

# Child Health

## Top Causes of Illness among Infants

### *Infectious Diseases*

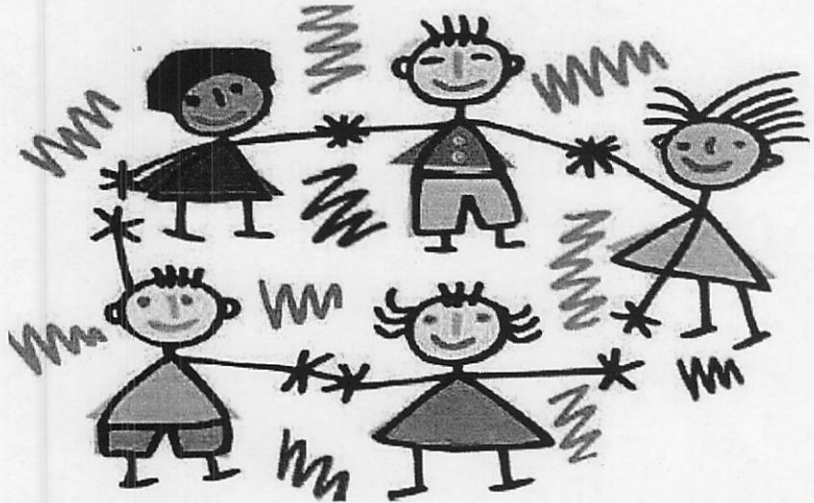
- Pneumonia
- Measles
- Diarrhea
- Meningitis
- Septicemia
- Nutritional deficiencies
- Birth-related complications

## Top Leading Causes of Death among Neonates and Children under 5 Years (WHO Western Pacific Region)

- Neonatal deaths: 54%
  - Preterm complications
  - Birth asphyxia
  - Neonatal sepsis
  - Neonatal pneumonia
  - Congenital abnormalities
- Pneumonia: 14%
- Other conditions: 10%
- Non-communicable diseases: 9%
- Injuries: 8%
- Diarrhea: 4%
- Measles: 1%

## Child Health Programs

- Garantisadong Pambata Program (DOH Administrative Order No. 36 s. 2010) aims to provide a comprehensive and integrated package of services and communication on health, nutrition, and environment to children available every day at various settings, such as home, school, health facilities, and communities by government



and non-government organizations, private sectors, and civic groups.

- Expanded Program of Immunization (EPI) aims to reduce infant and child mortality due to vaccine-preventable diseases (tuberculosis, Hepatitis B, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, poliomyelitis, pneumonia, meningitis, and otitis media due to Hemophilus influenza type B, measles, mumps, rubella, and severe diarrhea due to Rotavirus).
- Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) aims to reduce morbidity and deaths due to common childhood illness. The major interventions are prevention and appropriate management of common childhood illnesses: pneumonia; diarrhea; malaria; measles; dengue; hemorrhagic fever; ear infections; and malnutrition.



The IMCI strategy has been adopted nationwide and integrated into the medical, nursing, and midwifery curricula.

- Child injury prevention aims to reduce the incidence, severity of, and deaths associated with child injuries at home, in the community, schools, and roadways. The priority injury causes are road traffic injuries, burns and scalds, drowning, falls, and poisoning. Safety assessment checklists for the home, school, and community are being promoted so that proper interventions for preventing injury are recommended and implemented.
- Enhanced Implementation of Growth Monitoring and Promotion (GMP) using WHO-CGS (Child Growth Standard) assesses the nutritional status of children through their growth and development by measuring their weights and heights regularly. Standard measurement indicators are: weight-for-age; length/height-for-age; and weight-for-length/height.

#### References

- Child Health and Development Strategic Plan Year 2001-2004
- Department of Health Philippines. Administrative Order No. 0015. "Revised Policy on Child Growth Standard."
- Department of Health Philippines. Administrative Order No. 39 s. 2003. "Policies on the Nationwide Implementation of the Expanded Program on Immunization."