br>i. Anti-histamine Diphenhydramine ampule |                      |                      |

| Level 1 (ER only) | Level 2 (ER only)   | Level 3 (ER and ICU) | Level 4 (ER and ICU) |
|-------------------|---|----------------------|----------------------|
|                   | j. Anticonvulsant Diazepam ampule<br>k. Anticholinergic Atropine<br>l. Electrolytes Sodium bicarbonate D50-50<br>m. Corticosteroid Hydrocortisone or Methylprednisolone |                      |                      |

**III. Equipment and Instruments**

| I. LEVEL ONE   |   |  |   |
|--|---|--|---|
| Pediatric Service (if applicable)  | General Obstetrics Service (if applicable)  | Emergency Room   | Food Service  |
| 1. Pediatric stethoscope<br>2. Sphygmomanometer with pediatric cuff<br>3. Beds with side rails<br>4. Nebulizer<br>5. Oxygen unit<br>6. Suction apparatus<br>7. Examining table<br>8. Pediatric ambubag | <b>DR room equipment</b><br>1. Delivery set<br>2. DR table with stirrup<br>3. Kelly pad<br>4. DR light<br>5. Vaginal speculum set<br>6. Suction apparatus<br>7. Oxygen unit<br>8. Suturing set<br>9. Gooseneck lamp | 1. Clinical weighing scale<br>2. EENT diagnostic set<br>3. Examining table with stirrup<br>4. Gooseneck lamp/examining light<br>5. Instrument table<br>6. Minor surgery instrument set<br>7. Neurological hammer<br>8. Oxygen unit<br>9. Sphygmomanometer<br>10. Sterilizer<br>11. Stethoscope<br>12. Suction apparatus<br>13. Suturing set<br>14. Wheelchair<br>15. Wheeled stretcher<br>16. Laryngoscope with blade (adult and pedia)<br>17. Endotracheal tubes<br>18. Ambubag (adult and pedia) | <b>Kitchen equipment</b><br>1. Refrigerator/Freezer<br>2. Cooking units<br>3. Kitchen utensils<br>4. Exhaust fan<br>5. Osterizer or its equivalent<br>6. Patient tray or its equivalent |

| II. LEVEL TWO   |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|---|
| Pediatric Service   |  | Emergency Room Service   | Dietary Service   |
| 1. Pediatric stethoscope<br>2. Sphygmomanometer with pediatric cuff<br>3. Beds with side rails<br>4. Nebulizer<br>5. Oxygen unit<br>6. Suction apparatus<br>7. Examining table<br>8. Pediatric ambubag<br>9. Pediatric laryngoscopes and blades<br>10. Pediatric endotracheal tubes | <b>Nursery Equipment</b><br>1. Pediatric stethoscope<br>2. Sphygmomanometer with neonatal cuff<br>3. Infant scale<br>4. Bassinet<br>5. Refrigerator or its equivalent<br>6. Examining light/drop light<br>7. Oxygen unit<br>8. Sterilizer<br>9. Suction apparatus<br>10. Incubator | 1. Endotracheal tubes (adult and pedia)<br>2. Laryngoscope blade (adult and pedia) | 1. Exhaust fan<br>2. Osterizer or its equivalent<br>3. Patient tray or its equivalent |

| III. LEVELS THREE AND FOUR                                |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| Surgical service  | Pediatric Service   | Dietary Service   |
| 1. Autoclave<br>2. Emergency light<br>3. Tracheostomy set | 1. Pediatric stethoscope<br>2. Sphygmomanometer with pediatric cuff<br>3. Beds with side rails<br>4. Nebulizer<br>5. Oxygen unit<br>6. Suction apparatus<br>7. Examining table<br>8. Pediatric ambubag<br>9. Pediatric laryngoscopes and blades<br>10. Pediatric endotracheal tubes | 1. Exhaust fan<br>2. Osterizer or its equivalent<br>3. Patient tray or its equivalent |

All other issuances not inconsistent with the provisions of this issuance shall remain in full force and effect.

This circular shall take effect fifteen days (15) after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

For strict implementation.

(Sgd.) **LORNA O. FAJARDO, CESO III**  
Acting President and CEO

Date signed: November 28, 2006