Universal Health Care
in the Philippines
Gains and Challenges

Enrique T. Ona, MD, FPCS, FACS (Hon.)
Secretary of Health
The Social Contract with the Filipino People

“From treating health as just another area for political patronage to recognizing the advancement and protection of public health, which includes responsible parenthood, as key measures of good governance.” – President Benigno S. Aquino III
Universal Health Care

Investing in Filipinos, especially the poor

Education

Conditional Cash Transfer

Housing
The Republic of the Philippines

- Archipelagic surface area of 115,831 square miles, with over 7,107 islands
- Population: 92.3 M (as of 2010)
- Population growth rate: 1.82%
- Life expectancy at birth: F 73 ; M 67
- 80 provinces, 140 cities, 1,494 municipalities, and 42,026 barangays (villages)
- Top government health agency: Department of Health (doh.gov.ph)
Population Pyramid
Challenge of Attaining Demographic Dividend
Economic Situation in 2010

- Steady economic growth since 2003
- Poverty incidence with minimal improvement, despite favorable economic growth
- GDP per capita 2,587 US Dollars in 2012
- Poverty incidence was 27.9% in 2012
Health Financing

Total Health Expenditures as % of GDP

- National Government
- Local Government
- Social Health Insurance (PhilHealth)
- Private OOP
- Others

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>National Government</th>
<th>Local Government</th>
<th>Social Health Insurance (PhilHealth)</th>
<th>Private OOP</th>
<th>Others</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010 (Actual)</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
<td>0.60%</td>
<td>0.40%</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 (Actual)</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
<td>0.70%</td>
<td>0.40%</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 (Estimated)</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
<td>0.60%</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
<td>0.70%</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Health Financing

- Neither Gov’t subsidy nor the NHIP have adequately protected the poor from financial risk.

- 51% PHIC Coverage despite the 1995 PhilHealth law mandate of 100% coverage of all Filipinos in 15 years.
Health Situation in 2010

- Public health efforts fall short of MDG commitments for 2015, specially those related to maternal health.

Maternal Mortality Rates Reported from National Surveys, Philippines, 1993-2011

- 1993 NDS: 209
- 1998 NDHS: 172
- 2006 FPS: 162
- 2011 FHS: 221

MDG Target: 52
Health Services in 2010

The poor have limited access to quality outpatient (Rural Health Units) or inpatient (hospital) facilities

Philippine Orthopedic Center, Manila

Fabella Memorial Hospital, Manila
Hospital bed to population ratio has remained the same for 2 decades.
Total Fertility Rate, Philippines**
(1991-2009)

*95% Confidence Interval

Rates reflect 3-year averages centering on the middle of the 3-year period


4.1  3.7  3.5  3.2  3.3  3.1

*3.6-3.9  *3.4-3.7  *3.1-3.2  *3.1-3.4  *3.0-3.2
UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE

Provide financial risk protection

Secure access to quality care at facilities

Achieve the public health MDGs

INTERVENTIONS OF CARE

Secondary Prevention and Primary Care

Primary Prevention and Health Promotion

Curative Health Care

Improved Health especially for the Poor and Vulnerable
## Roadmap to Universal Healthcare

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Public Health Millenium Dev. Goals Achieved</th>
<th>Financial Risk Protection Improved</th>
<th>Quality Care Delivery System Accessible</th>
<th>Health Governance Improved</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Reduce Maternal and Child Mortality</td>
<td>• Expand PhilHealth Coverage</td>
<td>• Upgrade and Improve Health Units and Hospitals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Control &amp; Eliminate Infectious Diseases</td>
<td>• Improve PhilHealth Benefit Package</td>
<td>• Deploy Human Resources for Health</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Promote a Healthy Lifestyle &amp; Prevent NCDs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Develop Health Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>• Maintain an Effective Health Regulatory System</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Key Accomplishments:
Attainment of Public Health MDGs

Reduce Maternal and Child Mortality

- 80% children fully immunized in EPI (BCG, DPT3, OPV3, Measles & Hep B) in 2013
- 57% mothers **delivered in health facilities** in 2011 vs 38.8% in 2009
- 2.1 M women of reproductive age provided modern family planning commodities in 2012
- Passage of the **Responsible Parenthood Reproductive Health Act (RA 10354)**
Passage of the RP/RH Law and Signing of the Implementing Rules and Regulations
Fabella Memorial Hospital
Key Accomplishments:
Attainment of Public Health MDGs

Control of Infectious (Age Old) Diseases

- 164,523 TB cases (91%) treated in 2012
- 27 malaria-free provinces out of 53 endemic provinces as of 2012
- 4,656 HIV/AIDS cases provided treatment
- 12 filaria-free provinces of 43 endemic provinces as of 2012
- 4 provinces, 5 cities declared rabies-free
Key Accomplishments:
Financial Risk Protection

