



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

November 21, 2017

DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

No. 2017 - 0487

FOR : SECRETARY OF HEALTH OF AUTONOMOUS REGION IN
MUSLIM MINDANAO AND ALL DOH REGIONAL
DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Nationwide implementation of the Provider Initiated HIV
Counselling and Testing (PICT) in all DOTS Facilities

In support to the Global End TB Strategy's target of achieving 100% HIV testing among TB patients by 2025 and to the National AIDS/STI Prevention and Control Program's (NASPCP) initiative that all should know their HIV status, the National TB Control Program (NTP) through its 2017-2022 Philippine Strategic TB Elimination Plan Phase1 (PhilSTEP 1) targets to achieve 90% HIV counselling and testing among eligible TB patients by 2022. As such, PICT will be expanded nationwide starting January 2018.

In view of this, the DOH Regional Offices are hereby directed to conduct PICT in all DOTS facilities, in coordination with their respective Regional NASPCP counterparts.

While region-wide implementation is ongoing, those facilities not yet trained are advised to record the HIV status of the clients.

For any queries or clarification, please contact **Ms. Ma. Cecile B. Guerrero**, Account Officer for TB/HIV of NTP thru telephone number (02)230-9626 or thru email address ntp.mne@gmail.com.

For your information and compliance.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "GERARDO V. BAYUGO", is written over a horizontal line.

GERARDO V. BAYUGO, MD, MPH CESO III
Undersecretary of Health
Office for Technical Services