



**ORDINANCE NO. 2019-069**  
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**AN ORDINANCE INSTITUTIONALIZING A COMPREHENSIVE NEWBORN SCREENING SYSTEM IN THE CITY OF NAGA AND ENHANCING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EXPANDED NEWBORN SCREENING PROGRAM. APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES:-**

Author: Hon. Jose C. Rañola, M.D. *[Signature]*

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Republic Act 9288, otherwise known as the New Born Screening Act of 2004, provides for the implementation of a comprehensive National Policy institutionalizing the Newborn Screening program to ensure that every baby born in the Philippines is offered the opportunity to undergo Newborn Screening;

The Department of Health (DOH) Advisory Committee on Newborn Screening (ACNBS) has approved the implementation of the Expanded Newborn Screening through the DOH AO 2014-0045 on November 19, 2014 Section V 5 of said order mandates both public and private health facilities to offer and provide expanded newborn screening services together with the regular test as an option to parents;

The Newborn Screening program in the Philippines currently includes screening of six disorders namely: 1) Congenital Hypothyroidism (CH), 2) Congenital Adrenal Hyperplasia (CAH), 3) Phenylketonuria (PKU), 4) Glucose-6-Phosphate Dehydrogenase Deficiency (G6PD), 5) Galactosemia (GAL), and 6) Maple Syrup Urine Disease (MSUD). The Expanded Newborn Screening (ENBS) will include more screening to disorders such as Hemoglobinopathies and additional metabolic disorders namely: 1) Organic Acid Disorders, 2) Fatty Acid Oxidation Disorders, and 3) Amino Acid Disorders;

The NBS program is an offshoot of the study "Enhancing Case Detection of Selected Inherited Disorders through Expanded Newborn Screening" at the UP Manila NIH showing the data of newborn screened through the California Newborn Screening Program (CNSP) from 2005 to 2009. It revealed that serious disorders which are not included in the existing program of the country;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** based on the premises considered,

**BE IT ORDAINED,** by the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Naga in session assembled that:

**SECTION 1. Title.** This ordinance shall be known as "An Ordinance Institutionalizing a Comprehensive Newborn Screening System in the City of Naga and enhancing the implementation of the Expanded Newborn Screening Program, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for other Purposes".

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**SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** It is hereby declared as the policy of the City Government of Naga to adopt adequate measures to promote the Newborn Screening System within its jurisdiction and to ensure the right of the newborn baby to have an opportunity to undergo newborn screening and thus be spared from the heritable conditions that can lead to mental retardation and death if undetected and untreated.

**SECTION 3. Objectives.** This ordinance is enacted with the following objectives:

1. To ensure the people with proper information on the nature and benefits of Newborn Screening in the life of every newborn baby;
2. To ensure that parents recognize the rights of every children to survival and full and healthy development as individual;
3. To protect every newborn baby from certain heritable conditions that can result in mental retardation and death if left undetected and untreated through Newborn Screening.

**SECTION 4. Definition of Terms.** For the purpose of this Ordinance, the following terms shall mean:

1. **Comprehensive Newborn Screening** is a newborn screening system that includes, but is not limited to education of relevant stakeholders; collection and biochemical screening of blood samples taken from newborn; tracking and confirmatory testing to ensure the accuracy of the screening results, drugs and medical/surgical management and dietary supplementation to address the heritable condition; and evaluation activities to assess long term outcome, patient compliance and quality assurance.
2. **Recall** means a procedure for locating a newborn with a heritable condition for purposes of providing the newborn with appropriate laboratory to confirm the diagnosis and, as appropriate, provide treatment.
3. **Treatment** means provision of prompt, appropriate and adequate medicines, medical, surgical management or dietary prescription to a newborn for the purposes of treating or mitigating the adverse health consequences of the heritable condition.
4. **Follow-up** means the monitoring of a newborn with a heritable condition for the purpose of ensuring that newborn patient complies fully with the medicines and dietary prescriptions.

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5. **Health institutions** refers to hospitals, infirmaries, health centers, lying-in centers or puericulture center with obstetrical and pediatric services whether public or private.
6. **Health practitioners** refers to physicians, nurse, midwives, nursing aides, medical technologist and traditional birth attendants.
7. **Heritable conditions** means any condition that result in mental retardation, physical deformity or death if left undetected and untreated and which is usually inherited from the genes of either both biological parents of the newborn.
8. **UP Manila NIH** refers to the University of the Philippines Manila National Institute of Health.
9. **Newborn** means a child from the time of complete delivery to 30 days old.
10. **Newborn Screening** is the process of collecting a few drops of blood from the newborn onto an appropriate collection card and performing biochemical testing for the determining if the newborn has heritable conditions.
11. **Expanded Newborn Screening** means expanded screening which will include 22 more disorders from the six disorders, such as Hemoglobinopathies and additional metabolic disorders.
12. **Newborn Screening Center** refers to a facility equipped with a newborn screening laboratory that complies with the standards established by the NIH and provides all required laboratory test and recall/follow up programs for newborn with heritable conditions.
13. **Newborn Screening Reference Center** refers to the central facility at the NIH that defines testing and follow up protocols, maintains an external laboratory proficiency testing program, oversees the national testing database and case registries, assists in training in all aspects of the program, oversees content of educational materials, and acts as secretariat of the Advisory Committee on Newborn Screening.
14. **Parent Education** refers to various means of providing parents/legal guardians information about newborn screening.

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