



Legal Watch

DOH DEPARTMENT CIRCULAR NO. 2026-0303



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SUMMARY

In support of the implementation of Republic Act (RA) No. 12009 otherwise known as the New Government Procurement Act and the alignment of Administrative Order (AO) No. 2019-0040, this Circular is issued to (a) provide interim guidance on the use of price range references for procurement planning purposes; (b) institutionalize market scoping activities among end-users and procuring entities; and (c) align procurement planning processes with RA No. 12009* requirements on market validation and procurement efficiency.

The interim guidelines on the DPRI framework implementation are as follows: (a) the DPRI framework shall transition from the use of a median price benchmark to a price range reference (from lowest to highest) to reflect prevailing market conditions and support procurement flexibility; (b) all end-users and procuring entities shall conduct market scoping activities to validate prevailing market prices and ensure reasonableness of the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC); (c) the DPRI used in the Project Procurement Management Plan (PPMP) and Purchase Request shall be consistent and used as a basis for the ABC; and (d) the use of the DPRI framework shall be considered as an interim measure and shall not preclude the DOH from reverting to the median price benchmark or adopting other appropriate methodologies.

* Entitled as the “*Philippine Drug Price Reference Index*”.

ACTIONABLE ADVICE:

All clients who are existing suppliers or those who intend to participate in the procurement activities of the DOH and its attached agencies should ensure that its pricing is within the new DPRI framework to increase the likelihood of approval.

* Agency Name

Department of Health (DOH)

* Issuance Title

Dissemination of Interim Guidelines for the Implementation of the Drug Price Reference Index (DPRI) Framework

* Issuance Date

10 June 2026

* Link

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1GldoD-jbD6rqki_e3OxqJbKXNp9rO394/view