National Enrollment Rate

• 2010: 57.20 M (62%)
• 2011: 78.87 M (82%)
• 2012: 75.82 M (79%)*
• 2013 : 79.13 M (81%)*
  • *5.2 M NHTS poor households - 20 to 25 M beneficiaries (100% national government subsidy)
• Passage of the **Sin Tax Reform Law (RA 10351)**
  • Provide premium subsidy for the near-poor
• Passage of the **National Health Insurance Act** of 2013
Advocacy and partnerships for signing of Sin Tax Law

Projected Incremental Revenues from Sin Tax Earmarked for Health

- 2013: 28.866
- 2014: 36.431
- 2015: 43.0355
- 2016: 48.331
- 2017: 54.553

In Billion Php
Key Accomplishments:
Financial Risk Protection

Benefit Packages

- **23 Case Rates Package** – adopted in Sept. 2011
- **Z - Benefit Package** – launched in July 2012
- **Expanded Z-Benefit Package** – launched in Feb 2013
- **Enrollment at “Point of Care”**
Launching of PhilHealth Case Rates
Key Accomplishments: 
Access to Quality Health Care System

Health Facilities Enhancement Program 
(2010-2013)

- 1,567 Barangay Health Stations upgraded (out of 16,038)
- 1,642 Rural Health Units upgraded (out of 3,074)
- 266 LGU hospitals upgrade (out of 734)
- 60 projects implemented (in 70 DOH hospitals)
Barangay Health Station in Palo, Leyte
SAN REMIGIO RURAL HEALTH UNIT, SAN REMIGIO, ANTIQUE

FACADE

DELIVERY ROOM

3rd class municipality with a population of 30,446
BUGASONG MEDICARE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL,
BUGASONG, ANTIQUE
MARCH 2013

A Level 1, 15-bed district hospital catering to a population of 118,860
DOH REGIONAL HOSPITAL in BAYOMBONG, NUEVA VIZCAYA
FEBRUARY 2013

Operating Room Complex

A Level 2, 200- bed Hospital
Key Accomplishments:
Access to Quality Health Care System

Human Resources for Health Deployment Program

- **204** Physicians (Doctors to the Barrios) deployed
- **21,952** RNHEALS nurses deployed
- **2,738** Midwives deployed
- **40,851** Community Health Teams* trained and deployed

*Composed of 5 members with Nurse/Midwife as leader with 4 other members such as the Social Welfare Devt Officer, DepEd School Physician, PhilHealth Advocacy Officer, Bgy. Nutrition Scholar, Population Officer, Barangay Health Worker, Traditional Birth Attendant, or Parent Leader; assigned to 100 households per team to provide key messages and basic preventive care
Doctor to the Barrios
Registered Nurses for Health Enhancement and Local Service (RNHeals)

22,500 nurses are deployed annually
Key Accomplishments: Health Governance

DOH ISO 9001:2008 Certification
• First National Agency to be fully ISO Certified

Sincerity Rating
• DOH Satisfaction Rating - from “Good” (+37 points) to “Very Good” (+60 points)

Health Information Systems Improvement
• National Telehealth Service Program
• Wireless Access for Health

Partnership with private sector
• Health Leadership and Governance Program - improving governance at the Local Government level
• Philippine Orthopedic Center
• Dialysis Services in DOH hospitals
Wireless Access for Health

Technology for Healthier, Happier Communities

WAH Mobile Midwife

WAH Synchronized Patient Alerts by SMS (SPASMS)
## Universal Healthcare Targets by 2016

### Public Health MDGs Achieved
- Decrease Maternal MR to 50/100,000
- Decrease Under 5 MR to 25.5/1,000
- Decrease TB prevalence to 387/100,000
- Maintain low HIV/AIDS prevalence (<1% of pop’n)
- Decrease malaria morbidity to 6.6/100,000

### Quality Health Services
- Upgrade and construct hospitals, RHUs, BHS
- Modernize equipment
- Increase health manpower and drug access

### Minimal Financial Risk
- Enroll and cover 95% of all Filipinos with PhilHealth especially the poor
- Increase the support value of PhilHealth claims (and decrease Out of Pocket)
Gaps and Challenges

- Difficulty to synchronize public health in a devolved and fragmented health system
- **Bringing care in** geographically isolated conflict and disadvantaged areas
- Implementation of rapid health insurance coverage to about 40 million Filipinos thru national subsidy (50% of population)
- Reform governance of public hospitals
- Improve timeliness and accuracy of national data gathering (eg. Vital civil registries)
- Resistance to Public Private Partnerships
- Frequent **natural** and **man-made** disasters
Bohol Earthquake (October 15, 2013)
Super Typhoon Yolanda
Super Typhoon Yolanda
Typhoon Sendong (Cagayan de Oro, Dec, 2011)
Zamboanga Siege (September 9, 2013)
Typhoon Pablo (Mindanao, December 5, 2012)
THANK YOU!