



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY



December 22, 2017

DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR

No. 2017- 0371

FOR : ALL OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS, MEDICAL DIRECTORS OF MEDICAL FACILITIES FOR OVERSEAS WORKERS AND SEAFARERS, AND OWNERS OF RECRUITMENT AGENCIES

SUBJECT : DOH Position on the New Online Registration System for Pre-Employment Medical Examination of Overseas Filipino Workers

It has come to the attention of the Department of Health (DOH) that a new online registration system that requires the OFW applicant to pay a registration fee of US\$10 is being used by some Medical Facilities for Overseas Workers and Seafarers (MFOWS) for the provision of Pre-Employment Medical Examination (PEME). This scheme was allegedly authorized by DOH.

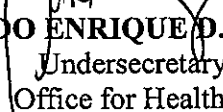
DOH upholds the provisions stipulated in the Republic Act No. 10022, titled, "An Act Amending Republic Act No. 8042, Otherwise Known as the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act of 1995, As Amended, Further Improving the Standard of Protection and Promotion of the Welfare of Migrant Workers, Their Families and Overseas Filipinos in Distress, and for Other Purposes" and Joint Memorandum Circulars of DOH, Department of Foreign Affairs, Department of Labor and Employment, and Department of Justice regarding the prohibition of decking, monopoly and charging of additional fees by OFW clinics.

Since the said online registration system charges additional fee to the OFW applicants and can be restrictive to few selected DOH-accredited OFW Clinics, it may be construed as another form of decking and monopoly of health examination services for Filipino migrant workers. Thus, DOH prohibits the MFOWS from participating or using the said online scheme.

The public, as well as, the MFOWS, are hereby advised to exercise caution and report to DOH activities pertaining to the online registration system for PEME.

Please be guided accordingly.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:


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