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#### **REVISION REGISTER**

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#### **PREFACE**

The updated Facilitator's Guidebook: Newborn Screening in the Communities is a product of a concerted effort of key newborn screening program implementers to come up with an up-to-date instructional material to facilitate easy teaching and learning process. The need to come up with a ready reference arises due to the evident need to support newborn screening facilitators when organizing and running newborn screening orientations. It standardizes the information to be communicated to all health workers.

This version contains new developments in the program, updated statistics and data, and recommendations on how to conduct the training orientation. This guidebook includes slide presentations, scripts, and additional notes that may aid the facilitator in delivering the presentation. The script is based on the usual lines delivered in previous orientations as well as valuable contributions from the newborn screening pool of speakers and input from the Newborn Screening Centers, Centers for Health Development, and Newborn Screening Continuity Clinics.

There are five sections in this guidebook:

Module 1 contains an overview of the general aspects of the screening program. It describes the history of newborn screening in the Philippines as well as its importance.

Module 2 presents the highlights of RA 9288 (the Newborn Screening Act of 2004) with an emphasis on the role of health workers and its implications on the health facilities in the country.

**Module 3** is devoted to the procedures for implementing newborn screening in health facilities. The presentation includes the newborn screening flow of operations.

**Elective Module 1** is optional for refresher courses. This module discusses the role of Newborn Screening Continuity Clinics (NBSCCs) in the national newborn screening program.

Elective Module 2 is also an optional course that discusses each of the disorders in the Expanded Newborn Screening Panel, along with their symptoms and treatment. This course is recommended if the need arises based on the training needs of the participants.

Each of the modules have two versions, one for face-to-face trainings, and another for online trainings. Use the module appropriate for your training's mode of delivery. If you want more information about newborn screening, particularly on the conditions included in the expanded newborn screening panel, you may go through the Fact Sheets for Doctors, NCNBSS Manual of Operations, or visit www.newbornscreening.ph for more resources and information.

We hope that using this guidebook will be beneficial to you. Any pertinent information (such as local policies) may be incorporated or updated as appropriate. In order to help you the most, we ask for your feedback while you use this guidebook. Every year, NSRC will update this manual to reflect the most recent information, address persistent issues, and give facilitators further guidance on any crucial aspects of the newborn screening program.

Thank you and stay safe!

Newborn Screening Reference Center Contacts:

National Institutes of Health

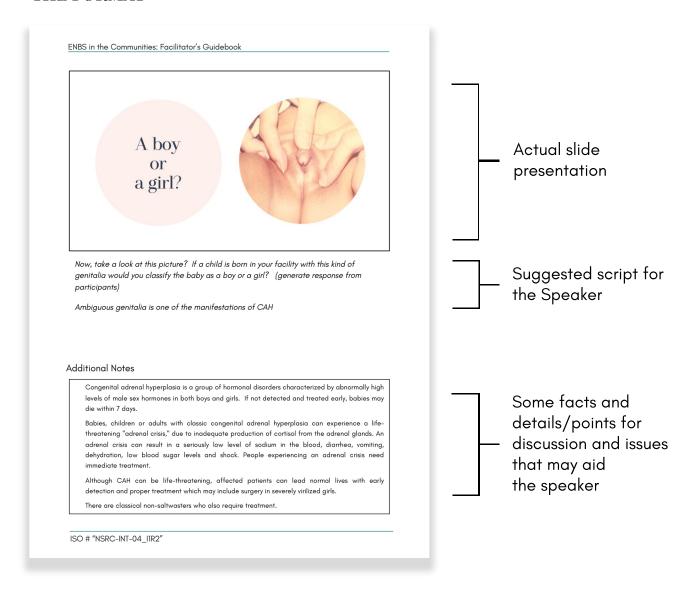
University of the Philippines Manila Email add: info@newbornscreening.ph

Newborn Screening AVP and Videos Inserts:

Year of Revision: 2023

### **HOW TO USE THIS BOOK**

#### THE FORMAT



The suggested script for the speaker is in italics.

Additional notes for the speaker are written at the bottom of the page.

#### All points to be emphasized are in italic bold format.

This book comes with an 8-minute AVP to highlight steps for implementing newborn screening at the community level.

