



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

August 10, 2020

**DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR**

No. 2020 - D316

**TO: ALL HEADS OF DIALYSIS FACILITIES AND OTHERS CONCERNED**

**SUBJECT: Submission of Notice to the Department of Health Prior to Closure of a Dialysis Facility**

In response to feedback received by the Department of Health (DOH) regarding the difficulties experienced by patients in accessing dialysis services during the COVID-19 outbreak, the DOH issued out Department Circular (D.C.) No. 2020-0162 titled "Directive for the Continuous Operation of Dialysis Facilities in the Philippines During the Enhanced Community Quarantine in Light of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak" last March 27, 2020, and Department Circular (D.C.) 2020-0189 titled " Directive for Continuous Operation of Laboratories for Drinking Water Analysis (LDWA) in the Philippines During Community Quarantine in Light of the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak" to support the operations of Hemodialysis Clinics (HDCs).

However, with the operational challenges brought about by the COVID-19 outbreak, it has come to the attention of DOH- Health Facilities and Services Regulatory Bureau (HFSRB) that several licensed dialysis facilities have closed thereby displacing their regular patients. In line with such, dialysis facilities are hereby **required to notify** the DOH, through a letter addressed to the Director of HFSRB should they decide to voluntarily cease operations or close stating the date of intended closure, reasons for closure and number of patients currently being serviced by the clinic. Letters may be mailed to the DOH or emailed to [hfsrb@doh.gov.ph](mailto:hfsrb@doh.gov.ph) or [hfsrb.doh@gmail.com](mailto:hfsrb.doh@gmail.com). This is to update the registry of operational dialysis facilities which is used as a reference by the public.

Moreover, dialysis facilities, prior to closure, are hereby directed to ensure that they have referred their regular dialysis patients to other licensed dialysis facilities for continuity of care.

For your information and strict compliance.

By Authority of the Secretary of Health:

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OIC - Undersecretary of Health  
Health Regulation Team

