



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

03 October 2018

FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III, MD, MSc

Secretary

Department of Health

Dear **Secretary Duque**:

The Formulary Executive Council (FEC) respectfully recommends the **DISAPPROVAL** of the following medicines in the Philippine National Formulary (PNF) based on the review of available evidence and consultation with local specialists:

Medicines	Reasons for disapproval
<p>1. Sitagliptin 25 mg, 50 mg, and 100 mg tablet</p> <p><i>Indication: Treatment of diabetic patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD)</i></p>	<p>The review conducted by the Health Technology Assessment (HTA) Study Group, currently lodged in the DOH - Health Policy Development and Planning Bureau (HPDPB), showed that sitagliptin demonstrated non-inferiority only in terms of efficacy (change lowering HbA1c levels and fasting blood sugar) versus gliclazide and it presented statistically better safety profile in terms of less risk for severe hypoglycemic events. At its current retail price of Php 59.50 per tablet, however, the drug is not deemed cost-effective, and as such, the HTA unit manifested in their report that a price discount of 46% must be applied by the manufacturer to achieve an incremental cost-effectiveness ratio (ICER) value that is within the 1-GDP per capita threshold, and to make it cost-effective versus insulin NPH, which is the preferred drug included in the guidelines for diabetes mellitus (DM) patients with chronic kidney disease (CKD)/End Stage Renal Disease.</p> <p>Given the above findings, the Council recommended the DISAPPROVAL of the inclusion of sitagliptin in the PNF.</p>
<p>2. Dexmedetomidine</p> <p><i>Indication: For the sedation of 1) pediatric surgical patients with congenital heart disease (CHD) and 2) pediatric</i></p>	<p>Its use among pediatric patients is not an FDA-approved indication.</p>

<i>patients in pediatric ICU (PICU) setting.</i>	
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Please be informed that the above recommendation was posted on the website of the Pharmaceutical Division for 30 days to accommodate any comment or appeal from the stakeholders prior to final decision-making.

For your disposition, Sir.

Thank you and best regards.

Very truly yours,

For the Formulary Executive Council


ATTY. FROILAN BAGABALDO
Chair
Formulary Executive Council

Recommending approval of the FEC recommendation:


ROLANDO ENRIQUE D. DOMINGO, MD, DPBO
Undersecretary of Health
Health Regulation Team

Approval of the FEC recommendation:


FRANCISCO T. DUQUE III, MD, MSc
Secretary