



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

08 September 2015

DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

No. 2015- 0321

TO: ALL DOH REGIONAL OFFICE DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: UPDATES ON THE PROCUREMENT OF TB MEDICINES FOR CHILDREN

One challenge in the procurement of TB Drugs for children is the compliance of suppliers with the technical eligibility requirements. For 2014 procurement, as early as March 16, 2014 the bidding of TB drugs for children was done twice, but both resulted to failed biddings.

As such, the Central Office Bids and Awards Committee (COBAC) resorted to Negotiated Procurement through Agency-to-Agency pursuant to Section 53.5 of the Implementing Rules and Regulation (IRR) of RA 9184 and contracted PITC Pharma Inc. (PPI).

On 04 March 2015, PPI received the Purchase Order (PO) for TB drugs for children. The schedule of delivery was originally one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from receipt of Notice to Proceed (NTP) which is 03 July 2015.

However, on 31 July 2015, we received a letter from PPI requesting for an extension of delivery due to the global shortage of raw material for anti-TB drug. The manufacturer is requesting for additional time to finish the production of the medicines thus, a rescheduling of the delivery was extended.

Nonetheless, the Program informed PPI through a letter that the program can only grant fifteen (15) calendar days extension from the original delivery schedule, given that the current stock situation in the central, regional and TB DOTS facilities is critical and in some areas, supplies are already depleting.

Likewise, the Program recommended that further delay on the delivery will apply provisions on "The Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act 9184 otherwise known as Government Procurement Reform Act, RULE XXII – CIVIL LIABILITY section 68.

In the meantime, to ensure the uninterrupted treatment of TB cases, the National Tuberculosis Control Program (NTP) would like to request all regions to procure TB Medicines for Children good for one (1) quarter using the NTP sub-allotment funds.

For your strict compliance.

By the Authority of Secretary of Health:



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Undersecretary of Health
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