



# **PAMBANSANG SAMAHAN NG MGA NARS NG PILIPINAS, INC.**

**(PHILIPPINE NURSES ASSOCIATION, INC.)**  
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## **THE PHILIPPINE NURSES ASSOCIATION'S POSITION PAPER ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF LIFE-SAVING DRUGS AND MEDICINES BY MIDWIVES July 6 2010**

Recognizing that the Filipino nurses are legally mandated by Republic Act 9173 to provide health care techniques and procedures, essential primary health care, comfort measures, health teachings, and administration of written prescription for treatment therapies, oral, topical and parenteral medications, the Philippine Nurses Association (PNA) asserts that the DOH Administrative Order No. 2010-0014 pertaining to the "Administration of Life-Saving Drugs and Medicines by Midwives" must involve the nurses' role and not just the midwives, in the reduction of maternal and neonatal morbidity and mortality.

The nurses in the country form the biggest critical mass in the health sector who are potential work force to address current and potential health problems in the communities who could be partners of the midwives in saving lives of thousands of pregnant women and newborn. The basic emergency obstetric and newborn care (BEmONC) protocol of UNICEF and DOH recognizes the valuable contributions of the health team composed of the doctor, the nurse and the midwife.

Furthermore, the nurses in most public health settings act as the supervisor of midwives and barangay health workers who are in the forefront of health promotion and disease prevention programs.

Thus, the PNA call on the Department of Health to amend Administrative Order No. 2010-0014 dated May 14, 2010 to:

1. Designate Nurses to administer life-saving drugs and medicines especially in far flung communities where most women and children do not have access to emergency health care services;
2. Empower nurses by training them on emergency obstetric and newborn care as part of their capability-enhancement program;
3. Ensure that life-saving emergency drugs are always available in the primary health facilities like barangay health station, rural health unit and out-patient department of government hospitals;
4. Create more plantilla positions for more public health nurses especially in the rural health areas to augment manpower deficiency in the health service delivery; and
5. Review the ethico-moral-legal implications of AO 2010- 0014 to the midwifery law Republic Act 9372.

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