

## 250 parents, guardians attend 2nd G6PD Deficiency seminar for 2012

The 2nd G6PD Deficiency Parents' Seminar for 2012 was held at the UP Manila College of Pharmacy Auditorium in the early afternoon of July 27. Dr. Catherine Lynn Silao presented the genetic nature of the disorder to 250 parents and guardians. Silao is the Program Coordinator of Molecular Genetics, Institute of Human Genetics. Dr. Beatriz Gepte, Hematology-Oncology Consultant of Philippine Children's Medical Center, discussed the clinical manifestations, drugs and chemicals that must be avoided by a G6PD Deficient child. NSC-NIH aims to conduct at least three seminars per year. The next parents' seminar is tentatively set for November 2012. Check the final schedule at [www.newbornscreening.ph](http://www.newbornscreening.ph). *JATerrado*

## Online video confab at NBS Coordinators meet

The Newborn Screening Center-National Institutes of Health (NSC-NIH) and the Regional Newborn Screening Coordinators from Centers for Health Development (CHDs) 4A, 4B, MM and 5 held their regular meeting at the NSC-NIH conference room on July 9. It was attended by Hermes Pascua and Claire Alincastré of CHD-MM, Fe Laarni Camayang of CHD-4B and Jenica S. Querido of CHD-4A. Glorioso Velasco of CHD-5 joined the meeting via online video conference. The nurse coordinators reported on their strategies in increasing the coverage and decreasing the number of unsatisfactory samples. Concerns elevated and strategies drawn from the previous zonal meeting was also visited. The NSC-NIH team composed of Wenalyn Viaña, Joanna Decano-Terrado and Irel Manansala facilitated the meeting. *JATerrado*

## NCDA sponsors 180 NBS kits



*CHD-MM Newborn Screening Coordinators with Octavio Gonzales and Felicitas Jean Octavio, President and Project Coordinator of PACDL, respectively. Also in photo are Marian Cuenca and Ryan Pascual, VYLH representatives.*

The National Council on Disability Affairs (NCDA), in celebration of the 34th National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Week (themed "Mainstreaming Persons with Disabilities in Economic Development") sponsored 180 newborn screening kits, which were, in turn, allocated to Dr. Jose Fabella Memorial Medical Center, East Avenue Medical Center, Philippine General Hospital, Pasay City General Hospital, Santa Ana Hospital and President Diosdado Macapagal Medical Center. The memorandum of agreement between NCDA and NSC-NIH requires that the NBS kits be delivered to the six health facilities a week before the July 17 to 23 celebration. These health facilities were requested to provide NBS services to indigent

babies born during the celebration week.

The Degenerative Disease Cluster of CHD-MM also celebrated the awareness week in collaboration with The Philippine Association for Citizens with Developmental and Learning Disabilities (PACDL) through an orientation activity on the prevention, early detection and intervention of disabilities among children on July 18 and 19 at the Conference Room of the National Children's Hospital. Barangay Health workers in CAMANAVA and Manila areas, as well as representatives of government offices such as the DOTC, DOLE and MMDA, participated.

Interesting topics included the importance of Newborn Screening, as presented by Hermes Pascua, NBS Coordinator for MM. The Volunteer Youth Leaders for Health (VYLH) also participated by distributing NBS brochures to participants. CHD-MM aims to strengthen the advocacy of Newborn Screening and save infants from mental retardation and death through partnerships with organizations. *JATerrado, CALincastré*

## Manila and Makati visit NSC-NIH

The Center for Health Development-Metro Manila continues its partnership with the Newborn Screening Center in conducting the LGU Assemblies and Exposure Trips. Eighteen participants from the Manila Health Department and Manila LGU hospitals attended the July 13 activity at the NSC-NIH Conference Room, UP AyalaLand TechnoHub. It was Makati City's turn to visit NSC-NIH on July 20. Like previous meetings with the other LGUs, the activity started with a refresher on the NBS flow of operations, followed by a tour of the center. Upon the participants' request, Dr. Mary Ann Abacan gave a brief lecture on Maple Syrup Urine Disease (MSUD) during the Manila Exposure meeting, while Dr. April Grace Berbozo presented the same topic during the Makati Exposure Meeting. Issues, concerns and future plans were discussed after the presentation of the NBS national, regional, citywide and facility 2011 coverage. *HPascua*



*Joanna Terrado, NSC-NIH Project Development Officer, shows to participants quality of the blood samples sent to the NSC.*

## Visayas NSF on 'Preventive Maintenance'



*Participants in the newborn screening workshops conducted in strategic locations—Cebu, Bohol, Leyte, and Samar by the NSC-Visayas and the Centers for Health Development*

The quality of the dried blood in the filter card is a key factor for an effective and reliable newborn screening test. This facilitates timely diagnosis and management, which has a significant impact in preventing complications of inborn metabolic disorders such as mental and growth retardation, severe anemia, congenital cataract formation and even death.

