



Measuring coverage for newborn care interventions

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**on behalf of Newborn Indicators
Technical Working Group**

**Women Deliver
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Save the Children®

Why is measurement important for newborns?

- Growing interest in newborn health
 - MDGs 4 and 5
 - WHO/UNICEF Joint Statement
- Data gaps in tracking coverage of key interventions
 - Countdown 2015 profiles
 - COIA
 - LiST review of evidence
- Opportunities exist
 - DHS, MICS, other national surveys
 - SNL and partners' sub-national surveys

Newborn Indicators Technical Working Group

- Inter-agency group – UNICEF, ICF Macro, NGOs, researchers, SNL
- Established in 2008
- Aim – reach consensus on key indicators and to advocate for inclusion in nationally representative and specialized surveys
- Support and coordinate research and secondary analyses
- Identifies of gaps needing research

What is the state of newborn coverage indicators?

Postnatal care: % of newborns with PNC visit within 2 days of birth

- Countdown to 2015 indicator
- COIA
- Included in national surveys, but limited data
 - DHS – limited to home births prior to 2006; MICS – not included until MICS4
 - Countdown 2005 report – 0 countries
 - Questions on validity – women’s reports home versus facility births and definition of PNC
- Data on content/quality of care not available

Postnatal care: Recall and validity

Issue	Accomplishments
Uncertainty on mother's knowledge about what happens to baby after birth, esp. facility births	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Qualitative research – women have a good idea what happens to baby regardless of birth location• DHS and MICS questionnaires – all births• Standard tables in DHS and MICS – all births
Recall of past births up to 5 years prior to survey	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DHS and MICS include births 2 years prior to survey
Misunderstanding of survey questions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Qualitative research – women have difficulty understanding term “postnatal care”• Introductory statement in MICS and DHS

What is the state of newborn coverage indicators II?

Key behaviors and practices

- Thermal care
- Immediate breastfeeding
- Clean cord care

Other evidence-based interventions

- KMC
- Care-seeking and treatment for sepsis
- Not included in core DHS or MICS questionnaires

Newborn behaviors and practices

Issue	Accomplishments
Uncertainty on mother's knowledge about what happens to baby after birth, esp. facility births	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Qualitative research –<ul style="list-style-type: none">• women can recall the event sequence for delivery and immediate newborn care practices• no difference in recall between women with facility-based births and home births or the timing of the birth relative to the survey.• women have difficulty recalling the exact timing of events as measured in hours and minutes• Limit timing questions to hours (and not minutes)
Overlap wrapping and drying	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• >90% babies dried also wrapped (SNL endline surveys)• Limit question to wrapping/wiping

Recommended Indicators: PNC coverage

- Consensus on global indicator
 - % of women/newborns who received PNC within two days after delivery
 - Includes ALL births
- Comparable data DHS and MICS
 - Revision of DHS core questionnaire (2010)
 - MICS4 PNC module (~20 countries)
- More data available for global monitoring
 - Countdown 2012 report – 25 countries (home births); 4 countries (all births)

Recommended Indicators: Newborn Behaviors and Practices

Indicators Recommended	Notes
Percent of newborns dried after birth	All births
Percent of newborns with delayed bath at least 6 hours after birth	All births
Percent of newborns with cord cut with clean instrument	Home births only

