



Republic of the Philippines  
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**PHILHEALTH CIRCULAR**

No. 2024-0003

**TO : ALL GOVERNMENT HEALTH FACILITIES AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT : Extension on the Filing/Re-filing Period for COVID-19-related Claims of Government Health Facilities**

**I. RATIONALE**

As part of the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, PhilHealth introduced and implemented several COVID-19 benefit packages. This is in line with the Bayanihan to Heal as One Act which states that “the cost of testing and treatment for COVID-19 patients shall be covered under the National Health Insurance Program of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth).”<sup>1</sup>

On July 21, 2023, Proclamation No. 297 s. 2023 (Lifting of the State of Public Health Emergency throughout the Philippines due to COVID-19) was issued enjoining all agencies to ensure that their policies, rules and regulations shall take into consideration the lifting of the State of Public Health Emergency and amend existing or promulgate new issuances, as may be appropriate.

Accordingly, the PhilHealth Board issued PhilHealth Board Resolution No. 2859 s. 2023, approving the extension of the period of filing/re-filing of COVID-19-related claims of government health facilities until the lifting of the State of Public Health Emergency on July 21, 2023.

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**II. OBJECTIVES**

This PhilHealth Circular aims to establish the rules on the extension of the filing/re-filing period for all COVID-19-related claims of government health facilities until the lifting of the State of Public Health Emergency on July 21, 2023.

**III. SCOPE**

This PhilHealth Circular shall apply to all claims for COVID-19 benefit packages filed/re-filed by government health facilities during the State of Public Health Emergency from March 8, 2020, to July 21, 2023.

<sup>1</sup> Sec. 4(b) of Republic Act No. 11469 (Bayanihan to Heal as One Act): Authorized Powers of the President

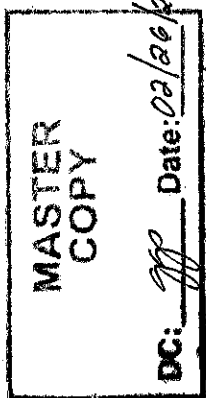
#### IV. DEFINITION OF TERMS

- A. **Administrative protest** – the administrative remedy of the aggrieved healthcare provider or member against notice of denial of the PRO-BAS.<sup>2</sup>
- B. **Appeal** – the administrative remedy of the aggrieved healthcare provider or member, against Orders of denial of the PRO-CRC.<sup>3</sup>
- C. **COVID-19-related claims** – all COVID-19 benefit packages issued and implemented by PhilHealth.
- D. **Government Health Facility** – a public health facility devoted primarily to the provision of services for health promotion, prevention, diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation and palliation of individuals suffering from illness, disease, injury, disability, or deformity, or in need of obstetrical or other medical and nursing care.<sup>4</sup>
- E. **PhilHealth Regional Office – Benefits Administration Section (PRO-BAS)** – Office responsible for adjudicating the claims for reimbursement filed by the health care provider or member.
- F. **PhilHealth Regional Office – Claims Review Committee (PRO-CRC)** – a collegial body that deliberates on administrative protests filed by health care providers and members regarding notices of denial of the PRO-BAS.
- G. **Protests and Appeals Review Department (PARD)** – Office responsible for the review of appeals on denied administrative protests filed by health care providers or members.

#### V. POLICY STATEMENTS

##### A. Extension of Filing Period

1. In line with PhilHealth Board Resolution No. 2859 s. 2023, all COVID-19-related claims (see Annex A: List of COVID-19 Benefit Packages) filed by government health facilities starting from March 8, 2020, shall be processed for payment even if filed/re-filed late, provided they were filed/re-filed on or before July 21, 2023, and found to be valid and complete in all other respects.
2. All COVID-19-related claims filed by government health facilities that were denied solely on the ground of late filing of claim, late re-filing of claim, late filing of administrative protest (AP) or motion for reconsideration (MR), or late filing of appeal shall be reconsidered, or the appeal granted, as the case may be. The claims shall then be returned to the concerned PRO-BAS for re-processing and payment if valid and complete in all other respects.



<sup>2</sup> Section 102 of PhilHealth Rules on Administrative Cases (PROAC): Filing of Protest before the PRO-Claims Review Committee (CRC)

<sup>3</sup> Section 103 of PhilHealth Rules on Administrative Cases (PROAC): Appeal Before the Protests and Appeals Review Department (PARD)

<sup>4</sup> Section 4(k)(1) of RA 11223 (Universal Health Care Act)

3. All COVID-19-related claims filed by government health facilities that have other reasons for denial, aside from late filing of claim, late re-filing of claim, late filing of AP/MR, or late filing of an appeal shall be adjudicated in accordance with existing rules.