To reinforce the standards in NBS sample collection, the Newborn Screening Center-Visayas, in partnership with the DOH Centers for Health Development in the Visayas, conducted a series of NBS Reorientation and Updates. The main goal of these activities was to decrease the number of rejected samples and minimize the incidence of errors in filling out information on the filter card.

Representatives from the different newborn screening facilities in Visayas actively participated in the mini-workshops, which enabled them to review and apply their knowledge in validating NBS samples. The Expanded Newborn Screening and Maple Syrup Urine Disease were also introduced in the discussions.

The activities were conducted on July 12 and 13 for the Cebu group, July 18 and 19 for the Bohol group, and July 26 and 27 for the Leyte and Samar group. The Local Government Units were also able to participate in the event. *DJBuensalido*

## Photo Story

Myra Leonora Salvaleon (rightmost), NBS nurse coordinator of CHD-7, recently conducted an orientation session on Newborn Screening during the Campus Student Organization Recognition and Advocacies Launch at Holy Name University, Tagbilaran City, on August 17. The theme of the activity was 'Revolutionizing Youth Development.'



CHD-8 with assistance from the NSC-V provided technical training to Sta. Margarita Rural Health Unit in Western Samar. A newborn screening training with heel-prick practicum was conducted on July 17. Twenty-three health workers together with the Sangguniang Bayan Committee on Health member attended the training. *DJBuensalido*

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

**OCTOBER 2012**  
**Reunion of Saved Babies (Negros Oriental)**  
October 27, 2012  
Dumaguete City

**NOVEMBER 2012**  
**deCODING: 2012 Visayas NBS Update**  
November 14, 2012  
Tagbilaran City

**Reunion of Saved Babies (Bohol)**  
November 28, 2012  
Tagbilaran City

## Implementing Newborn Screening, the RHU-Padada Way

"The wealth of the community depends to a great extent on the health of its people" is an excerpt of Section 2 of the Padada's Local Ordinance No. 027, series of 2010, entitled "An Ordinance Adopting Administrative Order No. 2008-0026 on the Rules and Regulations Implementing Republic Act No. 9288."

The Rural Health Unit of Padada, a municipality in Davao Del Sur, became a Newborn Screening Facility in 2001. Newborn screening was not fully implemented then, thus coverage was very low. The signing of Republic Act 9288, or the Newborn Screening Act of 2004, paved the way to a concrete implementation of the newborn screening program in the Rural Health Unit of Padada.

Then, in 2010, the Municipality of Padada issued Local Ordinance No. 027, series of 2010, systematizing newborn screening in the health system and fining parents who refuse to screen their babies the amount of PHP 500, equal to the NBS fee parents pay to have their babies screened. The issuance of the Padada ordinance was made possible through the initiative of Municipal Health Officer Dr. John Sibala and Public Health Nurse Erlinda Bajenting. Sibala is commendable for his active leadership and dedication. He himself motivates pregnant women to have their newborns screened during their regular pre-natal visits to RHU-Padada. If these combined efforts are adopted by other LGUs, then a hundred percent national coverage will be just within our reach. *PBermudez*



*The RHU-Padada health workers and administrative staff at the back of successful passage of Local Ordinance No. 027 adopting AO No. 2008-0026 on the Rules and Regulations Implementing Newborn Screening Act of 2004*

## VYLH-Region XI joins SPMC's National Hospital Week Celebration

The Volunteer Youth Leaders for Health (VYLH) – Region 11 joined the kick-off celebration of the Southern Philippines Medical Center's Hospital Week Celebration which commenced with a parade on August 5. The VYLH-Region 11 viewed the activity as an opportunity to raise awareness on NBS, Folic acid supplementation and rare disorders by distributing pink brochures to morning joggers and bystanders. In addition, the volunteers participated in the series of advocacy lectures held at the OB-OPD and the OB-Ward of the hospital from August 6-10. The department head of OB-OPD Mina P. Rico called for the continuous support from the volunteers.

