



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

December 8, 2017

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. 2017 - 0379

TO: ALL HEADS OF CENTRAL OFFICE BUREAUS, REGIONAL HEALTH OFFICES, SPECIALTY HOSPITALS/ MEDICAL CENTERS/ HOSPITALS/ SANITARIA, REGIONAL BLOOD PROGRAM COORDINATORS, BLOOD SERVICE FACILITIES HEADS, LEAD BLOOD SERVICE FACILITIES AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT: One (1) Year Suspension for the Compliance to the Requirements for the Certificate of Inclusion

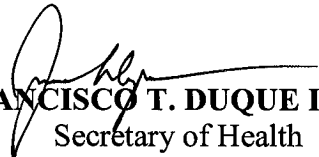
The Department of Health (DOH) Department Memorandum 2016-0448 has set the issuance of a Certificate of Inclusion (COI) in the Regional Blood Services Network as a pre-licensing requirement for all Blood Service Facilities (BSFs). The guidelines prescribed within the COI were created by DOH - National Voluntary Blood Services Program (NVBSP) in collaboration with all Regional Blood Program Coordinators, partner local government units, the Philippine Red Cross, and selected private BSFs to ensure safe, adequate, timely, and accessible blood supply based on 100% voluntary blood donation as well as the rational use of blood in the Philippines through advocacy, professional education and research.

The objective of requiring the COI is for all BSFs to comply with the standards, policies, guidelines and checklist put forth by NVBSP to ensure accessibility and safety of blood for patients who would need blood/ blood products transfusion.

The DOH acknowledges that there are some BSFs which are still in the process of completing the requirements for the COI. Moreover, the licensing period for hospitals will commence on the fourth quarter of 2017.

Relative thereto, the DOH – Health Facilities and Services Regulatory Bureau hereby **SUSPENDS** the requirement of COI for the renewal of 2018 LTO of hospitals.

For your information and guidance.


FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III, MD, MSc
Secretary of Health