



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Health  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

January 17, 2022

**DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR**

No. 2022 – 0064

**TO: ALL UNDERSECRETARIES AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES; DIRECTORS OF BUREAUS AND SERVICES AND CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT; MINISTER OF HEALTH – BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO; EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS OF SPECIALTY HOSPITALS, CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS, HOSPITALS, SANITARIA AND INSTITUTES; PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION; DIRECTORS OF TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION CENTERS AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT: Adjustments in Maximum Retail Price (MRP) Regulation of Certain Medicines that are Covered by Executive Order No. 155 Pursuant to Exemption from Value Added Tax (VAT)**

Executive Order No. 155 entitled “Further Improving Access to Healthcare Through the Regulation of Prices in the Retail of Drugs and Medicines” dated 07 December 2021 imposed Maximum Retail Price (MRP) on 34 drug molecules or 71 drug formulas.

Republic Act No. 11534, otherwise known as the “Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises Act” or (CREATE Law), provides that sale or importation of prescription drugs and medicines for the treatment of diabetes, high cholesterol, hypertension, cancer, mental illness, tuberculosis, kidney disease and COVID-19 are exempted from value-added tax (VAT).

Pursuant to Republic Act No. 11534, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued an updated list of VAT-Exempt Products and thereafter endorsed the same to the Bureau of Internal Revenue.

For the information of all those concerned, certain medicines under MRP regulation through Executive Order No. 155 are qualified for the said exemption as a result of these medicines being included in the VAT-Exempted List by the FDA.

Thus, the following adjustments are made to the MRP to exclude the VAT:

| No.                | Medicine                            | Previous MRP, in PhP | Updated MRP (VAT-exempted), in PhP |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Anti-Angina</b> |                                     |                      |                                    |
| 6                  | Nitroglycerin 1 mg/mL, 10 mL ampule | 450.00               | 401.79                             |

| <b>Anticoagulant</b>                          |   |           |           |
|---|---|-----------|-----------|
| 14  | Tinzaparin 3,500 anti-XA IU, 0.35 mL pre-filled syringe | 410.99    | 366.96    |
| <b>Antidiuretics</b>                          |   |           |           |
| 22  | Desmopressin 0.1 mg tablet                              | 79.27     | 70.78     |
| 23  | Desmopressin 60 mcg sublingual tablet                   | 64.53     | 57.62     |
| <b>Anti-Hypertensive Medicines</b>            |   |           |           |
| 49  | Nimodipine 10 mg, 50 mL vial                            | 2,112.65  | 1,886.29  |
| <b>Anti-Neoplastic/ Anti-Cancer Medicines</b> |   |           |           |
| 55  | Afatinib 50 mg film-coated tablet                       | 3,099.73  | 2,767.62  |
| 56  | Erlotinib 100 mg film-coated tablet                     | 1,421.33  | 1,269.04  |
| 57  | Exemestane 25 mg tablet                                 | 365.96    | 326.75    |
| 59  | Gefitinib 250 mg tablet                                 | 3,122.40  | 2,787.86  |
| <b>Immunosuppressant Drugs</b>                |   |           |           |
| 66  | Infliximab 100 mg, 10 mL vial                           | 30,000.00 | 26,785.71 |
| 67  | Tacrolimus 5 mg prolonged-release capsule               | 675.81    | 603.40    |
| 68  | Tocilizumab 80 mg/ 4 mL, 4 mL vial                      | 9,032.81  | 8,065.01  |

All Centers for Health Development are hereby directed to disseminate this information to the following: drugstore chains, independent drugstores, local and national government hospitals, local government units, private hospitals, pharmaceutical manufacturers, importers, distributors, traders, wholesalers, and all other public and private offices involved in the procurement, acquisition, and reimbursement of drugs and medicines.

For strict compliance.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:



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**ATTY. CHARADE B. MERCADO –GRANDE**

Undersecretary of Health  
Health Regulation Team