



Republic of the Philippines
PHILIPPINE HEALTH INSURANCE CORPORATION

Citystate Centre, 709 Shaw Boulevard, Pasig City
Healthline 637-9999 www.philhealth.gov.ph

PHILHEALTH CIRCULAR

No. 29, s - 2009

July

TO : ALL ACCREDITED PROVIDERS, MEMBERS OF PHILHEALTH, PHILHEALTH PERSONNEL AND ALL OTHERS CONCERNED

SUBJECT : Amendment to PhilHealth Circular Nos. 34 s-2006, 20 s-2007 and 07 s-2009 - Reimbursement Limit for Newborn Screening Tests

Pursuant to Republic Act 9288 (Newborn Screening Act of 2004) and DOH Administrative Order Numbers 2005-0005 & 2008-0026, the maximum newborn screening fee, including the collection kit, is only 550 pesos and the maximum allowable service fee is set at 50 pesos. In compliance thereto:

- 1) For babies covered by the newborn care package (NCP), PhilHealth reimbursement for newborn screening tests is fixed at 500 pesos.
 - a. The maximum out-of-pocket payment for PhilHealth members should only be 100 pesos.
 - b. Other newborn care services such as eye prophylaxis, umbilical cord care, Vitamin K, thermal care, BCG and Hepatitis B immunization should also be given as it is reiterated that partial provision of services will cause non-payment of claims for the NCP.
- 2) To achieve the 85% target for newborn screening coverage by 2010, it is reiterated that all newborns delivered in PhilHealth-accredited facilities should undergo newborn screening tests including sick babies who are not covered by the NCP.
 - a. Sick newborns are covered by the regular inpatient benefit of PhilHealth.
 - b. The maximum payment for newborn screening test is 600 pesos, including the service fee.
 - c. Cost for newborn screening test shall be charged against PhilHealth benefit earmarked for laboratory, X-ray, supplies and others, e.g., 3,200 pesos for case type A in a tertiary hospital.
- 3) Names of facilities that refuse to provide newborn screening and/or collect more than the maximum allowed newborn screening fee shall be forwarded to the Department of Health and PhilHealth's Legal Services Sector for investigation.

This Circular shall take effect for all claims with admission dates starting September 1, 2009.

All other issuances inconsistent herewith are hereby modified or repealed accordingly.

DR. REY B. AQUINO

President and CEO

Date signed: 28 July 09

