**Annex “A1”**



Professional Regulation Commission

Professional Regulatory Board of Medicine

**INFORMED CONSENT**

ON THE POTENTIAL RISK ASSOCIATED WITH TAKING THE

PHYSICIAN LICENSURE EXAMINATION (PLE)/ QUALIFYING ASSESSEMENT FOR FOREIGN MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS (QA-FMP)

**PLEASE READ THIS DOCUMENT CAREFULLY***.*

*You are given this informed consent form because the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) and Professional Regulatory Board of Medicine (PRBOM) encourage your participation in the second-half of the QA-FMP or PLE this September 2020. All known precautions are taken to safeguard all examinees, but the PRC/PRBOM cannot guarantee your absolute safety from any potential source of infection. You are asked to sign this form to signify your consent to participate in the said activity despite the potential risks.*

**INFORMATION SHEET**

**Introduction and Purpose of the Activity**

 On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) has declared COVID-19 a pandemic with confirmed cases nearing twenty million (20,000,000) around the world without yet any sign of decline. The Philippines was no exception. With the continuing upsurge of recorded cases per day, the country needs to reinforce the number of its health workers to fight this pandemic.

Heeding the distress call of the Department of Health (DOH) as well as the various alliances of health workers, the Commission is prepared, although with greater precaution this time, to discharge its mandate of conducting the physician licensure examination (PLE) and the Qualifying Assessment for Foreign Medical Practitioner (QA-FMP).

**Procedure**

The PRC and PRBOM are instituting health safety protocols to ensure the safety of all examinees, as well as the PRC personnel involved in the conduct of the examination. Listed below are the established best practices and their respective percentages of risk reduction of CoVID-19 transmission:

* 95% if you use N95 mask, 76% for surgical mask
* 67% if you wear face shield
* 90% if there is distance of 1 meter, 92% if 2 meters

*(For a more detailed information, please refer to Annex A entitled “Minimum Health Standard in the Conduct of Licensure Examination during the COVID-19 Pandemic”).*

**Risks**

By participating in the examination, it is possible that you will be exposed to COVid-19. There is, for example, a chance that you might contract the virus while transporting to the venue. Although reduced in number with the mandatory minimum distances between examinees, you will still be staying in an enclosed room together with other examinees for several hours. Nonetheless, we assure you that the PRC/PRBOM will implement all known safety measures prescribed by the Omnibus Guidelines of the Inter-Agency Task Force (IATF) and the recommendations of the scientific community to reduce the possibility of infection.

You still have the responsibility to weigh the risks against the benefits. Your judgment and discernment will guide you in deciding whether to take the PLE /QA-FMP or not.

**Benefits**

If you successfully pass the PLE /QA-FMP, then you will have the opportunity to serve the country in one of the most trying times in our history. Needless to say, your participation will greatly benefit the society.

Though it may be an agonizing travail, there is no greater reward than lending a helping hand to the health force in the midst of a crisis. With the precarious situation we are facing today, the much-needed augmentation of hospital workers is already a foregone conclusion.

**Alternative to Participating in the PLE** **/QA-FMP**

As a rule, all examinees must take the Part II of the March 2020 QA-FMP or PLE scheduled in September. By way of exemption, if you fail to participate in the examination because of health reasons, travel restrictions or any other valid reasons, please inform the Board of Medicine within the week prior to the exam. You will be allowed to take the next scheduled QA-FMP or PLE, provided that the requirements mentioned herein are complied with.

**Post Examination Requirement**

After the examination, on September 27, 2020, we require the examinees to submit a post-exam health status update (Annex A3) to help the examinees and future conduct of licensure examinations. The form can be downloaded from the website (prc.gov.ph) and this can be sent either through email (PLE.healthsurvey@gmail.com) the following information as accurately as possible:

**Agreement to Participate:** If you agree to participate in the PLE /QA-FMP, please indicate so by signing on the specified space below.

Thank you.

**CERTIFICATE OF CONSENT**

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, of legal age, residing at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ have read and understood the information and the potential health risks explained in this form. Despite such risks, I agree to take the second part of the March 2020 QA-FMP or Physician Licensure Examination on September \_\_\_\_, 2020 to be administered by the Professional Regulation Commission. I do hereby confirm and declare that I am participating in this event on my own free will and volition.

In relation thereto, I hold PRC, as well as PRBOM, entirely free from any liability or responsibility in the event that I contract CoVID-19 during the period of the Licensure Examination on September \_\_\_\_\_, 2020.

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Name of Examinee and Signature Date

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Name of Witness and Signature Date