



Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN  
Lingayen  
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## OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN SECRETARY

# CERTIFICATION

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

*THIS IS TO CERTIFY that at the regular session duly constituted of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, Province of Pangasinan, held on November 20, 2023 at the Session Hall, Capitol Building, Lingayen, Pangasinan, the following provincial ordinance was approved:*

Authored by SP Member Jerry Agerico B. Rosario

### PROVINCIAL ORDINANCE NO. 311-2023

#### AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE CONDUCT OF MEDICAL AND SURGICAL MISSIONS BY FOREIGN PROFESSIONALS AND OTHER FOREIGN PARAMEDICAL STAFF IN THE PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN

**WHEREAS**, Section 16 of RA 7160 states that, within their respective territorial jurisdictions, local government units shall ensure and support, among other things, the preservation and enrichment of culture, promote health and safety, enhance the right of the people to a balanced ecology, encourage and support the development of appropriate and self-reliant scientific and technological capabilities, improve public morals, enhance economic prosperity and social justice, promote full employment among their residents, maintain peace;

**WHEREAS**, Section 17 of RA 7160 further states that local government units shall likewise exercise such other powers and discharge such other functions and responsibilities as are necessary, appropriate, or incidental to efficient and effective provision of the basic services and facilities, which of provinces, health services which include hospitals and other tertiary health services;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Health in its Administrative Order issued last 2012 a Guideline on Foreign Surgical and Medical Missions (FSMM) in support of Universal Health Care and Kalusugang Pangkalahatan;

**WHEREAS**, despite these regulations, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan is of belief that further enhancement of these guidelines may be implemented to further aptly apply to the unique settings and conditions in the delivery of healthcare in the Province of Pangasinan;

**NOW THEREFORE**, be it ordained by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Pangasinan that:

**Section 1. Short Title.** This Ordinance shall be known as the:

RAMON V. GUICO III  
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Vice Governor/Presiding Officer

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**“AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE CONDUCT OF MEDICAL AND SURGICAL MISSIONS BY FOREIGN PROFESSIONALS AND OTHER FOREIGN PARAMEDICAL STAFF IN THE PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN”**

**Section 2. Definition of Terms.** As used in this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

- A. Foreign Surgical and Medical Missions (FSMM) - are outreach health activities organized by foreign medical, paramedical practitioners and other individuals with the aim of providing medical and surgical evaluation and management Clinical Services in underserved areas in the province.
- B. Local Sponsor and/or FSMM Counterpart - are individuals or other local organizations who act as the local sponsor and/or facilitator for the FSMM.
- C. Foreign medical nursing practitioners - These are physicians and nurses who are licensed to practice abroad, who may or may not have undergone specialty training, but are not licensed to practice in the Philippines as they are not currently registered as an active practitioner in the Philippine Professional Regulation Commission for their respective professions.
- D. Underserved areas - localities where no readily available access to medical and surgical care are present. These may be secondary to limited people mobility due to terrain, distance from health centers, isolated areas such as islands and far-flung tribal settlements and distance from an existing health facility.
- E. Province-run Health Facilities- are the hospitals and healthcare facilities that are under the supervision of the Province of Pangasinan through its Hospital Management System Office (HMSO). These are composed of 14 facilities within the Province of Pangasinan and include the following:
  - a. Pangasinan Provincial Hospital- San Carlos City
  - b. Easter Pangasinan District Hospital- Tayug
  - c. Western Pangasinan District Hospital-Alaminos City
  - d. Urdaneta District Hospital (Don Amadeo J. Perez Memorial General Hospital)- Urdaneta City
  - e. Bayambang District Hospital-Bayambang
  - f. Mangatarem District Hospital-Mangatarem
  - g. Lingayen District Hospital (Don Mariano C. Versoza Memorial Hospital) – Lingayen

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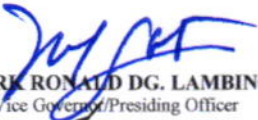


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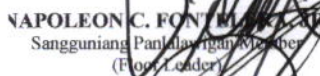
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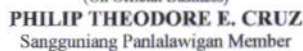
  
