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## POEA issues warning on online registration system for preemployment medical examination of OFWs

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration warned licensed recruitment agencies and medical clinics catering to OFWS not to fall for an online registration system allegedly operated by the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Ministry of Health.

The Department of Health has denied that it approved the scheme that requires the applicant to pay a registration fee of US\$10 for the provision of Pre-Employment Medical Examination.

The DOH prohibits the Medical Facilities for Overseas Workers and Seafarers (MFOWS) from participating or using the said online scheme.

In Department Circular No. 0371 issued on December 22, 2017, DOH said that "since the online registration system charges additional fee to the OFW applicants and can be restrictive to few selected DoH-accredited OFW clinics, it may be construed as another form of decking and monopoly of health examination services for Filipino migrant workers".

The POEA advised the public and DOH-accredited clinics for OFWs to report to the DOH any activity pertaining to the said online registration system. /END