## **B. Claims Covered**

The COVID-19-related claims of government health facilities shall include:

1. All COVID-19-related claims that were denied or will be denied solely on the grounds of late filing or re-filing at the PRO-BAS;
2. All COVID-19-related claims that were denied by the PRO-BAS solely on the ground of late filing or re-filing and are now pending with the PRO-CRC, including those late filed Administrative Protest/Motion for Reconsideration; and
3. All COVID-19-related claims pending or for appeal to the PARD that were denied by the PRO-CRC and/or PRO-BAS solely on the ground of late filing or re-filing, including late-filed Administrative Protest/Motion for Reconsideration or Appeal.

## **VI. PENALTY CLAUSE**

Violation of any provision of this PhilHealth Circular and all related issuances/directives shall be dealt with and penalized in accordance with pertinent provisions of Republic Act (RA) No. 7875, as amended by RA Nos. 9241 and 10606 (National Health Insurance Act of 2013), RA No. 11223 (Universal Health Care Act), and their respective Implementing Rules and Regulations.

## **VII. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE**

If any provision of this PhilHealth Circular shall be declared invalid, unconstitutional, or unenforceable, the validity of the remaining provisions shall not in any way be affected and shall remain enforceable.

## **VIII. REPEALING CLAUSE**

This PhilHealth Circular repeals the following:

- A. Item VI.F of PhilHealth Circular No. 2020-0010
- B. Items V.H. and V.K of PhilHealth Circular No. 2020-0017
- C. Items V.C.3.e and V.C.3.f of PhilHealth Circular No. 2020-0018
- D. Item V.F.5.a of PhilHealth Circular No. 2021-0008
- E. Item IV.A of PhilHealth Circular No. 2021-0018
- F. Items V.C.7 and V.C.8 of PhilHealth Circular No. 2022-0002
- G. Item IV.B.14 of PhilHealth Circular No. 2022-0003
- H. Item V.C.11 of PhilHealth Circular No. 2022-0010

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All other issuances inconsistent with the foregoing are hereby clarified, modified, and amended accordingly.

**IX. DATE OF EFFECTIVITY**

This PhilHealth Circular shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or any newspaper of general circulation. A copy shall thereafter be deposited to the Office of the National Administrative Register (ONAR) of the University of the Philippines Law Center.



**EMMANUEL R. LEDESMA, JR.**  
President and Chief Executive Officer

Date signed: 09/20/2024

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## Annex A: List of COVID-19 Benefit Packages

