



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

28 May 2018

DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

No. 2018 - 0239

FOR: CHIEFS OF DOH HOSPITALS

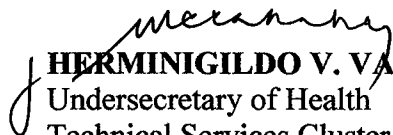
SUBJECT: Provision of Free Chest X-ray Examination to Persons Deprived of Liberty

The 2017-2022 Philippine Strategic TB Elimination Plan Phase 1 commits to reduce the TB incidence rate by 15% from 554 to 470 per 100,000 population by 2022. To achieve this target, we need to find an estimated 470,000 TB cases for 2018. One of the strategies is to promptly screen clinical groups and vulnerable populations for TB using chest x-ray since they are at high risk of acquiring TB compared to the general population. One of the well-recognized high risk groups is persons deprived of liberty (PDLs).

On this regard, all DOH hospitals shall provide free chest x-ray examination to PDLs on the following scenarios: 1) upon entry to the jail or prison, 2) anytime during detention if with symptoms suggestive of TB, 3) prior to transfer to another jail or prison, and 4) prior to release of PDLs back to the community.

For compliance.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:


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Technical Services Cluster