

Novartis lowers prices of its hypertension and epilepsy medicines in PH

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Effective July 1, 2019 the prices of six hypertension and epilepsy medicines of Novartis will be reduced substantially.

The price reduction of the Novartis hypertension medicines ranges from 15% to 61%, covering Valsartan, Valsartan + Hydrochlorothiazide, Valsartan + Amlodipine, and Valsartan + Amlodipine + Hydrochlorothiazide.

The price reduction of the Novartis epilepsy medicines ranges from 10% to 87%, covering Carbamazepine and Oxcarbazepine.

“Novartis is implementing our Legacy Pricing initiative in the Philippines in line with our shared goal of providing Filipinos with affordable access to sustainable healthcare,” said Mr. Jugo Tsumura, Country President & Managing Director, Novartis Healthcare Philippines.

Legacy Pricing is the latest Novartis initiative in the Philippines aimed at supporting the implementation of the Universal Health Care (UHC) Act and providing Filipinos across socioeconomic segments with access to essential and innovative medicines.

“Our access programs in the Philippines have evolved from donation of multidrug therapy for leprosy, providing malaria products at cost, access to lower-priced emerging market brands for psoriasis and heart failure, to creating patient support programs,” Mr. Tsumura explained.

In recent years, Novartis has partnered with the Department of Health (DOH) in key projects to support the Philippine government’s goal of improving access to medicines and health service delivery to all Filipinos.

- The Leprosy Alert and Response Network System (LEARNS), the country’s first mobile phone-based leprosy referral system, is a mobile health application that improves leprosy case finding and diagnosis
- Novartis anti-malaria medicines are provided at cost to support the DOH National Malaria Control Program
- The Palawan Access to Medicines Program (Tulay sa Kalusugan), where a tiered pricing model to improve access to diabetes and hypertension medicines was implemented in key areas in Palawan in collaboration with the Provincial Government of Palawan, the LGUs of Puerto Princesa, Brooke’s Point, Narra, Roxas and Coron, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, and other pharmaceutical companies

“Our mission is reimagining medicine to improve and extend people’s lives. To achieve our purpose, we work to improve access and affordability of our medicines,” said Mr. Tsumura.

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