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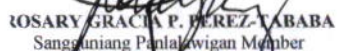
  
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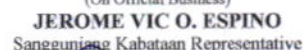
  
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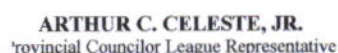
  
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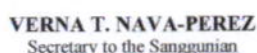
  
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- h. Asingan Community Hospital (Santiago Abella Ginez, Sr. Memorial Hospital) - Asingan
- i. Bolinao Community Hospital-Bolinao
- j. Umingan Community Hospital-Umingan
- k. Dasol Community Hospital-Dasol
- l. Manaoag Community Hospital (Don Eugenio Perez Memorial Hospital) - Manaoag
- m. Mapandan Community Hospital-Mapandan
- n. Pozorrubio Community Hospital-Pozorrubio

F. Rural Health Units- Municipal-run health centers that are under the supervision of municipal Local Government Units (LGU) and the PHO.

G. Private Clinics and Hospitals- are medical facilities that are run by private individuals or corporations, who may be privately-practicing physicians (and) or other health practitioners. These healthcare facilities must comply with the minimum requirements of the DOH and other regulatory agencies.

**Section 3. National Guidelines for Foreign Surgical and Medical Missions**

The following regulations are applicable to Filipino and foreign non-government organizations and overseas medical groups intending to provide health care services in underserved areas in the Philippines, where professional services, ancillary procedures, surgical interventions, and medicines are given at no cost to the patient (DOH Administrative Order No. 179, s. 2001):

- A. Sponsors of foreign medical and surgical missions must obtain clearance from the Office of the Secretary of Health, through the Bureau of International Health Cooperation (BIHC), prior to the implementation of the medical and surgical mission.
- B. For monitoring purpose, BIHC will notify the local Centers for Health Development of the conduct of the medical mission in their areas of responsibility.
- C. A foreign medical and surgical mission can only be conducted in a given community with the expressed and written consent of the local government unit and the local medical society.





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D. All medical and surgical procedures to be employed must conform to accepted local and international standards.

E. All medicines to be dispensed should have clearance from the Bureau of Food and Drugs as to safety and efficacy, and shall have an expiry date of no less than one (1) year upon arrival in the Philippines. Medicines must be covered by the Certificate of Product Registration.

F. A referral system to follow up patients seen during the medical and surgical mission must be established by the sponsor and collaborating organization(s).

G. All cases seen during the medical/surgical mission must be documented and a summary report submitted to the Center for Health Development within two (2) weeks after the medical/surgical mission with the following basic information:

1. Number and age of cases seen;
2. Diagnosis of patients;
3. List of medicines distributed and of surgical interventions done; and
4. Endorsements to the necessary health facilities.

H. Foreign physicians and health-related professionals are not allowed to practice their professions in the Philippines without a Special Permit issued by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC).

Note:

I. Only foreign physicians whose country grants reciprocity for Philippine physicians to practice, may be granted Special Permits by the PRC.

J. Presidential Decree No. 541 allows professionals who were former citizens of the Philippines and who have previously passed licensure examinations in the Philippines to practice their profession while in the country on a visit, sojourn or permanent residence. The said former Filipino professionals must be practitioners of good standing prior to their departure from the Philippines and in their adopted country.

**K. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents will be required in requesting for clearances or endorsements in connection with foreign medical missions:

1. Application letter to the Director, BIHC-Department of Health, which contains the following information:
2. Type of Mission (i.e., medical, surgical or both)





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3. Location/venue of mission;

4. Duration and inclusive dates of the mission;

5. Name of sponsor or local counterpart(s), if any important: The application letter with the supporting documents should be received by BIHC- DOH at least three (3) months before the proposed schedule of the mission.

6. List of the names of the medical and surgical team and credentials of each medical/paramedical member. The following duly authenticated credentials of the members of the medical team members must also be submitted:

a. Two copies of passport size photograph taken not more than three (3) months before the filing of application;

b. Photocopy of valid/current certificate of license to practice profession in their own country; and Documents attesting to the specialized studies, fields of specialization or experiences (if any).

c. List of medicines (generic or brand names) and medical supplies that will be brought in or donated by the medical team, with the corresponding quantity, specification, and approximate value; and endorsement of the local government unit or an accredited professional medical organization. (Note: The original copies of the documents need to be presented for verification, unless the photocopies are authenticated by competent or legally authorized persons or officers.)

