



04 March 2022

Dear POGS Doctors:

For the past many years, Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) have played a very important role in providing our citizenry with quality yet affordable healthcare products and services, reason why it has for the longest time to date been considered an integral part of the country's health delivery systems. This is done by partly negotiating with institutional healthcare providers and medical specialists for "preferred" rates and fees, payment schemes included. The **Philippine Obstetrical and Gynecological Society (POGS)** and the **Association of Health Maintenance Organizations of the Philippines, Inc. (AHMOPI)** are glad to have partnered in this noble endeavor since 2013 or for the past eight/8 years and counting.

Last week, the **fourth/4th** POGS-AHMOPI Memorandum Of Agreement (MOA) and Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) were signed covering the period **January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2024.**

Soon after the MOA & IRR were signed, a Unified Service Agreement (USA) was prepared by the AHMOPI which will be **signed by the current POGS president for and in behalf of all POGS doctors who join MOA initiatives.** The USA is a contract issued by the AHMOPI for and in behalf of all its members – to all participating POGS Diplomates and Fellows under the POGS-AHMOPI MOA & IRR, and incorporates the terms and conditions of the same. **It is signed by all the company presidents and/or principal representatives of AHMOPI members,** and the Executive Director of the Association. **Once you are issued a USA, you need not sign a separate (new) Service Agreement** with any and all AHMOPI members **unless you want to,** and in which case, the **rates will not be equal to or more than our current MOA.** If you are already an existing accredited doctor of an AHMOPI member with an in-force Service Agreement with them, perhaps open-ended, let it be, but please note that the **USA takes precedence over the former, rates and all, for as long as you are a participating doctor under MOA initiatives.** Salient features of the current POGS-AHMOPI MOA, IRR and USA may be downloaded from the POGS website.

One of the more important features of the MOA & IRR is the **"all-or-nothing" provision** on the participation of both POGS Diplomates and Fellows and AHMOPI members in the MOA, i.e., **neither party can choose the other.**

To begin with, **only POGS Diplomates and Fellows may join MOA initiatives except in areas where there are no Diplomates/Fellows.** Once enrolled, the POGS Diplomate/Fellow cannot choose AHMOPI members and patients to administer to. In like manner, **AHMOPI members cannot choose the POGS Diplomates/Fellows for as long as they (the doctors) agree to, have applied for, are approved for inclusion into MOA initiatives and are issued a USA.** However, exceptions to this rule would be for justifiable reasons as provided for by the Philippine Medical Jurisprudence and as determined by the POGS-AHMOPI Liaison Committee.

It is important to note that if for some reason you do not wish to apply for inclusion into the 2022-2024 POGS-AHMOPI MOA, but remain as an affiliated physician of any of the AHMOPI members under your existing (perhaps open-ended) Service Agreement with them, **your present compensation package will NOT be at par with what is now being provided under the 2022-2024 POGS-AHMOPI MOA & IRR.**

Joining the POGS-AHMOPI MOA is simple:

1. Only if you are determined to join MOA initiatives, please fill-up your application/info sheet (especially your contact numbers, email address/es and mailing address AND your VAT registration info) and email your response to the POGS Head Office, (**pogsinc@gmail.com**) c/o Ms. Sharnie M. Espina. If you are VAT registered, **email your VAT Registration Certificate to the POGS together with your application.** Please note that your response must reach the POGS within a TAT (turn-around-time) of three/3 working days.
2. Having received your positive response, the POGS and the AHMOPI shall proceed to process your application for MOA initiatives following prescribed guidelines.
3. **Only one USA will be signed by the current POGS president, for and in behalf of all POGS doctors under a specified Batch.**
 - 3.1. Copies of the USA per Batch shall be uploaded by the POGS in its website – for downloading by doctors concerned.
 - 3.2. Doctors approved for MOA initiatives may download a copy of the USA which will serve as their ID when dealing with the Medical Coordinators of AHMOPI Members in all affiliated hospitals nationwide.
 - 3.3. Upon downloading your USA, we encourage you to **visit the various AHMOPI Medical Coordinators in the hospitals** where you are a consultant, and/or in hospitals where you have visiting privileges, showing the same to them.

- 3.4. Issues or concerns, if any, from all parties should be **fully documented using the attached complaint form and submitted to the POGS-AHMOPI Liaison Committee (pogsinc@gmail.com)** for handling. You may reach the AHMOPI at Tel. Nos. 8633 9702, or email at **ahmopi@yahoo.com**

There are about 4 Million AHMOPI plan holders as of 01 January 2021 and the numbers are increasing especially now that **the HMO industry is under an Insurance Commission regulatory environment**. HMO patients are a good source of patient-referrals. It is estimated that for every single HMO patient administered to, a doctor's client-base may be enhanced ten times over. Hence, AHMOPI members and POGS doctors are expected to provide thousands of our countrymen with healthcare benefits and services.


We encourage you to join the POGS-AHMOPI MOA for all the good it stands for, more importantly, enabling both organizations to fulfill their social responsibility to the Filipino people by providing our mutual clients and patients with quality yet affordable healthcare services.

May we reiterate that the AHMOPI is the FIRST recognized trade organization of HMOs in the country. Its current HMO industry members are Asalus Corporation (Intellicare); Avega Managed Care, Inc.; Caritas Health Shield, Inc.; Forticare Health Systems International, Inc., Getwell Health Systems, Inc., Health Maintenance, Inc.; Health Plan Philippines, Inc.; Insular Health Care, Inc.; Medicaid Philippines, Inc.; Medicare Plus, Inc., Pacific Cross Health Care, Inc., and Value Care Health Systems, Inc. Its non-HMO member is Cocolife Healthcare, a division of United Coconut Planters Life Assurance Corporation.


Thank you and kindest regards.

Very truly yours,

**Philippine Obstetrical and
Gynecological Society (POGS)**


Marlyn T. Dee, M.D., FPOGS
President

**Association of Health Maintenance
Organizations of the Philippines,
Inc. (AHMOPI)**


Carlos D. Da Silva
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