With this collaboration for improved healthcare, beyond any doubt, the volunteers are all set and geared up to move on the next step. *Kudos! ATadlas*



*Newborn screening related activities conducted by the VYLH-Region 11 during the celebration of the Southern Philippines Medical Center's Hospital Week Celebration*

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

**SEPTEMBER 2012**  
**PKU and GAL Parent Forum**  
September 27 and 28, 2012  
Southern Philippines Medical Center, Davao City

**OCTOBER 2012**  
**NBS Hour**  
October 5, 2012, 3pm to 4pm  
Cities of Butuan, Cagayan de Oro, Malaybalay, Davao, Dipolog, General Santos, Tandag, and Zamboanga

**G6PD Deficiency Parent Forum**  
October 9, 2012  
Davao City

October 19, 2012  
Malaybalay City, Bukidnon

**NOVEMBER 2012**  
**Reunion of Saved Babies**  
November 5, 2012  
Abreeza Mall, Davao City

## New Milestone for NSC-Mindanao

The Newborn Screening Center-Mindanao (NSC-M) has reached a new milestone. The Center was granted another three years to deliver accurate and timely newborn screening services to all babies in Mindanao.



*In photo are all staff of NSC Mindanao with (seated second row, from left to right) Dr. Anna Sombong, Ms Charity Jomanto, Mr Ricardo Justol (Chief AO, SPMC), Dr. Bradford Therrell, Dr. Conchita Abarquez, Dr. Veronica Wiley, Dr. Leopoldo Vega (Chief of Hospital, SPMC), Dr Carmencita Padilla and Anthony Balisi (NSRC).*

On August 27 and 28, NSC-M underwent accreditation by a panel of experts led by Dr. Veronica Wiley, Head Scientist of the Newborn Screening Programme, Westmead Childrens Hospital in New South Wales, Sydney Australia, and Dr. Bradford Therrell, Jr., Director of the National Newborn Screening and Genetics Resource Center in Austin, Texas. Other members of the accreditation team were Dr. Anna Victoria Sombong, Laboratory Manager, NSC-Visayas, Dr. Carmencita D. Padilla, Director, Newborn Screening Reference Center (NSRC), Charity Jomanto, Quality Assurance Officer of NSRC and Anthony Balisi, PDO from NSRC.

Key performance indicators were evaluated during the two-day accreditation activity. These indicators are important in assessing the performance of screening tests, and allow for comparisons over time with other screening programs of the country.

The Center is now on its third year of operations protecting and improving the health of all babies born in Zamboanga Peninsula, Northern Mindanao, Davao, Soccsargen, Caraga and ARMM. NSC-M receives blood specimens from almost 1,000 newborn screening facilities (NSFs). From 2009 to August of this year, the number of NSFs in Mindanao has increased from 467 to 981. As of August 2012, NSC-M has received a total of 345,320 initial samples for newborn screening. Thirty-three percent (33%) of these samples came from the Davao Region.

Many of the disorders screened can be fatal in the neonatal period. Hence, it is better for the baby to have their newborn screening samples received, tested, and reported as soon as possible. The ideal newborn screening age is 2 to 3 days. This permits very early detection of metabolic disorders and timely treatment of affected babies. Of the 345,320 samples received by the Center, 78.33% were screened during the ideal age. Approximately 92% and 99.15% of babies were screened during the first seven days and during the neonatal period, respectively.

The ideal transit time for a blood specimen is 2 to 3 days. Transit time starts from the day blood is collected to the day the blood sample is received at the Center. There is a need to submit samples the quickest time possible to allow ample time for confirmatory testing of positive cases and institute treatment on or before the golden period for each disorder. Early screening and prompt management and treatment of positive cases help improve health outcomes and prevent lifelong disability of affected babies. NSFs are encouraged to submit blood samples within 24 hours. Batching and hoarding is strongly discouraged. Samples received more than 14 days from collection are unsatisfactory and blood needs to be redrawn from the babies.

	Total Screened	Total Unsatisfactory Samples	Percentage
Region 9	42384	596	1.41
Region 10	85898	909	1.06
Region 11	114381	1156	1.01
Region 12	66201	494	0.75
CARAGA	32362	386	1.19
ARMM	4094	121	2.96
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>345,320</b>	<b>3662</b>	<b>1.06 %</b>

For 3 years, the rate for unsatisfactory samples submitted for testing has been 1.06%. NSC-M has set a goal of only 1%. Among the six regions in Mindanao, only Region 12 has consistently passed the threshold rate with an unsatisfactory rate of 0.81, 0.81 and 0.64 for years 2010, 2011 and 2012, respectively.

