

Republic of the Philippines

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COMMISSION

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EXCERPTS FROM THE MINUTES OF THE NINTH (9th) REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING, EMPLOYEES' COMPENSATION COMMISSION, SERIES OF 2011,

Convened at ECC Board Room, 5th Floor, ECC Bldg., Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City Monday, November 28, 2011 at 12:00 P.M.

BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 11-11-29

Revising the Conditions for the Compensability of Pulmonary Tuberculosis under Annex "A" of the Amended Rules on Employees' Compensation

WHEREAS, Article 167 (I) of P.D. No. 626, as amended, partly provides:

"...the Commission is empowered to determine and approve occupational diseases and work-related illness that may be considered compensable based on peculiar hazards of employment."

WHEREAS, Article 177 (c) empowers this Commission to approve rules and regulations governing the processing of EC claims;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the policy of the Commission for the continuous upgrading of the benefit structure for workers through the updating on the conditions for compensability of occupational diseases and work-related illnesses under Annex "A" of the Amended Rules on Employees' Compensation and due to recent developments in the field of Occupational Medicine, this Commission finds it necessary to amend the prevailing conditions for the compensability of Pulmonary Tuberculosis;

WHEREAS, on February 25, 2011, this Commission issued Board Resolution No. 11-12-09, creating the Technical Review Panel to review the conditions for compensability of Pulmonary Tuberculosis;

WHEREAS, the Technical Review Panel, composed of medical experts and leaders of medical professional groups and medical specialty societies, presented its proposed amendments to the conditions for compensability of Pulmonary Tuberculosis to a tripartite group composed of representatives from the Regional Industrial Tripartite Council (Region IV-A), Employers' Confederation of the Philippines (ECOP), Social Security System (SSS),

Government Service Insurance System (GSIS), Civil Service Commission (CSC), Pilipinas Shell, Philippine College of Occupational Medicine (PCOM), Occupational Health Nurses Association of the Philippines (OHNAP), Bureau of Working Conditions (BWC), Occupational Safety and Health Center (OSHC);

WHEREAS, the representatives from the tripartite group have come to an agreement to recommended the approval and adoption by the Commission of the amendments on the conditions for compensability of Pulmonary Tuberculosis;

ON MOTION DULY MADE AND SECONDED,

This Commission **RESOLVES AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to revise the following conditions for compensability of Pulmonary Tuberculosis under Annex "A" of the Amended Rules on Employees' Compensation:

"7. Infections

"(e) Tuberculosis

x x x

Any occupation involving close and frequent contact with source or sources of tuberculosis infection by reason of employment: (a) in the medical treatment or nursing of a person or persons suffering from tuberculosis, (b) as a laboratory worker, pathologist or post-mortem worker, where occupation involves working with material which is a source of tuberculosis infection."

"27. Pulmonary Tuberculosis

Any occupation involving close and frequent contact with source or sources of tuberculosis infection by reason of employment: (a) in the medical treatment or nursing of a person or persons suffering from tuberculosis, (b) as a laboratory worker, pathologist or post-mortem worker, where occupation involves working with material which is a source of tuberculosis infection."

The revised conditions for compensability of Pulmonary Tuberculosis shall now read as follows:

"27. Tuberculosis (Pulmonary and Extrapulmonary)

"Any occupation involving close and frequent contact with a source/s of tuberculosis infection by reason of employment.

"Occupations involving, but not limited to, high risk occupational groups and working conditions that are more susceptible to tuberculosis infection:

- "a. In the medical treatment or nursing of person/s suffering from tuberculosis.
- "b. As pathologist, post-mortem worker and medical laboratory workers e.g. medical technologists, smearers/ laboratory technicians where the occupation involves working with materials which are sources of tuberculosis infection.
- "c. Other health facility staff in direct and frequent contact/ handling of active PTB cases or infected materials e.g. dentists, dental/radiology technicians, respirator therapists, physiotherapist, housekeeping staff, social workers, clinic staff/ secretaries.
- "d. Staff of correctional facilities/ jails in direct contact with inmates especially in overcrowded and poorly ventilated prisons.
- "e. Workers involved in collection/ handling/ transportation/ disposal of biological wastes.
- "f. Workers who have been clinically diagnosed with Silicosis or those chronically exposed to silica in the course of their work.
- "g. Workers in workplaces characterized as overcrowded, poorly ventilated and enclosed where there are documented cases of active TB."

This Commission **RESOLVES FURTHER**, that copies of this Resolution be duly furnished the SSS and the GSIS for their compliance and proper guidance.

APPROVED in Makati City, 28 November 2011.

LOURDES M. TRASMONTE

Chairperson-Designate
Department of Labor and Employment

JUDY FRANCES A. SEE

Member-Designate

Social Security System

Member-Designate
Government Service Insurance System

VLADIMIR R. TUPAZ

Member | Employees' Sector MIGUEL B/VARELA

Member

Employers' Sector

(Absent)

ALEXANDER D. PADILLA

Member-Designate
Philippine Health Insurance Corporation

ANICIA MARASIGAN-DE LIMA

Member-Designate Civil Service Commission

(Absent)

EVELYN P. FLORENDO-TABLANG

Member

Employees' Compensation Commission - Secretariat