Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

June 27, 2017

DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM
No. 2017 - 0272

FOR: **SECRETARY OF HEALTH OF AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO, ALL DOH REGIONAL DIRECTORS AND MEDICAL CENTER CHIEFS/DIRECTORS OF HOSPITALS WITH PROGRAMMATIC MANAGEMENT OF DRUG-RESISTANT (PMDT) FACILITIES**

SUBJECT: **Issuance of Pharmacovigilance Monitoring System (PViMS) User Account**

The World Health Organization (WHO) describes pharmacovigilance (PV) as the science and activities relating to the detection, assessment, understanding and prevention of adverse effects or any other medicine-related problem. The definition of the WHO also covers new innovator compounds under clinical trials to ascertain efficacy and safety. The approval of every innovator compound is premised on the principle that the benefit from use of the new medicine must outweigh the risk of the disease/s it is intended to cure, as well as the harm that may arise from its use. As the population studied during the pre-approval phase is relatively limited, PV integrates a post-marketing surveillance phase for all newly approved innovator medicines to further establish safety in a wider population base.

The Department of Health (DOH) through the Pharmaceutical Division (PD) under the Office for Policy and Health Systems (OPHS) adopted a web-based application Pharmacovigilance Monitoring System (PViMS) through the USAID/Philippines' Systems for Improved Access to Pharmaceuticals and Services (SIAPS). The PViMS will help the DOH to ensure the patient's safety for medicines being distributed to health facilities.

In line with this, the DOH will issue set of guidelines in the implementation of PViMS for reporting adverse drug events following administration of medicines under NTP.

SCOPE:

This issuance applies to the Department of Health (DOH), the National Tuberculosis Control Program (NTP), Health Facilities provided with DOH medicines.

GENERAL GUIDELINES:

A. The DOH-PD as the lead office in rolling out the monitoring of adverse drug events following administration of medicines being distributed by the DOH shall also be the lead office in implementing the utilization of PViMS.
B. The PD in coordination with the Knowledge Management & Information Technology Services (KMITS) shall continue the provision of technical support to all identified health facilities as the PViMS is rolled out.

SPECIFIC GUIDELINES:

A. Issuance of Users Account:
    1. The NTP or the Public Health Program Manager shall identify all the reporting facilities and personnel who are authorized to access and use the PViMS system. The list of reporting and personnel shall be submitted to DOH-PD for the issuance of usernames and passwords.
    2. The DOH-PD shall release the assigned usernames and passwords to the reporting facilities' authorized staff or the user access owner
    3. The DOH-PD shall assign at least one (1) username and password for each reporting facility.
B. Suspension, Termination and Lifting of User's Account
    Upon recommendation and endorsement of the NTP or Public Health Programs to the DOH-PD, the users' accounts may be suspended, terminated or lifted accordingly.

For strict compliance.

By the Authority of the Secretary of Health

ENRIQUE A. TAYAG, MD, PHSAE, FPSMID, CESO III
OIC- Assistant Secretary of Health
Office for Policy and Health Systems