



Republic of the Philippines  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**

01 April 2016

**JANETTE LORETO GARIN, MD, MBA-H**  
Secretary  
Department of Health

Dear **Secretary Garin:**

The Formulary Executive Council (FEC) respectfully recommends disapproving the inclusion of **metolazone 5 mg tablet** in the Philippine National Formulary because it has no added benefit and is significantly more expensive compared to the currently listed 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.

For your disposition, Ma'am.

Very truly yours,

For the Formulary Executive Council  
*Froilan A. Bagabaldo*  
**ATTY. FROILAN BAGABALDO**  
Chair  
Formulary Executive Council

Recommending disapproval:

  
**KENNETH HARTIGAN-GO, MD**  
Undersecretary of Health  
Office for Health Regulation

Official disapproval of the above medicines:

  
**JANETTE LORETO GARIN, MD, MBA-H**  
Secretary of Health