

**[ PHILHEALTH CIRCULAR NO. 0011, S. 2013,  
March 26, 2013 ]**

**CLARIFICATION/AMENDMENT ON ISSUANCES RELATED TO THE  
ENGAGEMENT OF INSTITUTIONAL HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS  
(IHCPS) AND OTHER APPLICABLE ISSUANCES**

In the adoption of the Department of Health's Administrative Order 2012- 0012 re: "Rules and Regulations Governing the New Classification of Hospitals and Other Health Facilities in the Philippines" and with the implementation of PhilHealth Circular 54 s. 2012, "Provider Engagement Through Accreditation and Contracting of Health Services", the following issues concerning engagement of institutional health care providers are hereby clarified and amended:

1. PhilHealth Circular (PC) 21 s. 2009, *"Amendment to PC 30 s-2004 on Conditions to Qualify a Hospital for Initial Accreditation which has not Operated for at Least 3 Years"*, states that hospitals, ambulatory surgical clinics and freestanding dialysis clinics may qualify for initial application provided that its medical director/ administrator/Chief of Facility has a 3-year work experience in a similar, analogous or at least the same level of institution it is applying for. As an additional qualifier, a managing health care professional who does not fulfill the 3-year work experience but has finished Master on Hospital Administration is acceptable to qualify these facilities to apply for initial participation.  
Further, all Level 2 and 3 hospitals based on the new DOH classification, that apply for initial participation are exempted from the 3-year rule requirement. All conditions to qualify a hospital, ambulatory surgical clinics and freestanding dialysis clinic for initial participation which has not operated for at least 3 years (PC 21 s,2009) shall remain.
2. The Corporation has already adopted automatic accreditation. One of the basis for granting such to all government facilities is the General Appropriations Act (GAA) of 2012; however, GAA 2013 does not specifically mention the automatic accreditation of these facilities thus, rendering all government facilities not requiring license like health centers/ rural health units, which are the primary providers of the Primary Care Benefit (PCB) 1 package, not automatically accredited. As such, PCB 1 that shall apply for initial participation shall undergo pre-accreditation survey following the requirements provided in Annex C1 "Standards of Accreditation of PhilHealth Primary Care Package Providers" of PhilHealth Circular 10 series 2012 until such time that the DOH has implemented licensing of RHUs and health centers. The *effectivity* of engagement shall be on the *date of full compliance* to the standards of accreditation of the facility.
3. PCB providers and Animal Bite Package Providers which are already granted engagement with PhilHealth for CY 2013 shall no longer undergo pre-accreditation survey; however, they shall be monitored by PhilHealth to ensure compliance to standards/ requirements of the Corporation.