

**[DOH ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2010-0005,
January 08, 2010]**

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR
PHARMACEUTICAL ACCESS AND MANAGEMENT (NCPAM) UNDER
THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH**

The Secretary of Health is empowered to create advisory bodies and consultative councils under Rule 28, Section 2, pursuant to Republic Act No. 9502, otherwise known as the "Universally Accessible Cheaper and Quality Medicines Act of 2008". For this purpose, the National Center for Pharmaceutical Access and Management (NCPAM) is hereby established under the Office of Secretary of Health. NCPAM shall have two (2) divisions, namely: the Policy, Planning and Advocacy Division and the Pharmaceutical Management Division and these divisions shall be managed by the Program and Deputy Program Managers, respectively, to be designated by the Secretary of Health.

The Secretary of Health shall designate the Undersecretary of Health on Regulations who shall exercise administrative supervision and control over NCPAM and shall promulgate rules, regulations and other issuances as may be necessary to ensure the effective implementation of RA 9502.

NCPAM shall coordinate its efforts together with other government agencies including but not limited to the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Philippine International Trading Corporation (PITC), and the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC).

Among others, the powers and functions of the NCPAM are:

- a. To implement, strategize, maximize and monitor the impact of RA 9502;
- b. To manage and implement the National Drug Policy;
- c. To undertake appropriate policy studies to provide evidence in conceptualizing and implementing strategies that will improve access to essential medicines, especially for the poor;
- d. To engage and coordinate with relevant stakeholders to build coalitions, forge agreements and for other purposes as necessary in line with Millennium Development Goal (MDG) No. 8;
- e. To provide secretariat support to any council or body created in pursuit of the effective implementation of RA 9502;