



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

16 January 2017

DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

No. 2016 - 0335-A

FOR: SECRETARY OF HEALTH OF AUTONOMOUS REGION FOR MUSLIM MINDANAO (ARMM) AND ALL DOH REGIONAL OFFICES (RO) DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Amendment to Department Memorandum 2016-0335 regarding Conduct of the Catastrophic cost study for the National TB Control Program (NTP) and the support needed from Concerned Agencies

Department Memorandum 2016-0335, dated September 2, 2016 is hereby amended to include the additional roles and responsibilities of the different concerned agencies in the conduct of research study entitled "Catastrophic Costs Study faced by TB-affected households in the Philippines".

A total of 1,880 patient interviews are needed for the conduct of this study. Initially, 188 DOTS and PMDT facilities have been randomly selected wherein 10 patients are targeted to be interviewed in each facility. However, some of these "original" facilities lack the targeted 10 patients. Hence, "spare" facilities have been randomly drawn. The lacking number of patients will be interviewed from these "spare" facilities. "Buffer" patients will also be randomly selected in case original target patients become ineligible for the study. They will only be contacted and interviewed once original patient is found to be ineligible to participate.

For this major undertaking, the Program has engaged and formally commissioned the University of the Philippines Economics Health Policy Development Program (UPEcon HPDP) as the primary investigator and TNS KANTAR as field survey team of the Catastrophic Cost research nationwide.

The specific roles of the different concerned agencies, in addition to Department Memorandum 2016-0335, are as follows:

- A. DOH – National TB Control Program
1. Oversee the overall conduct of data collection and monitor the processes in the conduct of the survey
 2. Conduct monitoring activities for the survey

B. Primary Investigator (UPEcon HPDP)


1. Develop the survey protocol and seek ethical clearance and approval
2. Randomly select target facilities to be visited and target patients to be interviewed including spares and buffers
3. Conduct monitoring activities for the survey and ensure that the standard protocols are followed
4. Communicate issues and concerns to DOH-NTP

C. Field Survey Team (TNS KANTAR)

1. Coordinate with the staff on the scheduling of patient interview
2. Conduct home visits to patients who are unable to come to the facility for the scheduled interview

Field monitoring visits will commence once patient interviews are done in a site. All Regional NTP Coordinators are hereby requested to disseminate this memorandum and coordinate accordingly to selected facilities.

All other provisions of Department Memorandum 2016-0335 not affected by this amendment still stand in effect.


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Secretary of Health