### **ACRONYMS**

DOH Department of Health

DOH-RO Department of Health-Regional Office

ENBS Expanded Newborn Screening

HFSRB Health Facilities and Services Regulatory Bureau

IRR Implementing Rules and Regulations

LGU Local Government Unit

LTFU Long-term Follow-up

NBS Newborn Screening

NBSCC Newborn Screening Continuity Clinic

NCP Newborn Care Package

NIH National Institutes of Health

NSC Newborn Screening Center

NSF Newborn Screening Facility

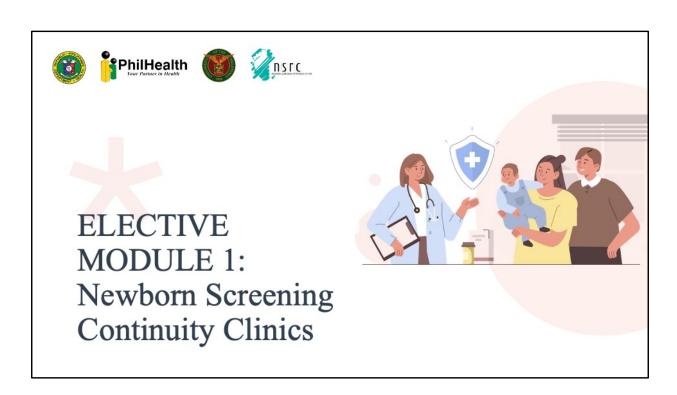
NSRC Newborn Screening Reference Center

PHIC Philippine Health Insurance Corporation

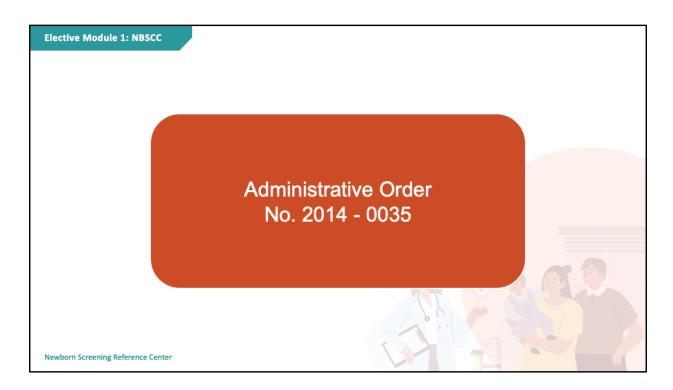
RHU Rural Health Unit

STFU Short-term Follow-up

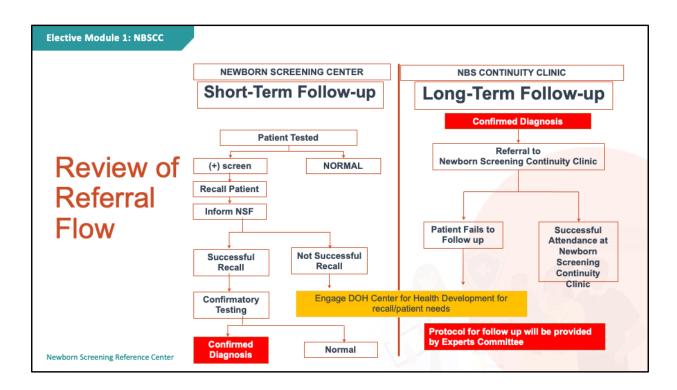




This module is optional for refresher courses



These Newborn Screening Continuity Clinics were established to address the growing number of referrals and patients being managed in the implementation of expanded newborn screening. This will strengthen the treatment and referral network and ensure the capable management of confirmed positive cases.



The Newborn Screening Centers' (NSCs') role currently extends to the confirmation of the diagnosis and the referral to a specialist for long-term treatment. With the establishment of the NBS Continuity Clinics, the patients diagnosed by the NSCs will be turned over to the NBS Continuity Clinics for long term care and monitoring. The network of NBS Continuity Clinics will definitely improve the quality of life for our diagnosed patients.

