



Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

SAN LAZARO COMPOUND
RIZAL AVENUE, STA. CRUZ
MANILA, PHILIPPINES
TEL. NO. 711-80-80

November 14, 2000

DEPARTMENT ORDER
No. 393-6 s. 2000

SUBJECT: DESIGNATION OF NATIONAL REFERENCE LABORATORIES AND TRANSFER OF CORRESPONDING EQUIPMENT, INSTRUMENTS, SUPPLIES, SPECIMENS, RECORDS FROM THE BUREAU OF RESEARCH AND LABORATORIES TO THE DESIGNATED NATIONAL REFERENCE LABORATORIES

As part of the Department of Health's goal of streamlining the Central Office in line with devolution and decentralization of functions to improve the quality of health services and establish an effective public health laboratory network in the country, the following institutions, in addition to their regular responsibilities, are hereby designated as National Reference Laboratories (NRLs) effective November 1, 2000.

Research Institute for Tropical Medicine - National Reference Laboratory for Dengue, Influenza, Tuberculosis and other Mycobacteria, Malaria and other parasites, Bacterial enteric diseases, Measles and other viral exanthems, Mycology, Enteroviruses, Antimicrobial resistance and Emerging Diseases; NRL for confirmatory testing of blood donors and blood units.

San Lazaro Hospital - National Reference Laboratory for HIV/AIDS, Hepatitis, and Sexually-Transmitted Diseases.

East Avenue Medical Center - National Reference Laboratory for Environmental and Occupational Health; Toxicology and Micronutrient Assay..

National Kidney and Transplant Institute - National Reference Laboratory for Hematology including Immunohematology (consistent with previously issued D.O. 301-I s. 1999).

Lung Center of the Philippines - National Reference Laboratory for Anatomic Pathology and Biochemistry.

The above institutions should develop their capabilities to fulfill the following functions as National Reference Laboratories:

- a. To provide laboratory referral services, e.g. for confirmatory testing, surveillance, research.
- b. To train laboratory personnel.
- c. To maintain a quality assurance program for laboratory tests - in coordination with the Bureau of Health Facilities and Services, DOH.
- d. To evaluate test kits and reagents - in coordination with the Bureau of Food and Drugs and the Bureau of Health Devices and Technology, DOH.

The Bureau of Research and Laboratories (BRL) is hereby ordered to endorse all equipment, instruments/devices, supplies, specimens and relevant records of its various laboratories to the corresponding designated National Reference Laboratories.

To facilitate the smooth turn-over of the laboratory functions of BRL to the designated National Reference Laboratories, the following task forces are created to develop the transition plan for each NRL and oversee the implementation of transition plan upon approval of the DOH Executive Committee.

A. RITM National Reference Laboratory:

Chairperson:

Dr. Socorro Lupisan - Head, Laboratory Research Division, RITM

Members:

Dr. Veronica Chan - Consultant, BRL

Dr. Fem Julia Paladin - Head, Virology Dept., RITM

Ms. Ellen Castillo - Head, TB Section, RITM

Ms. Lydia Sombrero - Head, Gen. Bacteriology Section, RITM

Ms. Nenita Canafranca - Chief Med. Tech., Bacteriology Section, BRL

Dr. Cielo Pasay - Head, Parasitology Dept., RITM

Ms. Angelita Jimenez, Chief Med. Tech, Parasitology Section, BRL

Dr. Rose Capeding - Head, Bacteriology Dept., RITM

Dr. Daria Manalo - Veterinary Research Dept., RITM

Dr. Mary Elizabeth Miranda - Veterinary research Dept., RITM

Dr. Celia Carlos - Program Director, Antimicrobial Resistance and Surveillance Program, RITM

Dr. Rosita de Leon - Chief, Laboratory Division I, BRL

B. San Lazaro Hospital National Reference Laboratory:

Chairperson:

Dr. Dorothy Agdamag - Medical Specialist III, San Lazaro Hosp.

Members:

Mrs. Myrna Reyes - Chief Med. Tech., Immunology Section, BRL

Dr. Fem Julia Paladin - Head, Virology Dept., RITM

C. East Avenue Medical Center National Reference Laboratory:

Chairperson:

Dr. Socorro Yanez - Head, Dept. of Laboratories, EAMC

Members:

Dr. Marilyn Barza - Medical Officer VII, East Avenue Medical Center

Mrs., Celina Pacis - Chief Chemist, Environmental Health Examination Section, BRL

D. NKTl National Reference Laboratory:

Chairperson: Dr. Juanito Billote - Deputy Director, NKTl

Members:

Dr. Jane Baylon - Chairman, Stem Cell and Cryopreservation Dept. NKTl

Dr. Januario Veloso - Head, Hematology & Transfusion Division, NKTl

Ms. Cecille Cuervo - Chief Med. Tech, Immunohematology Section, BRL

Ms. Annarissa Bumanlag - Chief Med. Tech., Hematology Section, BRL

E. Lung Center of the Philippines (LCP) National Reference Laboratory:

Chairperson:

Dr. Nelia Tan-Liu - Head, Department of Pathology, LCP

Members:

Dr. Grace Ramos - MS III (Acting Div. Chief, Laboratory Division II), BRL

Dr. Ma. Teresa Barzaga - MS III, Dept. of Pathology, LCP

Dr. Carmela Tan - MS II, Dept. of Pathology, LCP

A Management Team is also hereby created to oversee the implementation of the transition plans to set-up the different designated NRLs. The Team shall be composed of:

Chairperson: Undersecretary Ma. Margarita M. Galon
Office for Standards and Regulation

Members:

Dr. Ma. Concepcion Rocas - Director IV, National Epidemiology Center

Dr. Criselda Abesamis - Director IV, Nat'l Center for Health Facility Development

Dr. Enrique Tayag - Director III, National Center for Disease Prev.n & Control

Dr. Remigio Olveda - Executive Director, RITM

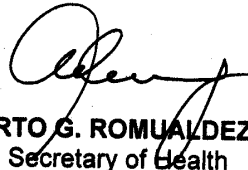
Dr. Benito Arca - Medical Center Chief, San Lazaro Hospital

Dr. Orlando Pua - Medical Center Chief, East Avenue Medical Center

Dr. Enrique Ona - Executive Director, National Kidney & Transplant Institute

Dr. Fernando Melendres - Executive Director, Lung Center of the Philippines

Transfer of all laboratory functions of BRL to the designated NRLs should be completed on or before December 31, 2000.



ALBERTO G. ROMUALDEZ, JR., M.D.
Secretary of Health