



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

January 14, 2020

DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM
NO. 2020 - 6005

FOR: ALL UNDERSECRETARIES, ASSISTANT SECRETARIES, DIRECTORS OF BUREAUS AND SERVICES AND CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT, CHIEFS OF HOSPITALS OF SPECIALTY / SPECIALIZED / RETAINED HOSPITALS AND SANITARIA, HEADS OF ATTACHED AGENCIES AND OTHERS CONCERNED UNITS

SUBJECT: PRICE FREEZE OF BASIC ESSENTIAL MEDICINES IN TAAL VOLCANO ERUPTION AFFECTED AREAS

The Department of Health (DOH) is mandated to monitor and regulate drug prices as well as ensure that consumers are adequately protected against profiteering, hoarding, cartels and the like that compromise their access to essential pharmaceutical products.

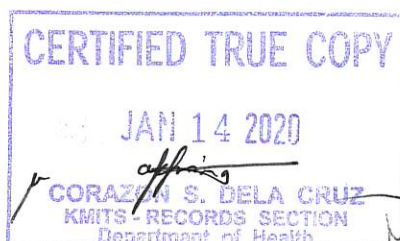
As stated in Section 6 of Republic Act no. 7581, "An Act Providing Protection to Consumers by Stabilizing the Prices of Basic Necessities and Prime Commodities and by Prescribing Measures Against Under Price Increase During Emergency Situations and Like Occasions", it is the policy of the State to ensure the availability of basic necessities and prime commodities at all time.


Essential medicines have been identified as a basic necessity especially in times of natural calamities and man-made disasters that put the health and lives of Filipino at risk because of unfavorable conditions that cause or aggravate disease which may lead to epidemics and massive death.

Due to the on-going Taal Volcano escalated erupted activity, the DOH hereby orders a price freeze on Emergency Medicines (Annex 1) in all areas affected by the volcano eruption.

Unless otherwise lifted by the President, it shall remain in effect for the duration of the situation. The Administrative Order (AO) No. 2014-0001 has been provided for your reference (Annex 2).

For strict and immediate compliance.




FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III MD, MSc
Secretary of Health