NSC-M has a follow up program that oversees the short- and long-term follow-ups of infants identified through the screening program. Additionally, NSC-M maintains short- and long-term follow-up databases for program monitoring and evaluation. As of June 2012, a total of 5,134 confirmed disorders were diagnosed from the newborn screening results in Mindanao. The most prevalent of the 5 disorders is G6PD deficiency, with an incidence rate of 1:67.

The Center acknowledges all efforts exerted by NBS coordinators, pediatricians, attending physicians and other health care professionals in Mindanao for the comprehensive follow-up of positive cases. NSC-M calls on everyone to work together to achieve excellent newborn screening services by attaining full NBS coverage, ensuring sample acceptability and ensuring a 100% return rate of positive cases. *CAbarquez*

## ORIENTAL MINDORO NEWBORN SCREENING SUMMIT "The LGU's Role in Saving Babies from Mental Retardation"



The Center for Health Development-Region 4B (MIMAROPA) conducted the provincial Newborn Screening Summit August 22 and 23 at the Tamaraw Beach Resort, Puerto Galera in Oriental Mindoro. The activity aimed to gain the support of the Local Chief Executives and other stakeholders to advocate and support the implementation of Newborn Screening in Oriental Mindoro.



The Local Chief Executives and LGU health workers pose for photo with representatives from the DOH-Central Office, Center for Health Development-4B and NSC-NIH during the Newborn Screening Summit held on August 21 and 22 in Puerto Galera, Oriental Mindoro. Inset is Mayor Hubert Christopher Dolor of Puerto Galera welcoming participants from different municipalities of Mindoro and guests from Manila.

Mayor Hubert Christopher Dolor of Puerto Galera delivered the welcome remarks, while Dr. Marpheo Marasigan, the Provincial Chief of Staff, gave an inspirational message on behalf of Gov. Alfonso V. Umali. Also in attendance was Mayor Ronaldo M. Morada of Bansud and the Sangguniang Bayan on Health of the different municipalities, namely Hon. Gerald Paul Cristalino of Mansalay, Hon. George Voltaire Alvarez of Gloria, Hon. Vilma Carmona of Socorro, Hon. Sheryl Morales of Naujan, Hon. Iglesias Blanco of Baco, and Hon. Anna Shiela Garachico of San Teodoro.

Dr. Ma. Teresa G. Castillo, Head of the Local Health Support System Cluster (LHSC), delivered the message of Dr. Gloria J. Balboa, Regional Director of CHD 4B. The best performing NBS facilities which achieved 90% coverage of their total live birth per year were given recognition awards. There were five Local Government Unit Hospitals and six private birthing home and hospital recipients. Each of the awardees for the achievers category for 2010 and 2012 were given five NBS kits, while awardees for the exemplary category received 10 NBS kits. Below is the list of the awardees.

AWARDEES	CATEGORY	AWARD
<b>LGU</b>		
Naujan Municipal Hospital	Infirmery	Achievers 2011
Mansalay Medicare Hospital	Primary	Achievers 2011
Pinamalayan Community Hospital	Primary	Achievers 2010 and 2011
Oriental Mindoro Provincial Hospital	Secondary	Achievers 2010 and 2011
Roxas District Hospital	Secondary	Achievers 2011
<b>PRIVATE</b>		
Mina de Oro General Hospital	Primary	Achievers 2011
Sta. Maria Village Clinic	Birthing Home	Achievers 2011
Grace Mission Hospital	Primary	Achievers 2011
Pinamalayan Doctors Hospital	Primary	Achievers 2010
Ma. Estrella General Hospital	Secondary	Achievers 2011
MMG Hospital & Health Services of Oriental Mindoro	Secondary	Exemplary and Achievers 2011

Lita Orbillo, National NBS Coordinator of the National Center for Disease Prevention and Control (NCDPC), presented the National and Regional status of NBS and the role of the LGU in the implementation of NBS. Dr. April Grace Berbozo, Head of NSC-NIH, lectured on Maple Syrup Urine Disease (MSUD), the new addition to the NBS panel of disorders. Dr. Maria Josefina Gool, the Division Chief of Health Care Delivery Management Division (HCMCD) of the PhilHealth Regional Office of Region 4, presented the PhilHealth updates on NBS and on the Case Rate. The Essential Newborn Care was presented by Dr. Anthony Calibo, also from NCDPC.