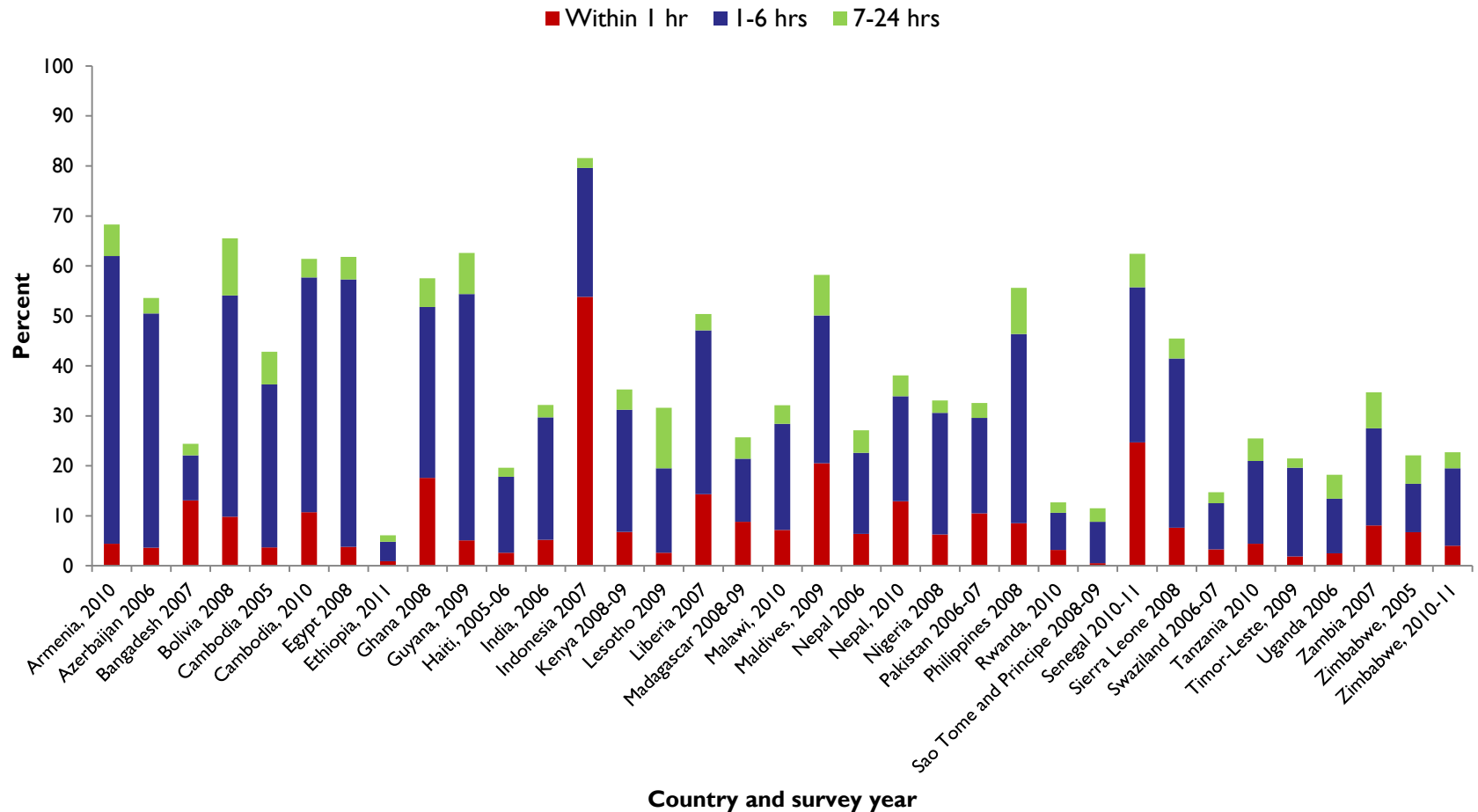
Indicators Additional Testing	
Percent of newborns placed on the mother's bare chest after delivery	All births
Percent of newborns with nothing (harmful) applied to cord (from cord cutting until it falls off)	All births

Research Gaps

- As more PNC data become available – need to assess:
 - Women’s understanding of PNC – is this “intrapartum care” or “postnatal care”
 - Feasible to combine PNC for woman and newborn into one indicator?

