



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

Citystate Centre, 709 Shaw Boulevard, Pasig City  
Healthline 637-9999 [www.philhealth.gov.ph](http://www.philhealth.gov.ph)

**PHILHEALTH CIRCULAR**

No. 31, s - 2009

*July*

**TO : ALL ACCREDITED HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS,  
MEMBERS OF PHILHEALTH, PHILHEALTH  
PERSONNEL AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT : Clarification on the Reimbursement of Professional  
Fees for Anesthesia Service**

In order to facilitate the payment of professional fees for anesthesia services, please be guided by the following rules:

- 1) The following anesthesia services are considered as compensable:
  - a) General anesthesia administered as inhaled or injected anesthetics
  - b) Regional anesthesia whether spinal, epidural or peripheral nerve blocks
  - c) Sedation given via injection, mouth, rectum or nasal route
- 2) Professional fee for local anesthesia either given through local infiltration, drops, spray or ointment is considered non-compensable. However, claims for the local anesthetic agent (e.g., lidocaine 1% vial, 5 ml) may be reimbursed under drugs and medicines subject to existing guidelines.
- 3) Monitored anesthesia care (MAC) is a type of physician service provided by an anesthesiologist wherein the patient undergoes a procedure under local anesthesia with or without sedation and analgesia. The process is monitored by an anesthesiologist to continually monitor and assess the patient's vital signs, manage cardiovascular instability, give sedatives, correct the level of sedation, or convert to general anesthesia as the need arises.
- 4) MAC includes all aspects of anesthesia service (preoperative visit, intraoperative care and postoperative anesthesia management).
  - a) Professional fee for MAC may be reimbursed to PhilHealth provided that the following 2 conditions are present:
    - i) MAC is performed to facilitate performance of the following procedures covered by PhilHealth (see Annex); and
    - ii) The patient's clinical condition may warrant performance of MAC:
      - (1) Patient of extreme age, under 1 year and over 70
      - (2) Cognitive impairments (e.g., mental retardation, autism, dementia)
      - (3) Psychological impairments (e.g., schizophrenia, bipolar disorders, post-traumatic stress disorders)
      - (4) Extreme anxiety disorders
      - (5) Patients with systemic disease (e.g., CAD, COPD, emphysema, end-stage renal disease, diabetes, hypertension)
      - (6) Critically-ill patients
  - b) Professional fee for MAC for diagnostic procedures and services with no relative value units (e.g., CT scan, MRI) shall not be reimbursed.
  - c) MAC services for cataract surgery paid via case payment (RVS code 66983, 66984, 66987) are also not covered by PhilHealth.

	Philippine Health Insurance Corporation RECORDS & LIBRARY MNGT. SECTION
	MARIA TERESA A. QUIADIT Administrative Officer III - Chief - RELMS
Date :	<u>7/30/09</u>
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- 5) Claims for professional fee for MAC and conscious sedation are required to submit a properly accomplished Anesthesia Record attached to PhilHealth Claim Forms and Operative Technique.

This Circular shall take effect for all claims with admission dates starting September 1, 2009.

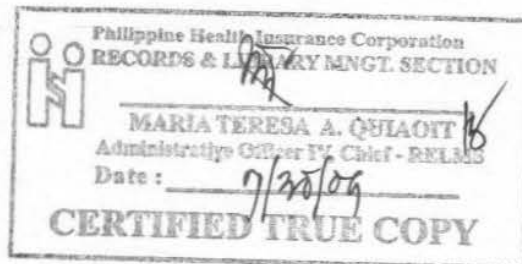
The provisions of previous Circulars, Office Orders and other related issuances that are not inconsistent with any provisions of this Circular remain in effect.

Please be guided accordingly.

**DR. REY B. AQUINO**

President and CEO

Date signed: 29 July 09



**ANNEX**  
**PROCEDURES THAT MAY BE DONE UNDER**  
**CONSCIOUS SEDATION OR MONITORED ANESTHESIA CARE**

INTEGUMENTARY SYSTEM	ORAL CAVITY
1. Incision and Drainage	1. Dental procedures
2. Excision	<b>NECK</b>
3. Paring or curettement	1. Incision and drainage, abscess/hematoma
4. Skin biopsy	2. Excision biopsy
5. Shaving of epidermal or dermal lesion	3. Needle biopsy of thyroid gland
6. Nail procedures	<b>CARDIAC</b>
7. Repair of wounds	1. Cardiac catheterization
8. Change of dressing for burns	2. Hemodynamic evaluation
<b>BREAST</b>	3. Angiography, venography procedures
1. Incision and Drainage	4. Lymphangiography
2. Excision	5. Commisurotomy
<b>MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM</b>	6. Tube pericardiostomy
1. Excision biopsy, muscle/bone	7. Pericardiocentesis
2. Removal of foreign body	8. Insertion of pacemaker
3. Arthrocentesis	9. Insertion of cardioverter/defibrillator
4. Aspiration/injection for treatment of bone cyst	10. Operative ablation
5. Removal of implant	11. Percutaneous valvuloplasty
6. Bone marrow aspiration biopsy	12. Insertion of intraaortic balloon pump
<b>NOSE AND SINUSES</b>	13. Embolectomy
1. Incision and Drainage	14. Thromboendarterectomy
2. Excision biopsy	15. Carotid endarterectomy
3. Removal of foreign body	16. Transluminal balloon angioplasty
4. Nasal endoscopy	17. Transcutaneous placement of IV stent
<b>EARS</b>	<b>THORACIC</b>
1. Incision and Drainage	1. Thoracentesis/pneumocentesis
2. Excision biopsy	2. Pleural/lung biopsy
3. Repair of laceration	3. CTT
4. Otoscopy	4. Tracheostomy
5. Removal of foreign body	5. Bronchoscopy
6. Myringotomy	6. Biopsy of mediastinal mass
7. Tympanoplasty	7. Mediastinotomy
<b>EYES</b>	8. Cervical node biopsy
1. Removal of foreign body	9. Brachytherapy lungs/mediastinum
2. Excision of lesion/biopsy cornea	<b>GASTROINTESTINAL</b>
3. Complicated cataract surgery (66982)	1. Liver biopsy
4. Incision and excision, eyelid	2. Paracentesis
5. Repair of ectropion	3. PEG tube insertion
6. Incision and drainage of lacrimal gland/sac	4. Upper GI endoscopy
7. Snip incision of lacrimal punctum	5. Lower GI endoscopy
8. Excision biopsy of lacrimal gland/sac	

**ANNEX  
PROCEDURES THAT MAY BE DONE UNDER  
CONSCIOUS SEDATION OR MONITORED ANESTHESIA CARE**

<b>UROLOGY</b>	
1. Lithotripsy	3. Vasectomy
2. Renal biopsy	
<b>OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY</b>	
1. Dilatation and curettage	5. Excision of mass/cyst
2. Marsupialization of Bartholin's cyst	6. Polypectomy
3. Repair of perineal laceration	7. Incision and drainage
4. Electrocautery of warts	8. BTL
<b>OTHER PROCEDURES</b>	
1. Intrathecal administration of chemotherapeutic drugs	
2. Lumbar tap	
3. Cutdown	