The second day of the Summit was spent on the program implementation review and consultative meeting. Fe Laarni Camayang, Regional NBS Nurse Coordinator provided the provincial status while Joanna Decano-Terrado, the Project Development Officer of NSC-NIH, discussed the administrative mechanics on ordering, payment and sending samples. NBS Program Coordinator Ma. Theresa Du facilitated the open forum on the issues and concerns of the participating health facilities in implementing NBS. At the end of the program, there were 9 Rural Health Units that had accomplished and submitted the Institutional Database Form, which meant that as soon as the applications are processed, they could start offering NBS to their patients. *FLCamayang, JATerrado*

## 10<sup>th</sup> Newborn Screening Convention 02 October 2012, SMX Convention Center



Time	Topics	Speakers
7:00 AM	Registration	
8:15 - 8:30	Opening of Exhibits	
8:30 - 9:20	Welcome Remarks	Rowena A Pua, MD President, NSSPI
	Inspirational Messages	Vicente Y Belizario, JR, MD, MTM&H Vice Chancellor for Research, UPM and Executive Director, NIH
	Introduction of Keynote Speaker	Enrique A Tayag, MD Assistant Secretary, Department of Health
	Keynote Address "Saving Babies: Our Responsibilities"	Carmencita D Padilla, MD, MAHPS Director, Newborn Screening Reference Center
9:20 - 9:40	Expanded Newborn Screening	Hon Loren B Legarda Senator
9:40 - 10:00	DOH Network of Regional Follow-up Centers	Carmencita D Padilla, MD, MAHPS
10:00 - 10:15	BREAK	Honorata L Catibog, MD, MNSA Director III, Department of Health
10:15 - 11:15	New Conditions in the Expanded Screening Panel (Methylmalonic Acidemia, Fatty Acid Oxidation Disorders, Biotinidase Deficiency, Maple Syrup Urine Disease)	Panel – Drs C Padilla, M Chiong, S Estrada
11:15-12:15	What Newborn Screening will NOT Screen (Autism, ADHD, Pompe, Down Syndrome)	Panel – Drs J Alonzo-Eusebio, AG Berbozo, BC Cavan
12:15-12:30	Open Forum	Moderator: Kristine L. Mendoza, MD, FPPS
12:30-1:30	LUNCH	
1:30 - 2:30	Glucose-6-Phosphate Dehydrogenase Deficiency Forum Neonatal G6PD Deficiency in Asia G6PD Deficiency in Philippines G6PD Quality Assurance Program	Kwang-Jen Hsiao, PhD Ma Beatriz P Gepte, MD, FPPS Anna Victoria J Sombong, RMT, MD
	Open Forum	
2:30 - 3:30	Free Papers High Performance Liquid Chromatography in the Screening and Diagnosis of Thalassemia in the Phils. Early Diagnosis and Treatment of CH Galactosemia in Three Filipino Patients - the Importance of NBS Clinical Profiles of Hyperphenylalaninemia Patients Diagnosed by Newborn Screening Molecular Analysis of the MUT gene in Filipino Patients with Methylmalonic Acidemia Biochemical and Clinical Findings in the First Two Cases of Glutaric Aciduria Type I in the Philippines	Ma. Liza T Naranjo, MD, DPPS Sylvia C. Estrada, MD, FPPS Sylvia C. Estrada, MD, FPPS April Grace Dion-Berbozo, MD, DPPS Catherine Lynn T Silao, MD, FPPS Mary Anne D Chiong, MD, FPPS
3:30 - 4:30	Updates on Philhealth Newborn Care Package	Leona Ellen D. Bayta, MD Medical Specialist, Philhealth Moderator: Ma Theresa Cacas, MD, FPPS
	Open Forum	
5:00	Closing Remarks	Rizalina Hemedez-Gonzalez, MD, FPPS 2012 NBS Convention Over-all Chair 2012-2014 PPS-STC President

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outcome of hemoglobinopathies and the impact on the outcome of these diseases.

The confirmatory methods for hemoglobinopathies in the Philippines were also discussed. Comments and discussion by participants enriched the workshop contents and have led to significant draft of action plan to serve as a guide to the flow of referrals for newborns confirmed with hemoglobinopathies.

