



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

1. The Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) invites all eligible individual consultants to submit proposals for the **Data Specialist Consultant for DOH-PHIC-PIDS Technical Assistance on the UHC Provider Payment Reforms for 2024: Diagnosis-Related Groups, Comprehensive Outpatient Benefit Package, and the Center for Healthcare Finance and Economics.**
2. The Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) is **PhP867,600.00.**
3. Interested consultants must submit the following documents using PIDS the prescribed forms:
 - a) Curriculum Vitae of the proposed Consultant(s)¹
 - b) Technical Proposal Form¹
 - c) Financial Proposal Form¹
 - d) Filled out Data Privacy Notice and Personal Data Protection Form¹
 - e) Statement of Completed contracts²
 - f) Statement of All Ongoing and Awarded But Not Yet Started Contracts²
 - g) Notarized Omnibus Sworn Statement (for ABC above PhP50,000.00)¹
 - h) Income/Business Tax Returns (for ABC above PhP500,000.00)¹
 - i) PhilGEPS Registration Number (certificate or screenshot)¹
 - j) Valid Mayor's/Business Permit (Firm) or BIR Certificate of Registration³ (Individual).
4. Interested consultants may obtain further information from the Procurement Management Division at telephone via email at procurement@pids.gov.ph.
5. The Institute shall adopt the Quality-Based Evaluation procedure in selecting consultants based on the attached Terms of Reference.
6. The deadline for submission of proposals is on **16 April 2025 (10:00 AM)** addressed to:

The BAC Chairperson for Consultancy
Services c/o The BAC Secretariat
Procurement Management Division
18/F Three Cyberpod Centris – North Tower, EDSA cor. Quezon Ave., Quezon City

Proposals may also be submitted through email at procurement@pids.gov.ph .

7. PIDS reserves the right to reject any or all of the proposals, declare a failure of bidding, or not award the contract if there is evidence of collusion, including any act that restricts, suppresses, or nullifies competition, or if there is a failure to follow the prescribed bidding procedures. PIDS also reserves the right to waive any required formality in the proposals received and select the proposal it determines most advantageous to PIDS.


DR. AUBREY D. TABUGA

Chairperson
PIDS-BAC for Consultancy Services

Reference No.:2025-095

¹Applicable for individual consultants and firms

²Applicable for firms only

³ Individual consultants must issue Official Receipt (OR) during payment.

**Philippine Institute for Development Studies
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Data Specialist Consultant¹

for

**DOH-PHIC-PIDS Technical Assistance on the UHC Provider Payment Reforms for 2024:
Diagnosis-Related Groups, Comprehensive Outpatient Benefit Package, and the Center
for Healthcare Finance and Economics²**

1. Background and Rationale

With the enactment of the Universal Health Care (UHC) law, the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth) has been empowered to be the national strategic purchaser of individual-based health services. A critical health provider payment mechanism (PPM) reform that PhilHealth must implement under the UHC Law is the Diagnosis Related Groupings (DRGs). The DRGs are a step forward to move the current all-case rate system from retrospective payments based only on service outputs to value-based payments that incentivize quality, efficiency, and equitable care, and improve health at lower costs for the health sector and patients.

Moreover, such a complex reform requires that PhilHealth maintain the DRGs and other PPM systems over the long-term. This requires improving PhilHealth's data quality, and monitoring frameworks and plans to evaluate whether these reforms achieve the goals for value-based purchasing. On both these fronts, PIDS will be assisting PhilHealth in the development of DRG payment rates and the monitoring and evaluation for the DRGs and PPMs.

2. Objectives

1. Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) for (a) trends in health care utilization across the life course and (b) assessment of baseline trends for quality and equity of DRGs, and other PhilHealth benefits and reforms
2. Policy support and recommendations for DRGs and related PPM reforms in (a) health financing policy and gaps, (b) policy decisions to use DRG for actual reimbursement, (c) health data policy standards and gaps
3. Charge analysis and costing methodology: (a) analysis of charge data and development of charge libraries, (b) review and revision of PhilHealth costing methodologies, policies, and forms
4. DRG rate-setting calculation and documentation of the development process

¹ The Consultant may be an individual or a firm.

² This engagement will be charged against the study DOH-PHIC-PIDS Technical Assistance on the UHC Provider Payment Reforms for 2024: Diagnosis-Related Groups, Comprehensive Outpatient Benefit Package, and the Center for Healthcare Finance and Economics.

5. Capacity building for PIDS, PhilHealth, DOH, providers, and other stakeholders: (a) technical capacity building for DRG implementers, (b) communication of DRG and PPM reforms to providers and the public
6. Comprehensive Outpatient Benefit Package (COBP): classification of services according to PhilHealth COBP design and National Practice Guidelines (NPG)

3. Objectives of the Consultancy

The recent developments of the project necessitate the engagement of a Consultant to process and analyze multiple health system and health financing datasets for provider payment mechanism reforms. The specific technical outputs expected from PIDS can be satisfactorily and promptly met through the inputs coming from field experts.

