

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **Korea may hire Filipino doctors in 2007**

The Ministry of Health and Welfare of South Korea recently announced its plan to revise the enforcement regulations in the Medical Law of Korea which is expected to be finalized in September.

The Philippine Embassy in Seoul reported that based on the new regulation, foreign doctors with medical licenses will be allowed to get jobs at Korean hospitals starting March 2007. A foreign doctor will be allowed to treat patients who have the same nationality as the doctor or who speak the same language. However, the foreign doctors will not be allowed to give medical treatment to Koreans.

The proposed revision would pave the way for the entry of Filipino doctors to Korea to take care of the needs of some 45,000 Filipinos and 400,000 English speaking nationals residing in Korea.

The Ministry of Health and Welfare is expected to develop detailed criteria about the qualifications and process of permitting foreign doctors to practice their profession before the end of the year.###