The workshop was held on August 30 and 31 at the Traders Hotel Manila, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City. It was organized by the Newborn Screening Reference Center with guidance of Dr. Ma. Beatriz Gepte, Chair of the G6PD Experts Committee and was jointly sponsored by the Newborn Screening Centers-NIH, Visayas, Mindanao, and Central Luzon. *VMendoza*



(1) Dr. Carolyn Hoppe, pediatric hematologist/oncologist from California, presenting the hemoglobinopathy nomenclature (2) Dr. Bradford Therrell, Jr., professor and chemist from Texas, discussing the history and current status of hemoglobinopathy screening in the US (3) Participants in the Hemoglobinopathies Workshop conducted on August 30 and 31 in Pasay City

### Bicol Hospitals Can DOH It

The misconception that DOH-retained hospitals perform poorly in many, if not all, health services was disproved by three DOH-retained hospitals in the Bicol region: the Bicol Medical Center (BMC), Bicol Sanitarium (BS), and Bicol Regional Teaching and Training Hospital (BRTTH).

During the initial stages of the NBS program implementation, performances were unsatisfactory. To address the issue, the Center for Health Development-Region 5 conducted a consultative meeting with the three facilities and presented the performance coverage of each. Strategies such as thorough reorientation of staff, intensive advocacy, and procurement of newborn screening (NBS) kits were discussed. Discussions were spearheaded by Dr. Carla Orozco, Head of the Family Health Cluster of CHD-5. To complement the initiative of ensuring that all newborn babies would undergo newborn screening, CHD-5 provided free NBS kits to these three hospitals. Free NBS kits were exclusively for non-paying clients or indigents.

By the end of 2011, Bicol Medical Center attained 98% coverage, Bicol Sanitarium consistently maintained coverage of 90%, while BRTTH followed suit with a decent 85%. NBS coordinators, in partnership with CHD-5, have taken steps to ensure the sustainability of this good performance.

An LGU-owned hospital also maintained its legacy as top performer in the Bicol region. Vicente L. Peralta Memorial Hospital became the first LGU health facility recognized as national awardee. Salome Dimaano, NBS coordinator of the facility, ensured that all newborn babies availed NBS—paying or non-paying. The following strategies were defined and implemented: hospital personnel were educated and well-trained on the program and a detailed financial scheme for the non-paying was devised. The facility has become independent on provincial fund allocations since it has put up revolving funds exclusively for NBS. *JGVelasco*



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## ACNBS Approves Plans for Expanded Newborn Screening



Photo shows (standing L-R) Dr. Bradford Therrell, Jr., Dr. Carmencita Padilla, Dr. Juanita Basilio, Ms. Lita Orbillo, Dr. Carolyn Hoppe, Mr. Jamier Tristan Flores, Dr. Wilfredo Santos, Ms. Patricia Gomez, Ms. Julieta Gomez, Ms. Rosanna Martinez, Dr. Cynthia Rostuman, Ms. Reinelda Raffinan, Ms. Dionesia Seneca, (sitting L-R) Asec. Enrique Tayag and Usec. Teodoro Herbosa

The Advisory Committee on Newborn Screening has approved the plans for the Expanded Newborn Screening Program during a meeting held August 29 at the Office of the Secretary, Department of Health, Sta. Cruz. The Board is chaired by the Secretary of Health and has convened for the second time in 2012.

Undersecretary Teodoro Herbosa represented Sec. Enrique Ona and acted as presiding officer of the meeting. The meeting was attended by Health Assistant Secretary Eric Tayag, representatives of the Department of Interior and Local Government, Council for the Welfare of Children, National Institutes of Health, Bureau of Health Facilities and Services, National Center for Disease Prevention and Control, Integrated Midwives Association of the Philippines, and the Philippine Pediatric Society.

The implementation of the Expanded Newborn Screening Program is set in 2013. *VMendoza*

The main agenda for the meeting was the

### International Experts Lead Hemoglobinopathies Workshop

Dr. Carolyn Hoppe of the Pediatric Hematology/Oncology unit at the Children's Hospital and a clinical scientist at the Children's Hospital Oakland Research Institute, Oakland, California; and Dr. Bradford Therrell, Professor at the Department of Pediatrics, University of Texas Health Science Center and Director of the US National Newborn Screening and Genetics Resource Center, Austin, Texas lead the conduct of Hemoglobinopathies Workshop for Pediatric Hematologists and unit heads of Newborn Screening Centers.

With the approval of the inclusion of hemoglobinopathies in the newborn screening panel, the workshop was organized for participants to understand the etiology, clinical manifestations,

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Number of Babies Screened  
as of August 2012

COUNTER: 3,685,763