4. Scope of Work, Deliverables, and Schedule of Payment Releases

Under the guidance and technical oversight of a PIDS Research Fellow who serves as the Project Director, the Consultant is expected to work with the Project Team and undertake the following tasks/activities³:

1. Lead, oversee, and train staff for activities in the monitoring and evaluation stream:
 - a. Ensure data processing and easy access to all essential datasets needed by the team, including PhilHealth data, DOH data, DRG libraries, and secondary datasets from other agencies
 - b. Develop the data pipeline and tools to enable data analytics of all other streams: metadata, data storage, preparation and processing, access and security controls, data analytics (e.g., text analysis of line-item charges)
2. Review and ensure quality and timeliness of deliverables related to:
 - a. Monitoring and evaluation stream: descriptive reports on (i) health care utilization across the life course, (ii) DRG/PPM equality, efficiency, and equity, (iii) e-Statement of Accounts (eSOA) data quality
 - b. Data visualization dashboards for (i) health system, (ii) DRG and PPM rate-setting or monitoring, and (iii) other dashboards as necessary
 - c. Charge libraries based on PhilHealth electronic statement of accounts
3. Assist in data programming and analytics for DRG rate-setting:
 - a. Data analysis of claims, charges, and costing data for calculation of relative weights
 - b. Simulate and analyze the impact of changes to the DRG grouper algorithm based on expert/stakeholder recommendations
 - c. Provide inputs for calculations in Implementation Manual Volume 2
4. Write technical notes, documentation, protocols, reports, analysis results, and manuscripts relevant to the stipulated scope of work above.
5. Prepare for, attend, and present at internal meetings or client meetings with PhilHealth, DOH, and other stakeholders, as necessary.
6. Sign a Non-Disclosure Undertaking with PIDS. Any information gathered and generated in the implementation of the project shall be processed subject to the

³ If the Consultant needs to undertake physical/face-to-face interviews and data collection and related activities, the Consultant has to ensure compliance with existing and future policies, rules, and resolutions as may be issued by concerned government agencies pertaining to health and safety.

applicable provisions of the Republic Act No. 10173, known as the “Data Privacy Act of 2012” and its Implementing Rules and Regulations and relevant issuances of the National Privacy Commission (NPC).

7. Perform other professional, highly technical, and confidential duties and responsibilities as the Research Fellow may assign from time to time.

The Consultant will prepare the following outputs based on the schedule below:

Activities and Deliverables ⁴	Due Dates	Payment Tranches
Inception Report following PIDS template including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed work plan and topics for items #1 to #3 	3 weeks after signing	10%
Progress Report 1 , including Updates on #2a to 2c: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination of research assistants for outputs Progress in initiating the conceptualization and writing of outputs Processed datasets and metadata 	June 30, 2025	20%
Progress Report 2 , including updates on #2a to 2c: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination of research assistants for outputs Progress in initiating the conceptualization and writing of outputs Updated metadata, data dictionaries, and processed datasets Submission of draft report on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health care utilization across the life course DRG/PPM equality, efficiency, and equity 	August 31, 2025	20%
Progress Report 3 , including updates on #2a to 2c: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination of research assistants for outputs Progress in leading the conceptualization and writing of outputs Submission of final report on <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health care utilization across the life course DRG/PPM equality, efficiency, and equity Prototype dashboards <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Health system dashboard DRG-PPM rate-setting and monitoring dashboard 	October 31, 2025	25%

⁴ For applicable outputs, the draft and final reports submitted by the consultants should be aligned with the following guidelines: PIDS’ Guide in the Preparation of Manuscript for Publication and General Guidelines in Preparing and Formatting a PIDS Discussion Paper, Guidelines in the preparation of Policy Notes.

For research outputs that will be released as a PIDS Discussion Paper (DP), the consultant shall prioritize the publication outlets of PIDS, particularly the peer-reviewed Philippine Journal of Development (PJD) and Research Paper Series (RPS). If the DP is not selected by PIDS Management for publication either as a PJD article or an RPS issue, the consultant may identify other dissemination outlets outside of PIDS. Guidelines for Authorship in PIDS Research Projects shall apply.

Final versions of all outputs listed under scope of work #1 to #3, addressing comments to the draft reports. Terminal Report , including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final report on #2a to 2c: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Management, and coordination of research assistants for outputs ◦ Progress in leading the writing outputs • Turnover of draft and materials used together with Certification indicating the turnover of as well as the deletion of such data and that it will allow PIDS to verify if the data is complete 	December 15, 2025	25%
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5. Qualifications of the Consultant

Education	At least a PhD in biostatistics, health economics, computer science, data science, or related fields
Competencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced-level core competencies: deliverability/ results-oriented, professionalism, adaptability, and communication skills • Advanced-level functional competencies: problem-solving and analysis; dissemination; project/research implementation and management; research conceptualization; and technical writing
Experience	5 years of experience in data analytics, biostatistics, public health, health systems, or health financing. Proficient in SQL, R, Python, Stata, or other coding languages

6. Project Duration

The engagement will commence upon the signing of the contract until **December 31, 2025**, on a part-time basis. The Consultant's work must be completed within this period, and no man-days will be chargeable after this date.

7. Approved Budget for the Contract

The approved budget for this consulting service is up to **PHP ₱867,600.00**, depending on the qualifications.

This amount does not include travel and accommodation during fieldwork. PIDS will shoulder the cost of fieldwork (if any). PIDS shall not cover hospitalization and other COVID-related health expenses of the consultant as no employer-employee relationship exists between the PIDS and the Consultant.

8. Evaluation Criteria

a. Applicant consultants will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

Consultant Qualifications Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD in biostatistics, health economics, computer science, data science, or other related fields Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 years of experience in data analytics, biostatistics, public health, health systems, or health financing • Proficiency in SQL, R, Python, Stata, or other coding languages Competencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advanced-level core competencies: deliverability/ results-oriented, professionalism, adaptability, and communication skills • Advanced-level functional competencies: problem-solving and analysis; dissemination; project/research implementation and management; research conceptualization; and technical writing 	50%
Plan of approach and methodology <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarity, feasibility, innovativeness, and comprehensiveness of the approach • Incisive interpretation of problems and reflection on suggested solutions 	50%
Total	100%

b. Detailed rating sheet (see attached file)

Prepared by: **Dr. Valerie Gilbert T. Ulep**
Project Director and Research Fellow

Reviewed and Approved by:

Ms. Christine Ruth P. Salazar
Officer-In-Charge, Research Services Department