# **Establishment of Continuity Clinics**

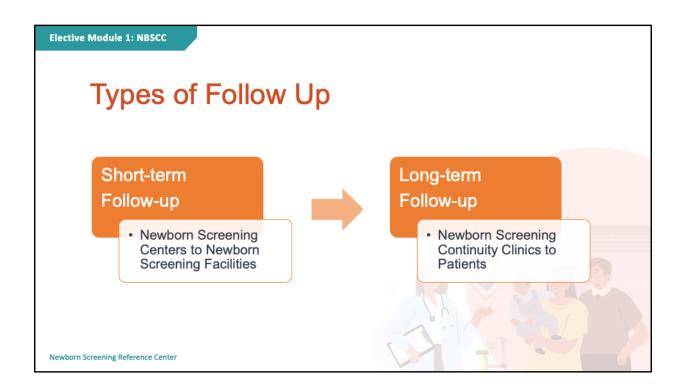
- The NBS Continuity Clinics shall be established, initially in every region, equipped to facilitate continuity of care of confirmed patients in its area of coverage. Host Facilities of NBSCC shall:
  - Provide a clinic space for patient consultation and a work station for the follow-up nurse and/or genetic counselor.
  - Oversee the selection and hiring of personnel for the NBSCC in their facility;
  - · Integrate NBS continuity clinic to the current services of the host facility;
  - Ensure the sustained operation of NBSCC and Birth Defects Continuity
    Clinic

**Newborn Screening Reference Center** 

Initially, one Newborn Screening Continuity Clinic and Birth Defects Continuity Clinic per region shall be set-up. Subsequently, provincial continuity clinics shall be established. There are now 33 Newborn Screening Continuity Clinics in the country.

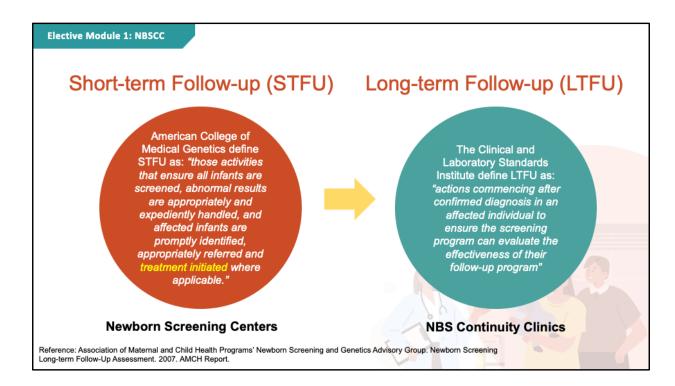
The roles of the Host Facilities of NBS Continuity Clinics include:

- a. Setting-up NBS Continuity Clinic and Birth Defects Continuity Clinic;
- b. Providing a clinic space for patient consultation and a work station for the follow-up nurse and/or genetic counselor.
- c. Overseeing the selection and hiring of personnel for the NBS Continuity Clinic in their facility;
- d. Integrating NBS continuity clinic to the current services of the host facility;
- e. Ensuring the sustained operation of NBS Continuity Clinic and Birth Defects Continuity Clinic according to the Operational Guidelines set by the DOH and the NSRC for these clinics.



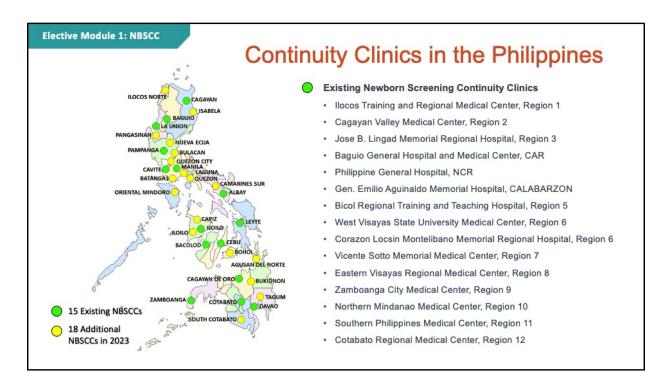
#### There are two types of follow up:

- 1. Short Term Follow up was mentioned earlier. The Newborn Screening Center runs the screening samples, facilitates samples for confirmatory testing, and follow-up. Short term follow means following up the patient from confirmatory to diagnosis, then to initial management and initial treatment.
- 2. Long Term Follow up that takes place once the patient has been diagnosed and referred to specialists for initial treatment. The long-term follow-up handles the management of patients after and ensures that the affected children live to grow normally. The long-term follow-up is done through continuity clinics.

