



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
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Agenda 12.4 Universal Health Coverage

The Philippines reaffirms its strong commitment to advancing Universal Health Coverage and supports the adoption of the resolutions and decisions recommended by the Executive Board under agenda item 12.4. We view these as essential to accelerating equitable, resilient, and people-centered health systems.

Nationally, the Philippines is implementing strategic reforms to strengthen integrated service delivery. A key priority is reducing the burden of stroke through the National Policy Framework on the Prevention, Control and Management of Acute Stroke. This mandates the establishment of certified Acute Stroke Units and Acute Stroke Ready Hospitals within regional apex facilities to ensure 24/7 specialized care, including thrombolytic therapy within the critical 4.5-hour window. Complementing this, we are expanding Specialty Centers for Brain and Spine Care to ensure timely diagnostics and evidence-based interventions across the archipelago.

We are also advancing the integration of local health systems to deliver coordinated emergency, critical, and operative care—an essential pathway to realizing UHC for all Filipinos.

The Philippines further underscores the importance of addressing rare diseases as a matter of equity. Our most urgent priority is ensuring access to timely and accurate diagnosis, evidence-based treatment, and adequate long-term management for Persons Living with Rare Diseases. We support the development of the WHO Global Action Plan on Rare Diseases and encourage strengthened international cooperation on centers of excellence, newborn screening, and digital health solutions to build sustainable and inclusive rare disease programs.