



Republic of the Philippines  
Department of Health  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**



07 February 2017

**PAULYN JEAN B. ROSELL-UBIAL, MD, MPH, CESO II**

Secretary  
Department of Health

Dear **Secretary Ubial**:

The Formulary Executive Council (FEC) respectfully recommends the **DISAPPROVAL** of the inclusion of the following medicines in the Philippine National Formulary (PNF) due the reasons specified below:

**1. Nifedipine 60 mg modified release (MR) tablet**

In general, there are only few patients who are using nifedipine and this specific dosage strength is not commonly used. There are other calcium channel blockers (CCBs) that can be used instead.

**2. Metolazone 5 mg tablet**

Metolazone has no added benefit and is significantly more expensive than hydrochlorothiazide (HCTZ). It was likewise noted that HCTZ has already proven safety and efficacy, and is cheaper because of the availability of generic counterparts in the market.

Please be informed that the above list was posted for 30 days in the website of the Pharmaceutical Division to accommodate any comment or appeal from the stakeholders.

For your disposition, Ma'am.

Thank you and best regards.

Very truly yours,

For the Formulary Executive Council

*Froilan A. Bagabaldo*  
**ATTY. FROILAN BAGABALDO**

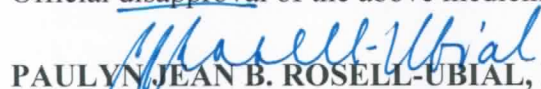
Chair  
Formulary Executive Council

**ALL FOR HEALTH**  
TOWARDS  
**HEALTH FOR ALL**

Recommending disapproval:

  
**MARIO C. VILLAVERDE, MD, MPH, CESO I**  
Undersecretary of Health  
Office for Health Regulation

Official disapproval of the above medicines:

  
**PAULYN JEAN B. ROSELL-UBIAL, MD, MPH, CESO II**  
Secretary of Health      02/24/17