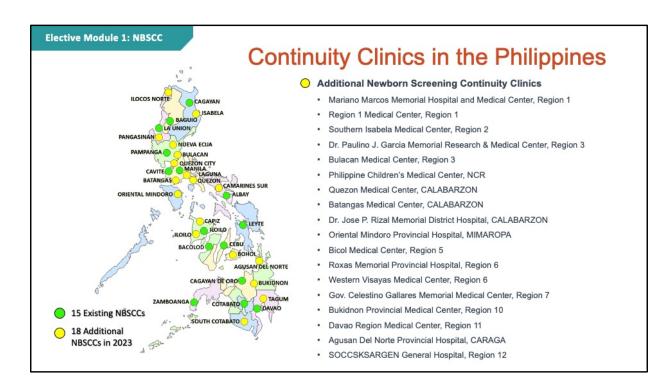


Definition of STFU focuses on a lot of critical questions: Are we screening on time, are we getting accurate results, are we properly handling positive results? Are we recalling on time? are we initiating timely treatment – time is a crucial element, it could be a matter of life and death.

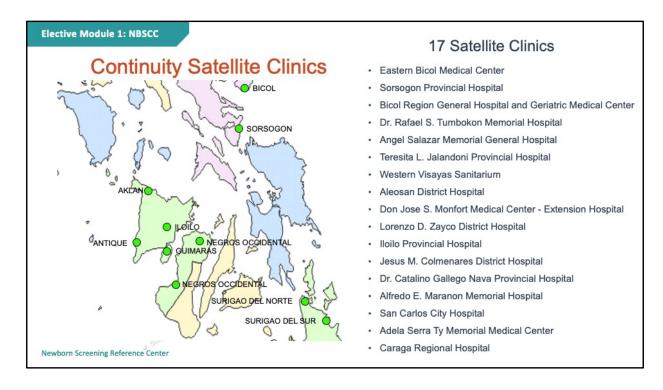
Whereas for LTFU following the CLSI definition: Perhaps not as immediate or critical question but equally important: Are we achieving our intended goal of improving health outcomes? What good is screening if we are not able to save and ensure the quality of life of confirmed cases?



These continuity clinics are located in tertiary and government hospitals in 14 regions. MIMAROPA region and Rizal from Region 4A are being handled by PGH NCR; Caraga region is being handled by SPMC Region 11 and; BARMM provinces distributed into 3 continuity clinics: Regions X, XI, and XII.



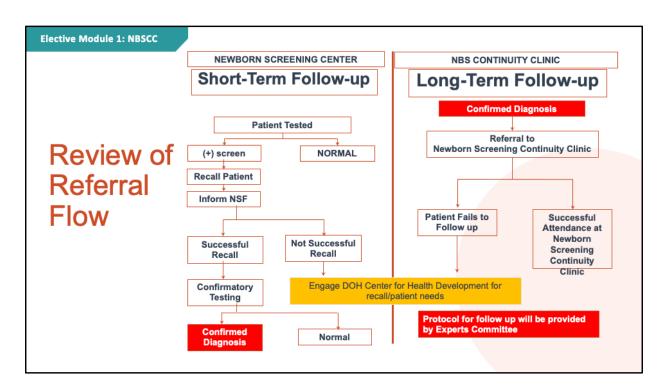
In 2023, 18 new continuity clinics were added from the initial 15 continuity clinics.



These satellite clinics function as a network of medical facilities to assist the NBSCCs in patient management. The satellite clinic's host facilities integrate NBS clinic services into their OPD services.

Contact details of the continuity and satellite clinics are available at https://www.newbornscreening.ph/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id =205&Itemid=85

**NOTE:** The presenter/facilitator may include in the presentation their region's continuity clinic and/or satellite clinic team members' composition and clinic schedules.

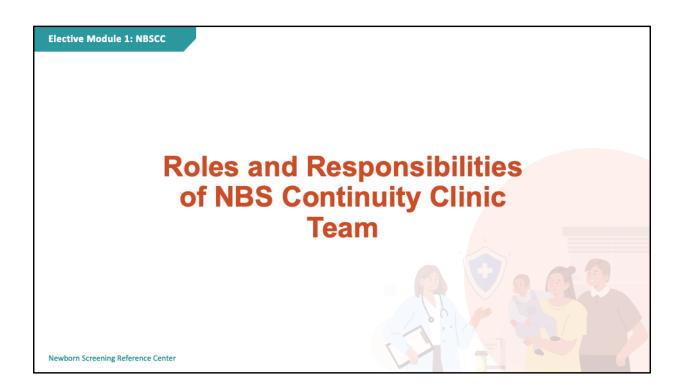


In detail, this is how the follow-up system or network referral look like

## **NBS** Principles of Patient Follow-up

- The success of a national program of Newborn Screening is measured not only by the number of babies diagnosed but, more so by the quality of life of these infants.
- The National Comprehensive Newborn Screening System (NCNBSS) is a nationwide integrated system that includes the diagnosis and management of babies with positive screens and their follow-up.
- The major objective of Long Term Follow-up (LTFU) is to ensure continuing and appropriate management of confirmed cases that will enable optimal adult physical, mental, and social outcomes of these indivduals

