



### Southern Philippines Medical Center Heart Institute surgical services from 2008 to 2017

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The Mindanao Heart Center (MHC) was inaugurated on 14 February 2007. On 10 October 2013, through Hospital Administration No. 174 series of 2013, MHC was renamed Southern Philippines Medical Center Heart Institute (SPMCHI). The Institute offers a wide range of cardiovascular medical and surgical services, including major heart surgeries such as ventricular septal defect (VSD) repair, tetralogy of Fallot (TOF) correction, and coronary artery bypass graft (CABG).

On 3 July 2012, the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PHIC) launched the Case Type Z Benefit Package (ZBP), a health financing scheme for patients with medical conditions that are classified as economically and medically catastrophic. 1 ZBP covers all expenses for the essential diagnostic and therapeutic management of patients with these conditions. Initially, ZBP only covered the expenses for acute lymphocytic lymphoblastic leukemia in children, early stage breast cancer, low to intermediate prostate cancer and kidney transplant for endstage renal disease.<sup>2</sup> In February 2013, the PHIC included standard-risk CABG, total correction of TOF, and surgical closure of VSD in the list of surgical procedures covered by

To qualify for ZBP coverage, patients for VSD and TOF correction should be at least 1 to 10 years old. Moreover, these patients should not have any history of heart surgeries or stenting, associated congenital heart defects, or other comorbidities, and their New York Heart Association functional classification must be class I to II. Adults for CABG should be at least 19 years old. They must pass prior non-invasive viability tests and must have stable coronary artery disease with indication for CABG, based on coronary anatomy, severity of symptoms, and left ventricular function. Furthermore, they should not have any history of cardiothoracic surgeries through median sternotomy or any prior transcutaneous cardiac interventions within 30 days prior to the CABG procedure.

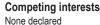
While SPMCHI has been performing heart surgeries since shortly after it was established, the first heart surgery performed in the Institution under ZBP only happened in April 2014. To date, a total of 157 VSD repairs, 61 TOF corrections, and 369 CABG procedures have been performed in SPMCHI. From 2014 to 2017, annual ZBP coverage was (71/112) 63.39% for VSD, (24/41) 58.54% for TOF and (93/229) 40.61% for CABG. In general, the census for these heart surgeries has been increasing each year since PHIC started to offer the ZBP to eligible patients, indicating that the package has helped provide health care access among patients with economically catastrophic cardiovascular illnesses.

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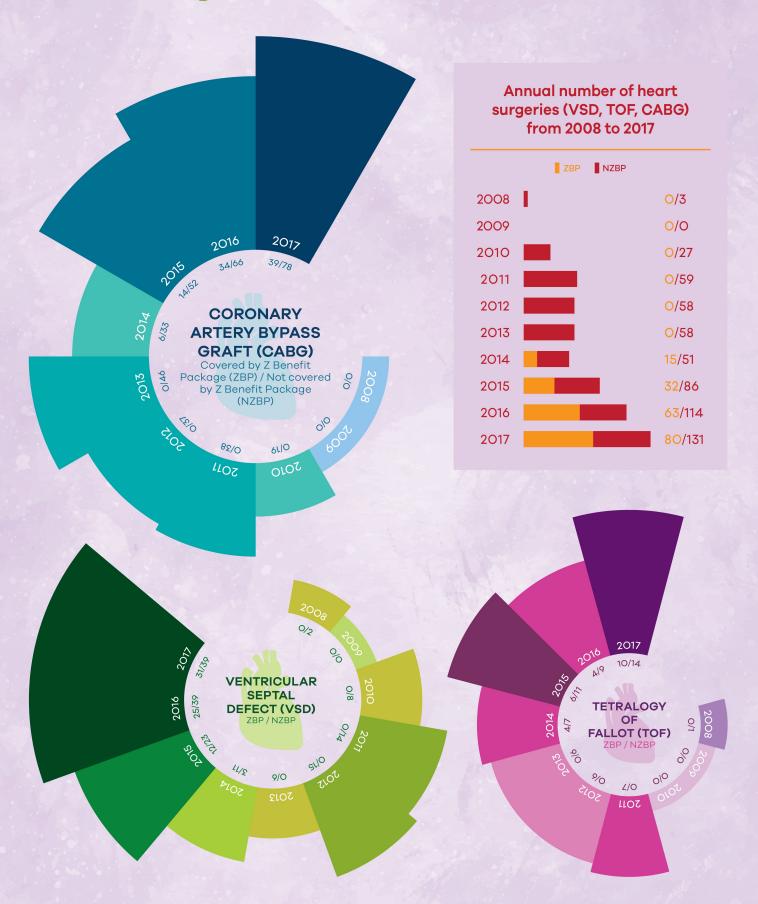
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# Heart Institute

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