



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR
No. 2006-0069

TO: ALL UNDERSECRETARIES, ASSISTANT SECRETARIES; DIRECTORS OF BUREAUS, CENTERS FOR HEALTH DEVELOPMENT, SERVICES AND SPECIALTY HOSPITALS; CHIEFS OF MEDICAL CENTERS & HOSPITALS; PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION; PRIVATE HOSPITALS AND OTHER HEALTH FACILITIES; AND OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT: Application of the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2003 and Administrative Order No. 177, series of 2004 on Medicines and Health-Related Services

Section 4(a) of R.A. No. 9257, otherwise known as the Expanded Senior Citizens Act of 2003, clearly provides that:

“SEC. 4. *Privileges for the Senior Citizens.* – The senior citizens shall be entitled to the following:

(a) the grant of twenty percent (20%) discount from all establishments relative to the utilization of services in hotels and similar lodging establishment, restaurants and recreation centers, and **purchase of medicines in all establishments for the exclusive use or enjoyment of senior citizens**, including funeral and burial services for the death of senior citizens; xxx”

The Department has received numerous queries and complaints on the kinds of medicines and the amount of discount that a senior citizen is entitled to in the purchase of medicines.

Previously, the Department has issued Administrative Order No. 171, series of 2004, whereby it was stated that only generic medicines should be the subject of the 20% discount.

However, it must be emphasized that A.O. No. 171, s. 2004 has already been superseded and revoked by Administrative Order No. 177,