Newborn Screening Reference Center



The main role of the NBS Continuity Clinic Team

## **NBS Continuity Clinic Team**

Patient/Family-Centered Activities (Main)

- Encourages family to maintain relationship with Newborn Screening Continuity Clinic and Birth Defects Continuity Clinic to ensure continuous and effective care.
- Monitors compliance with treatment (facilitate referral to appropriate sub-specialists, therapists, nutritionists).
- Reinforces schedule of follow-up appointments and work-ups endorsed by the NSC.

Newborn Screening Reference Center

The main role of the NBS Continuity Clinic Team:

- Encourages family to maintain relationship with Newborn Screening Continuity Clinic and Birth Defects Continuity Clinic to ensure continuous and effective care.
- Monitors compliance with treatment (facilitate referral to appropriate subspecialists, therapists, nutritionists).
- Reinforces schedule of follow-up appointments and work-ups endorsed by the NSC.

## **NBS Continuity Clinic Team**

Patient/Family-Centered Activities (Main)

- Provides follow-up counselling and anticipatory guidance to the family.
- Provides continuing education about the condition to the families and the health professionals.
- Set up patient/family support groups in coordination with NSRC.
- Coordinates with DOH Center for Health Development in patient recall (lost to follow up cases).

Newborn Screening Reference Center

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- Provides continuing education about the condition to the families and the health professionals.
- Set up patient/family support groups in coordination with NSRC.
- Coordinates with DOH Center for Health Development in patient recall (lost to follow up cases).

Elective Module 1: NBSCC

# **NBS Continuity Clinic Team**

Patient-Centered Activities (Quality Assurance)

- Prepares and submits reports of the two clinics to NSRC.
- Evaluates the extent to which the birth defects or newborn screening long-term follow-up care is effective in improving the patient's health.

**Newborn Screening Reference Center** 

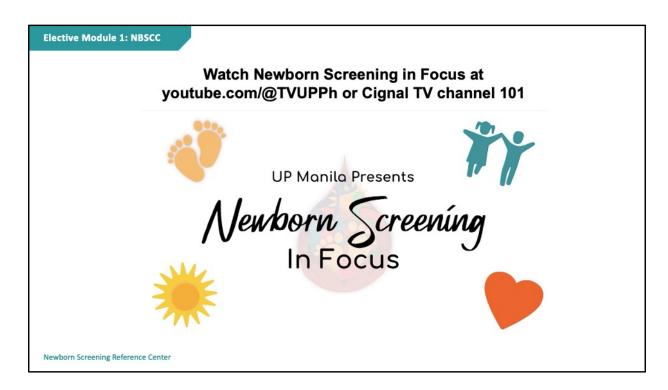
#### The NBS Continuity Clinic Team also:

- Prepares and submits reports of the two clinics to NSRC.
- Evaluates the extent to which the birth defects or newborn screening longterm follow-up care is effective in improving the patient's health.



For more information about newborn screening, you can visit the newborn screening resource/portal site:

www.newbornscreening.ph



Newborn Screening in Focus is a video series that uncovers the wonderful story of Newborn Screening in the Philippines, zooming in on what makes Newborn Screening a comprehensive program for every Filipino.

NBS in Focus features the humble beginnings of the Newborn Screening Program and its evolution into a national health program. The series also presents the very process of newborn screening from the moment the child is born, and into the continuing care available for newborns confirmed to have a disorder included in the panel. Features and management of the disorders from the newborn screening panel are also discussed in individual episodes. Finally, the series presents the Newborn Screening program network, and how the program managed to give quality service despite the limits brought about by disasters such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

Watch the live airing of NBS in Focus every Saturday 7-8 pm at Cignal TV 101 or online at youtube.com/@TVUPPh.

