



Republic of the Philippines
 Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

13 September 2022

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. 2022 - 0291-A

FOR: ALL CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT, NATIONAL DRUG POLICY COMPLIANCE OFFICES, LEAGUES OF CITIES, PROVINCES AND MUNICIPALITIES, PROFESSIONAL HEALTH SOCIETIES, DIRECTORS OF BUREAUS AND REGIONAL OFFICES, BARMM MINISTER OF HEALTH, CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS AND SANITARIA, AND OTHER CONCERNED

SUBJECT: Amendment to the Department Circular 2022-0291 "Health Technology Assessment Council (HTAC) Recommendation to include Potassium Citrate 15 mEq Extended Release (ER) Tablet in the Philippine National Formulary"

This has reference to the Department Circular 2022-0291 "Health Technology Assessment Council (HTAC) Recommendation to include Potassium Citrate 15 mEq Extended Release (ER) Tablet in the Philippine National Formulary" which was approved by the Secretary of Health on 17 May 2022.

Relative thereto, the HTAC amends the DC No. 2022-0291 based on Department Memorandum 2016-0258 otherwise known as "Further clarification and guidance on the bidding specifications of solid oral dosage forms (tablets) in the Philippine National Formulary" which states that the specific type of tablet [e.g., sustained-release tablets (extended-/prolonged-release tablets)] shall be clearly reflected in the purchase request.

In line with this, the HTAC kindly clarifies that 'tablet' does not automatically encompass the 'extended release' tablet which is stipulated in the Department Memorandum 2016-0258. To help guide the bidding process of the Potassium Citrate 15 mEq, the HTAC would like to clarify that the approved HTAC recommendation on "Potassium (as citrate), 1620mg (15 mEq) tablet" specifically pertains to "Potassium (as citrate), 1620mg (15 mEq) extended release (ER) tablet." The approved inclusion is aimed at adding another dosage strength and net content. Listed below is the comparison of the current and the approved listing which are specified as extended release (ER) tablets, for your reference:

Current PNF Listing	Updated PNF Listing following the Minor Inclusion
Potassium (as citrate), 10 mEq tablet	Potassium (as citrate), 1080mg (10 mEq) tablet Potassium (as citrate), 1620mg (15 mEq) extended release (ER) tablet

For your information and guidance.

All other provisions of Department Circular No. 2022-0291 not affected by this amendment will stand in effect. *gh*
 By Authority of the Secretary of Health:


FATTY CHARADE MERCADO-GRANDE
 OIC-Undersecretary of Health
 Health Regulation Team