

Policy Recommendations on the Improvement of Primary Health Care Service Delivery Among Government Employees: Enabler's Perspective

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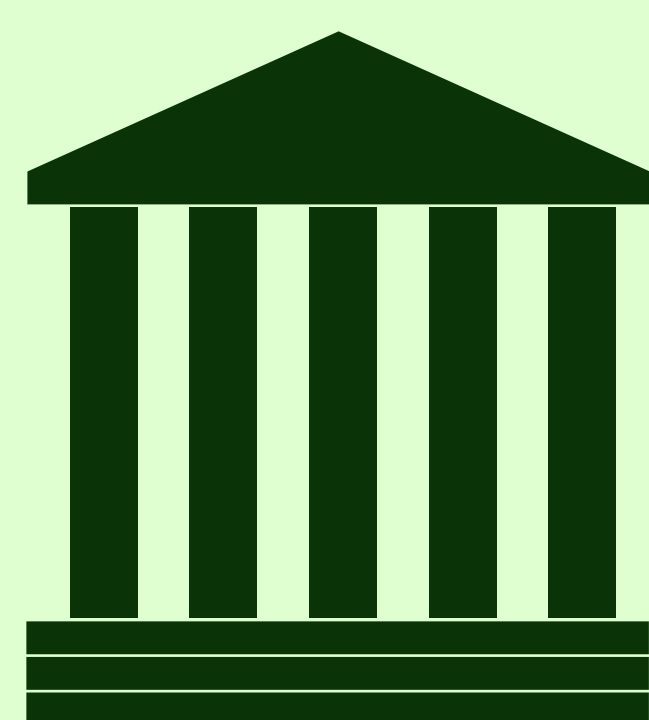
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INTRODUCTION

The Philippines enacted the **Universal Health Care Act** which is anchored on primary health care and mandates the **delivery of affordable and quality health services for all**.



Memorandum Circular No. 33. s. 1997

directed the provision of health programs
free annual medical exam to all government agencies

RESULTS

Out of the 16 institutions, 12 have a health clinic; 5 do not extend their health services to non-permanent employees; and 8 do not extend to family. Availability, accessibility, and affordability of health services were both the main contributing and inhibiting factors affecting access. Strict regulations on provision of health benefits and procurement of health resources, poor health education and information dissemination were the inhibiting factors. The respondents suggested the need to allocate adequate budget for the healthcare; provide additional leave benefits for medical examinations; sanctioning those employees who do not avail health services; and extension of services of government hospitals to all free of charge.

MAIN FACTORS THAT AFFECT ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

AVAILABILITY

ACCESSIBILITY

AFFORDABILITY

RESPONDENTS' SUGGESTIONS TO IMPROVE HEALTHCARE:



allot adequate budget for healthcare and personnel



provide leave benefits for medical examinations



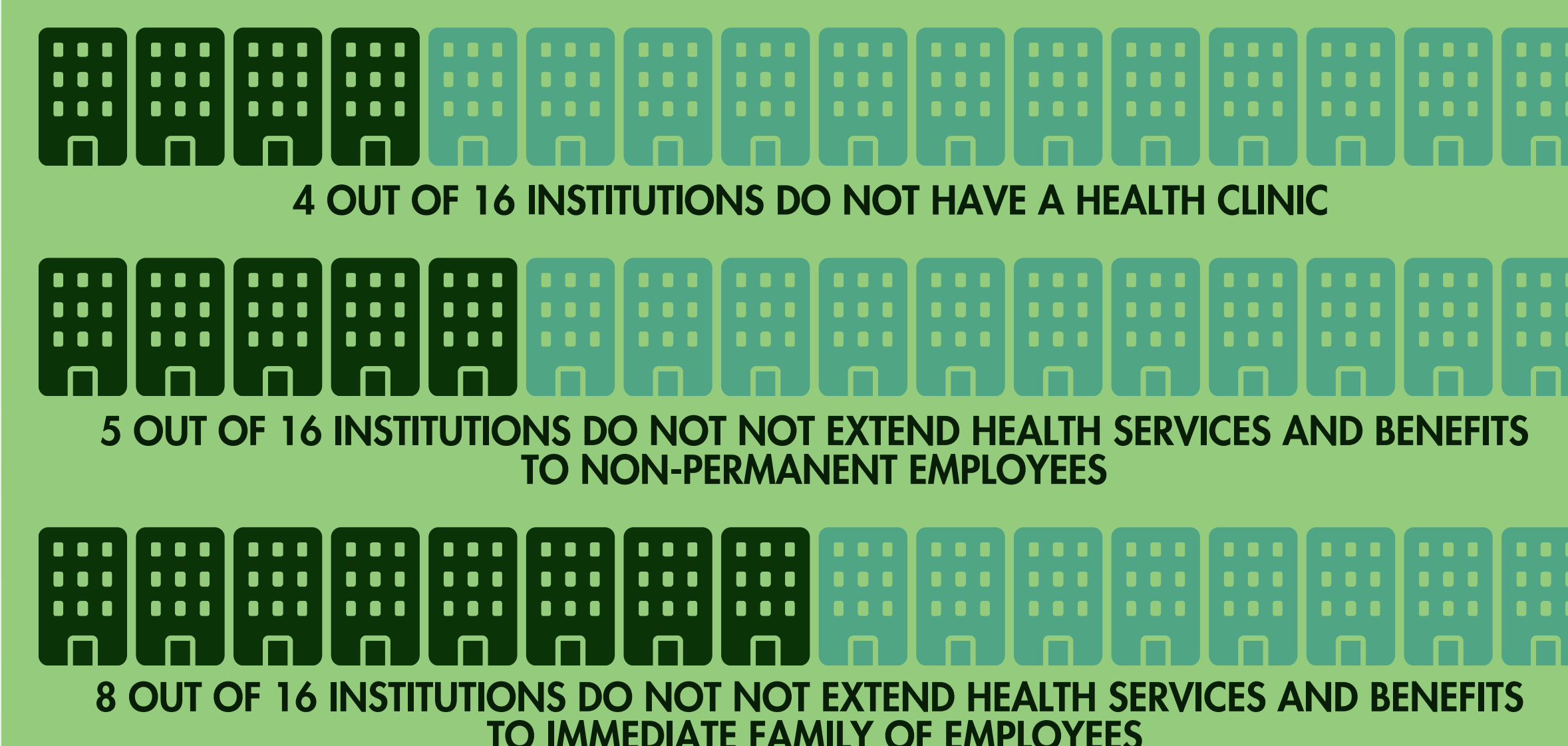
sanction noncompliance to medical examinations



extend free services to all government agencies

METHOD

This **qualitative study** employed **key informant interviews (KII)** from October 2022 to June 2023. KIIs were conducted with thirteen government institutions. A **thematic analysis** was done to the responses gathered from the participants through the structured interview guide questions developed.



CONCLUSIONS

Policies should be amended to include all government units to have an **extensive coverage of the health services** for its employees and to **expand these services** to include immediate family members.

There is also a need to **strengthen the network of facilities and government institutions** to optimize the available health resources of government employees. We can ensure that the quality of services will not be disrupted due to the health needs of employees.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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