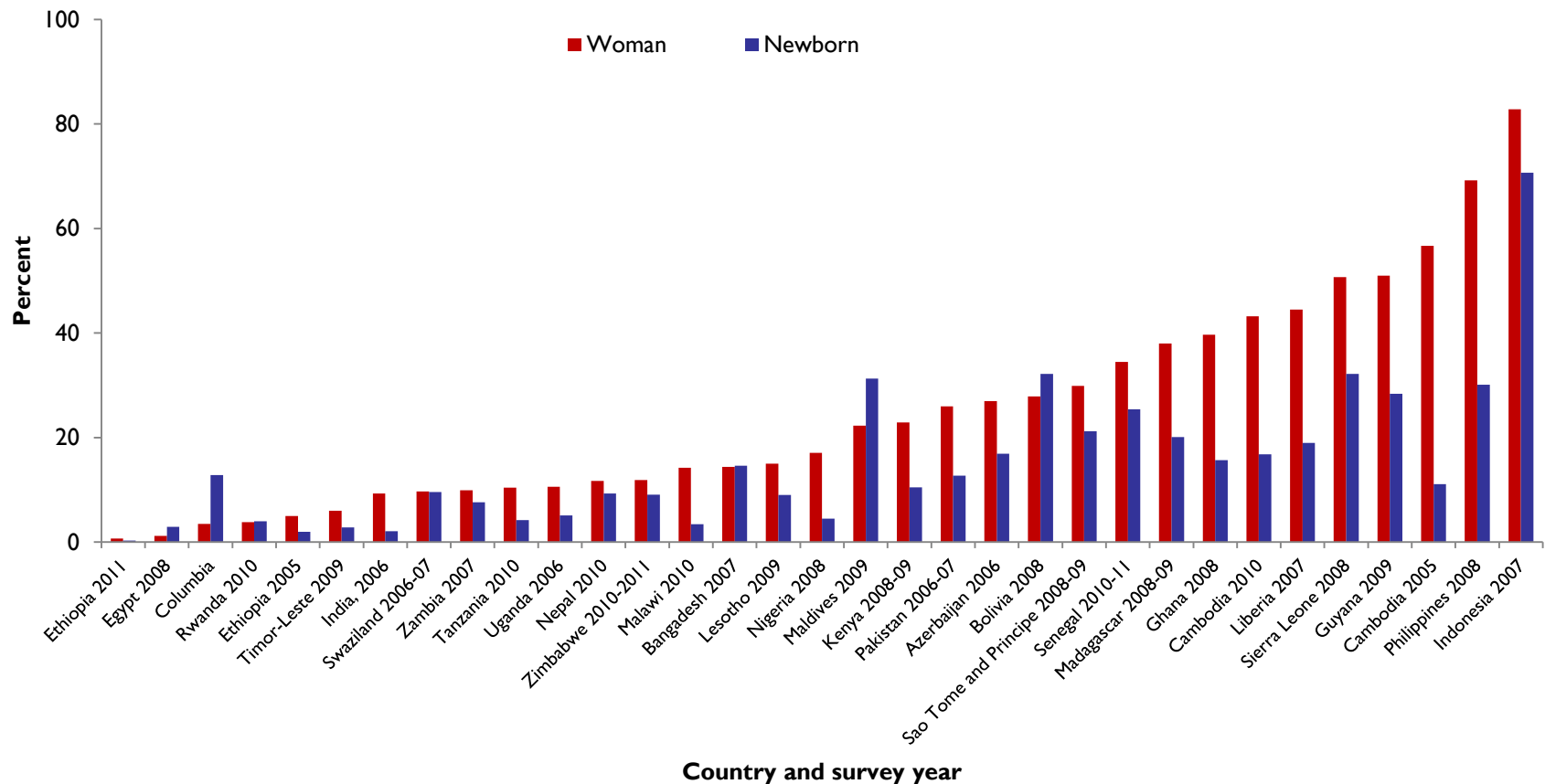
Timing of PNC

Percent of women who received PNC within 2 days of delivery by time of first PNC, DHS data 2005-2011



PNC women and newborns

Percent of home births for which women and newborns received PNC within two days of delivery, DHS data 2005-2011



Next steps for measurement

- Finalize and test optional survey module
 - Behaviors and practices; content of PNC; multiple PNC contacts
- Follow up on PNC measurement, especially pre-discharge PNC
- Develop coverage measures of evidence-based interventions
 - KMC
 - Care seeking/treatment newborn sepsis
- Vital registration, stillbirths, HMIS

Acknowledgements

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- Newborn Indicator Technical Working Group members
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- CHERG
- Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation

Tools and materials available on Healthy Newborn Network (HNN) website:

<http://www.healthynewbornnetwork.org/page/newborn-numbers>

THANK YOU!



What did we do?

- Supported research and secondary analyses
 - Macro – PNC/PPC data analysis (Bangladesh and Egypt)
 - Macro – Qualitative study on recall and practices (Bangladesh and Malawi)
 - MICS4 pre-test – Mombassa, Kenya
 - ICH – Qualitative study on postnatal care recall (Ghana)
 - SNL – Secondary analyses of endline surveys

Content of PNC

- Signal functions
 - checking the newborn's umbilical cord
 - assessing the newborn's temperature
 - observing/counseling on breastfeeding
 - counseling on newborn danger signs
 - weighing baby (if applicable)
- Optional module

MICS4 module

- **Facility births:**
 - Length of stay
 - Before discharge, check on health?
 - After discharge, check on health?
 - If yes, who, where and when
- **Home births:**
 - Before “birth attendant” left home, check on health?
 - After “birth attendant” left home, check on health?
 - If yes, who, where, and when