



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

TO: ALL DIRECTORS OF BUREAUS AND REGIONAL OFFICES, BARM MINSTER OF HEALTH; CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS, HOSPITALS AND SANITARIA, AND OTHERS CONCERNED

FROM: ANNA MELISSA S. GUERRERO, MD, MPH (HTA)
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Health Regulation Team

SUBJECT: Acknowledgement of Comments/Concurrence on HTAC Evaluation Framework for COVID-19 Vaccines

DATE: 15 February 2021

By virtue of Republic Act 11223, otherwise known as the Universal Health Care (UHC) Act, health technology assessment (HTA) shall be institutionalized as a fair and transparent priority setting mechanism to provide financing and coverage recommendations on health technologies to be funded by the Department of Health and the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation.

In light of the public health emergency, the HTA Unit has been receiving various requests for assessments of COVID-19 technologies, including COVID-19 vaccines. As the HTA Council (HTAC) aims to generate evidence-informed health technology recommendations amidst rapidly evolving evidence, we are planning to conduct an early HTA of COVID-19 vaccines and this involves drafting an evaluation framework for the assessment of COVID-19 vaccines.

Consistent with HTAC's rigorous, transparent and consultative process, we have considered the views of various stakeholders in the updating of the evaluation framework. We are pleased to inform you that the final version of the *HTAC Evaluation Framework of COVID-19 vaccines under Emergency Use Authorization* is now accessible through the HTA website at (<https://hta.doh.gov.ph/2021/01/25/htac-evaluation-for-covid-19-vaccine-assessments/>).

We continue to appreciate your usual support and guidance as HTAC commits to deliver on its mandate to assist the government in achieving Universal Health Care with the best available evidence even as the nation is in the midst of this unprecedented health crisis. Should you have any concerns, please feel free to contact us through the HTA Technical Secretariat at hta@doh.gov.ph. Thank you very much!