Package	Package / ICD-10 Code	PhilHealth Circular/s	Particulars/Description
<b>COVID-19 Inpatient Packages</b>	P0001	PC 2020-0004 (repealed by PC 2020-0009)	Referral package of PUI for 2019-nCoV infection
	C19IP1	PC 2020-0009; PC 2021-0008; PC 2021-0020; PC 2022-0003; PC 2023-0001	Case Type: Adult: Moderate COVID-19 without pneumonia with risk factors for progression
	C19IP2	PC 2020-0009; PC 2022-0003; PC 2023-0001	Case Type: Adult: Moderate COVID-19 with pneumonia
	C19IP3	PC 2020-0009; PC 2022-0003; PC 2023-0001	Case Type: Adult: Severe COVID-19
	C19IP4	PC 2020-0009; PC 2022-0003; PC 2023-0001	Case Type: Adult: Critical COVID-19
	IMP01	PC 2021-0008; PC 2021-0020	Intermediate Package for Moderate Pneumonia (cases with pneumonia initially assessed and managed as COVID-19 but had negative RT-PCR test results are covered by Intermediate Package)
	IMP02	PC 2021-0008; PC 2021-0020	Intermediate Package for Severe/Critical Pneumonia (cases with pneumonia initially assessed and managed as COVID-19 but had negative RT-PCR test results are covered by Intermediate Package)
	C19PP1	PC 2022-0003; PC 2023-0001	Case Type: Pediatric Age Groups: Mild COVID-19 with risk factors
	C19PP2	PC 2022-0003; PC 2023-0001	Case Type: Pediatric Age Groups: Moderate COVID-19 with pneumonia
	C19PP3	PC 2022-0003; PC 2023-0001	Case Type: Pediatric Age Groups: Severe COVID-19
	C19PP4	PC 2022-0003; PC 2023-0001	Case Type: Pediatric Age Groups: Critical COVID-19
	C19P1	PC 2022-0003; PC 2023-0001	Inpatient Benefit Package Rate for Suspect Cases clinically managed as COVID-19 (applicable to admissions between April 15, 2020 – June 18, 2021) Severity: Mild pneumonia in the elderly or with co-morbidities
	C19P2	PC 2022-0003; PC 2023-0001	Inpatient Benefit Package Rate for Suspect Cases clinically managed as COVID-19 (applicable to admissions between April 15, 2020 – June 18, 2021) Severity: Moderate pneumonia
	C19P3	PC 2022-0003; PC 2023-0001	Inpatient Benefit Package Rate for Suspect Cases clinically managed as COVID-19 (applicable to admissions between April 15, 2020 – June 18, 2021) Severity: Severe pneumonia
	C19P4	PC 2022-0003; PC 2023-0001	Inpatient Benefit Package Rate for Suspect Cases clinically managed as COVID-19 (applicable to admissions between April 15, 2020 – June 18, 2021) Severity: Critical pneumonia
<b>COVID-19 Isolation Packages</b>	Z29.0 (ICD-10 code)	PC 2020-0004 (repealed by PC 2020-0009)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Isolation Package for Patients Under Investigation (PUI) for 2019-nCoV. It is for admission whose main purpose is to provide quarantine and appropriate management to a PUI.</li> <li>This package may also be claimed for confirmed cases of 2019 nCoV with mild symptoms, if the course in the ward is unremarkable and eventually discharged.</li> <li>For PUI who tested negative for 2019-nCoV, they may claim the Isolation Package if 2019-nCoV infection was ruled out within the admission.</li> </ul>
	C19CI	PC 2020-0012; PC 2022-0007	COVID-19 Community Isolation Benefit Package (CCIBP)

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Package	Package / ICD-10 Code	PhilHealth Circular/s	Particulars/Description
	C19CIS	PC 2020-0018	Admissions that were referred to the CIU from higher-level facilities for step-down care
	C19HI	PC 2021-0014; PC 2022-0002; PC 2022-0004	COVID-19 Home Isolation Benefit Package (CHIBP)
<b>COVID-19 Testing Packages</b>	C19T1	PC 2020-0010; *PC 2020-0017; PC 2021-0001; PC 2021-0018; PC 2021-0021	Package for SARS-CoV-2 testing: All services for the testing are procured and provided by the testing laboratory * Services covered by PhilHealth: Complete services or minimum standards
	C19T2	PC 2020-0010 **PC 2020-0017; PC 2021-0001; PC 2021-0018; PC 2021-0021	Package for SARS-CoV-2 testing: Test kits are donated to the testing laboratory **Services covered by PhilHealth: Screening/clinical assessment, specimen collection and handling, conduct of RT-PCR testing and analysis of results
	C19T3	PC 2020-0010 ***PC 2020-0017; PC 2021-0001; PC 2021-0018; PC 2021-0021	Package for SARS-CoV-2 testing: Test kits are donated to the testing laboratory; cost of running the laboratory and the RT-PCR machine for testing are subsidized by the government ***Services covered by PhilHealth: Screening/clinical assessment, specimen collection and handling
	C19X1	PC 2021-0003; PC 2021-0018; PC 2021-0021	Package for SARS-CoV-2 testing by cartridge-based PCR: All services and supplies for the testing are procured and provided by the testing laboratory Services covered by PhilHealth: Complete services or minimum standards
	C19X2	PC 2021-0003; PC 2021-0018; PC 2021-0021	Package for SARS-CoV-2 testing by cartridge-based PCR: PCR cartridges are donated to the testing laboratory Services covered by PhilHealth: Screening, specimen collection, and handling, the conduct of cartridge-based PCR testing and analysis of results
	C19X3	PC 2021-0003; PC 2021-0018; PC 2021-0021	Package for SARS-CoV-2 testing by cartridge-based PCR: PCR cartridges are donated to the testing laboratory; the cost of running the cartridge-based PCR tests is subsidized by the government Services covered by PhilHealth: Screening, specimen collection and handling; facility costs for staff time and PPE
	C19AT1	PC 2022-0010	Facility-Based COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Testing Benefit Package

Copies of all cited PhilHealth Circulars may be accessed and downloaded from the PhilHealth website: [www.philhealth.gov.ph](http://www.philhealth.gov.ph).

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