7. The DOH will review the request and will consult with the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), the Board of Medicine, the Philippine Medical Association (PMA), and the Philippine Hospital Association (PHA), whenever necessary. In certain cases, the DOH may recommend alternative activities, locations, or arrangements to coincide with government priorities. The head of the medical mission or the local sponsor/project coordinator will be informed, within two (2) weeks after receipt of the request of either the approval or disapproval of the request, and the reason for the decision. DOH may also recommend activities, tentative schedules, alternative sites/venues or arrangements, if any.

8. The sponsor or local counterpart is required to submit an exit/termination report after the completion of the mission to the DOH through the Regional Director concerned.





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9. SPECIAL PERMIT- A foreign physician and health-related professional can only practice his/her profession in the Philippines with a Special Permit from the Professional Regulation Commission. The following documents are required by PRC for the grant of Special Permit to foreign physicians:

- a. Letter from the sponsoring local association, organization or entity requesting the PRC and the concerned Professional Regulatory Board for the issuance of Special Permits to members of the Medical Mission for a short period (not to exceed thirty days), indicating the specific municipality/city/province where the medical mission will be conducted.
- b. Endorsement from the following accredited professional organization, if the sponsoring organization is not an accredited professional organization:
  - i. Philippine Medical Association; for physicians
  - ii. Philippine Dental Association; for dentists
  - iii. Philippine Association of Optometrists; for optometrists
  - iv. Philippine Nurses Association; for nurses

c. Endorsement of the Department of Health

d. Curriculum vitae of the members of the medical mission team duly authenticated by the Philippine Embassy/Consulate with jurisdiction.

e. Current/valid licenses to practice their profession in their own country.

f. Residency Certificate (for anesthesiologists) and Board Certification (for surgeons and ophthalmologists).

g. Applications for release of Special Permits for the conduct of foreign medical missions must be submitted to the Professional Regulation Commission not later than ninety (90) days before the proposed medical mission.

10. The PRC notifies the sponsor of the medical mission of the approved resolution granting the issuance of Special Permit. PRC will charge a registration fee of One Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Pesos (P1,250.00) for each permit issued.





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**Section 4. Provincial Requirements**

- A. All FSMMs to be conducted in the Province of Pangasinan must secure a written permit from the Office of the Governor, through the Provincial Health Office of Pangasinan and from the concerned Municipal Local Government Unit where the mission will be held;
- B. Proof of Compliance with the requirements of the Department of Health (DOH), Professional Regulatory Commission (PRC), Philippine Medical Association (PMA) and other regulatory agencies as enumerated in Section 3 of this Ordinance must be submitted to the provincial offices at least 2 months before the FSMM activity;
- C. A similar copy of the list of participating foreign personnel and their corresponding credentials and job assignment must be submitted to the PHO and/or with the PHMS offices at least 90 days before the activity.
- D. If any of the facilities, personnel and resources of the Province of Pangasinan, may it be from the Pangasinan Hospital Management System (PHMS), PHO, General Services and other offices are to be availed during the FSMM, further consent from the province must be secured and the terms must be manifested in a Memorandum of Agreement between the FSMM Organizers and the Province of Pangasinan, represented by the Provincial Governor, after being authorized by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Pangasinan;
- E. The Province of Pangasinan reserves the right to recommend the underserved area where a FSMM will be held.
- F. Surgical cases that are deemed prone to complications and need special facilities, personnel and equipment must be conducted in a center under the PHMS with proper facilities and support personnel, or in similar properly equipped private healthcare facilities;
- G. Unless declared as a joint activity with the PHMS, it is the sole responsibility of the FSMM to ensure that necessary evaluation, diagnosis and proper treatment are extended to patients to be served during these FSMM activity. They are, likewise, responsible for the management and treatment of possible complication that their activity may produce.
- H. For surgical cases, it is the responsibility of the FMMS to identify point physicians with adequate training and knowledge in the procedure performed and properly endorse to them their patients once they leave the country for follow-up and to extend further management as necessary that are related to the procedure performed;





