



Republic of the Philippines
PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION

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UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE
A COMMITMENT TO PHILIPPINE PEOPLE'S HEALTH

PHILHEALTH CIRCULAR

No. 12020 - 0002

TO : ACCREDITED HEALTH CARE INSTITUTIONS/ PROVIDERS, PHILHEALTH REGIONAL OFFICES, BRANCHES, LOCAL HEALTH INSURANCE OFFICES AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT: Governing Policies of the PhilHealth Konsultasyong Sulit at Tama (PhilHealth Konsulta) Package: Expansion of the Primary Care Benefit to Cover All Filipinos

I. RATIONALE

With the passage of Republic Act No. 11223 or the Universal Health Care (UHC) Act, the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation aspires to achieve the UHC goals by ensuring that all Filipinos shall have “access to a comprehensive set of quality and cost effective, promotive, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health services without causing financial hardship and prioritizes the needs of the population who cannot afford such services” (RA 11223 Chapter 1, Section 2b).

Accordingly, PhilHealth endeavors to provide all Filipinos financial access to a primary care provider that will deliver basic essential services at every life stage that aims to promote health, identify risks, and ensure early diagnosis, treatment and care through the PhilHealth Konsulta.

The PhilHealth Konsulta integrates the existing Primary Care Benefit (PCB) and Expanded Primary Care Benefit (EPCB) packages that shall be made available to all Filipinos. This package shall be provided in all accredited government and private health care providers, pursuant to the mandate that every Filipino shall register with a public or private primary care provider of choice.

II. OBJECTIVE

The Circular aims to provide governing policies for the design and implementation of the PhilHealth Konsulta.

III. SCOPE

The Circular covers governing principles on the provision of priority individual-based services at the primary care level, contracting and/or accreditation of public and private primary care providers, registration and assignment to a primary care provider, benefit availment, applicable payment mechanism, reporting rules and performance assessment.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

A. All primary care benefit packages including the Primary Care Benefit 1 (PCB1) and the expanded Primary Care Benefit (EPCB) shall be collectively transitioned to the PhilHealth Konsulta.

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D.G. [Signature]



- B. All Out-patient Department/Sections of accredited Level 1, 2 and 3 private and government hospitals, non-hospital facilities such as but not limited to rural health units/centers, Ambulatory Surgical Clinics (ASCs), Infirmary/Primary Care Facilities (PCF), and private medical outpatient clinics may apply as a PhilHealth Konsulta health facility provided that the requirements for accreditation are satisfied.
- C. PhilHealth Konsulta health facilities can establish linkages or network with other facilities for laboratory/diagnostic services, commodities and other services not available in the facility, and for referral, as needed. Referral facilities shall issue a signed certification, using the prescribed format as provider of specific services on behalf of the referring facility. Additional networking rules shall be established by PhilHealth. The accredited PhilHealth Konsulta facility is the one responsible for ensuring the quality of service and cost rendered, as agreed upon with the Corporation, by the referral facility.
- D. All Filipinos are deemed eligible to register to a PhilHealth Konsulta health facility, provided, requirements for PhilHealth membership registration are complied with. Guidelines on registration as PhilHealth member shall be set forth by the Corporation.
- E. The PhilHealth Konsulta package will uphold the directive of the UHC Law which mandates that every Filipino shall register with a public or private primary care provider of choice with consideration of proximity, ease of travel and capacity of provider. Registration to a PhilHealth Konsulta health facility shall be operationalized by PhilHealth.
- F. The PhilHealth Konsulta package shall include individual-based health services such as but not limited to initial and follow up consultations, health screening and assessment, diagnostic services, and medicines. Access to select diagnostic services and medicines will be based on the health need of the patients subject to set rules of the Corporation on benefit availment. The services included in this package will be reviewed and improved periodically based on established PhilHealth's benefit prioritization process and in consideration of the recommendation of the Health Technology Assessment Council.
- G. PhilHealth beneficiaries are entitled to quality health services according to life stage and health risks. To be able to access these services, beneficiaries and providers must follow the benefit availment process to be set forth by the Corporation.
- H. The benefit shall be paid as capitation (per individual) annually, to be computed and paid in tranches. The basis for the computation and releases shall be determined by the Corporation. The per capita amount, prescribed capitation percentage allocation and performance targets shall be subject to a periodic review for modification and amendments as determined by the Corporation.

Accredited PhilHealth Konsulta HCPs must comply with the co-payment rules that will be set forth in the HCPs performance commitment.

PhilHealth Konsulta health facility shall utilize the fund efficiently while ensuring delivery of quality care. Private and public health facilities must comply with the financial reporting rules that will be set with this package. Rules on disposition and allocation of the fund will be set forth for health facilities.

All health data that have been generated as part of the services of the PhilHealth Konsulta health facilities including but not limited to diagnosis, diagnostic tests done with corresponding results and prescribed/dispensed medicines, including those not currently covered by the Package, shall be encoded in the EMR system or an interim electronic reporting system for electronic data transmission to PhilHealth.

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J. PhilHealth Konsulta health facilities and all its staff and all affiliated facilities and individuals shall commit to keep the members' personal information confidential, secure, private and affirm the fundamental right of all persons, natural or juridical, with particular emphasis on its members and their dependents, to privacy in compliance with the Data Privacy Act of 2012 (R.A. 10173).

M. Detailed guidelines for accreditation, member registration and assignment, service package, benefit availment, provider payment mechanism, and provider performance assessment will be provided in a separate issuance.

N. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

1. The PhilHealth, through its Healthcare Provider Performance Assessment System (HCP-PAS) shall employ mechanisms to assure members of the guaranteed quality healthcare they deserve. Performance targets shall be identified to guide all concerned stakeholders of their accountability towards providing essential primary care services especially to the poor and marginalized families.
2. PhilHealth shall ensure the use of electronic systems to facilitate the implementation of the PhilHealth Konsulta package.
3. PhilHealth shall also conduct periodic facility and patient visits, satisfaction and/or exit surveys, utilization review, and others as may be identified by the Corporation.
4. A monitoring and feedback system shall be implemented to assist providers to identify possible gaps in their practices or recommend mechanisms to ensure that they render the best possible service to their clients.
5. PhilHealth shall implement a monitoring and evaluation plan to inform revision of policies and improve implementation.

V. REPEALING CLAUSE

All previous issuances that are inconsistent with any provisions of this Circular are hereby amended, modified or repealed accordingly.

VI. DATE OF EFFECTIVITY

This Circular shall be published in any newspaper of general circulation and shall take effect starting January 1, 2020. Further, this Circular shall be deposited thereafter with the Office of the National Administrative Register at the University of the Philippines Law Center.

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Date: 2/4/2020
DCG
GEN. RICARDO C. MORALES, AFP (RET) FICDA
President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Date signed: 1/20/2020

Governing Policies of the PhilHealth Konsultasyon Sulit at Tama (PhilHealth Konsulta): Expansion of the Primary Care Benefit to Cover All Filipinos

