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Department of Health 236-2  
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**DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR**

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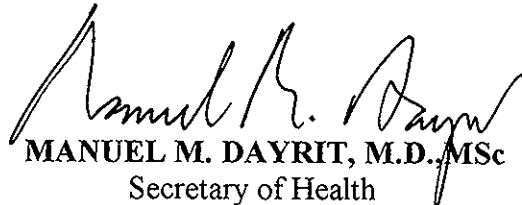
To : ALL CHD DIRECTORS/ SECRETARY-ARMM / NTP  
COORDINATORS AND ALL CONCERNED

Subject : Adoption of the "Operational Guidelines for the Public-Private  
Mix DOTS in the Philippines" under the National TB Program

The National TB Program (NTP) of the Philippines has adopted the D.O.T.S. strategy since 1996 and implementation in the public sector is already nationwide. Likewise, there are a lot of private providers that are managing TB cases. In this regard, there is a need to synchronize the efforts of both the public and the private sectors in the management and control of tuberculosis.

The Department of Health recognizes the potential of the private sectors in contributing to the achievement of the NTP's goals and objectives. The Public-Private Mix D.O.T.S. (PPMD) is one such strategy where case detection can be improved with the participation of the private physicians. The "*Operational Guidelines for Public-Private Mix D.O.T.S. in the Philippines*" shall be adopted under the NTP, pertinent to D.O.T.S implementation among the PPMD Units. TB services can be availed from the PPMD units; thus, they need to be guided in their delivery of quality D.O.T.S.

All concerned are hereby enjoined to adopt these guidelines.

  
MANUEL M. DAYRIT, M.D., MSc  
Secretary of Health