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Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member  
(Floor Leader)

**NOEL C. BINCE**  
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member  
(Assistant Floor Leader)

**APOLONIA DG. BACAY**  
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member

(On Official Business)

**PHILIP THEODORE E. CRUZ**  
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member

**HAIDEE S. PACHECO**  
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member

**VICI M. ESTANILLA**  
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member

**MARINOR B. DE GUZMAN**  
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member

**JERRY AGERICO B. ROSARIO**  
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member

**ROSARY GRACIA E. PEREZ-TABARA**  
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member

**NICHOLI JAN LOUIE Q. SISON**  
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member

**SALVADOR S. PEREZ, JR.**  
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member

(On Official Business)

**JEROME VIC O. ESPINO**  
Sangguniang Kabataan Representative

**JEANNE JENKY C. ZAPLAN**  
Liga ng mga Barangay Representative

**ARTHUR C. CELESTE, JR.**  
Provincial Councilor League Representative

**VERNA T. NAVA-PEREZ**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian

I. The Province of Pangasinan will not, in any way, be responsible for any FSMM activities, schedules and complications for missions conducted outside its PHMS hospitals and those activities performed in privately-owned health centers;

J. A copy of the summary report to be submitted to the Center for Health Development that will contain all cases seen during the medical/surgical mission must also be submitted to the Provincial Health Office within two (2) weeks after the medical/surgical mission with the following basic information:

1. Number and age of cases seen;
2. Diagnosis of patients;
3. List of medicines distributed and of surgical interventions done; and
4. Endorsements to the necessary health facilities.

k. In cases where there are concerns of security, weather and other conditions that may compromise the safety of the participants and their patients, the Provincial Governor may rescind given permit, postpone or transfer the FSMM;

**Section 5. Funds.** All FSMM-related expenses shall be under the account of the FSMM organizer together with their local organizing counterparts. All Philhealth benefits that may be derived from said FSMM will be in favor of the concerned local health institution where the FSMM is primarily held;

**Section 6. Penalty Clause.** Any person/individual or organization found to willfully misrepresent himself/herself or his/her organization in order to conduct such FSMM activities in the province and/or acts contrary to the dictates of this ordinance shall be penalized with a fine of Php 5,000.00 and/or imprisonment of not less than one month but not more than six months or both such fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the proper court, without prejudice to other administrative sanctions as may be imposed under existing laws, rules and regulations in case of public officials;

**Section 7. Separability Clause.** If, for any reason or reasons, any part or provision of this Ordinance shall be held to be unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provisions hereof which are not affected thereby shall stand and continue to be in full force and effect.

**Section 8. Repealing Clause.** All local ordinances and enactments, executive orders, resolutions, memoranda, circulars or any part thereof contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.





Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN  
*Lingayen*  
[www.pangasinan.gov.ph](http://www.pangasinan.gov.ph)

**OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN SECRETARY**

*Provincial Ordinance No. 311-2023*

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**RAMON V. GUICO III**  
Governor

**MARK RONALD DG. LAMBINO**  
Vice Governor/Presiding Officer

**SHIELA MARIE T. BANIQUED**  
Sangguniang Panlalawigan Member  
(Presiding Officer Pro Tempore)

**NAPOLEON C. FONTALBA**  
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Secretary to the Sanggunian

**Section 9. Effectivity Clause.** This Ordinance shall take effect upon posting at prominent places in the Province for a minimum period of three (3) consecutive weeks and upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the Province, in accordance with Sections 59 and 511 of R.A. No. 7160, otherwise known as the Local Government Code of 1991.”

CERTIFIED BY:

**VERNA T. NAVA-PEREZ**  
Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

**SP MEMBER NICHOLI JAN LOUIE Q. SISON**  
Temporary Presiding Officer

APPROVED:

**RAMON V. GUICO III**  
Governor