



Status of MMS Implementation and Scale Up

Policy



- IFA is still the national mandate for antenatal care in the Philippines; in 2025, MMS was added in the national formulary, but is still marketed as a food supplement.
- Government began distributing MMS to pregnant women in select provinces in 2017. MMS is now incorporated in Omnibus Health Guidelines and a Micronutrient Supplementation Manual of Procedures is being developed.
- MMS is also recognized as a separate antenatal supplement in the PhilHealth system, the country's universal healthcare system.



Financing | The national Department of Health (DoH) prioritizes maternal and child nutrition in its budgets. In 2026, all 17 regions (except MOH-BARMM) received direct allotment from DoH for MMS procurement.



Service Delivery | Health workers are aware of MMS and prefer it to IFA. IFA is more widely distributed through government health facilities due to larger stocks.



Product | The DoH has approved of MMS but availability of MMS supply is a major bottleneck in the scale-up process.

National Monitoring System Components

Admin Data



DHIS2 / HMIS Data

Decentralized, nationally-scaled, Field Health Services Information System (FHSIS). Captures completed 180 tablets of IFA (y/n), new MMS indicator in 2026.



Logistics MIS

Nationally-scaled Electronic Logistics Management Information System (eLMIS). Captures IFA and MMS real-time stock on-hand, procurement. Nationally-scaled Pharmaceutical Management Information System (PMIS). Captures commodities procured by local government units, regional and national government

Who is being reached?



Periodic Household Surveys

Nationally-scaled Expanded National Nutrition Survey (ENNS). Captures Took supplements (y/n). Types of supplements captured: any iron, any folic, ferrous sulphate, folic acid, iron-folic, multi-vitamins, single micronutrient

Are systems working?



Facility-based Systems

Integrated Clinic Information System (iClinicSys) and Integrated Hospital Management Information System (iHoMIS). iClinicSys Captures consultations/ITR, inventory (Logistics), PhilHealth eClaims, financial management and an electronic FHSIS modules



Convening on Measurement and Monitoring of Multiple Micronutrient Supplementation (MMS)

Data Systems & Tools

- FHSIS collects multiple levels of data: facility, local health office, regional, national. In 2025, MMS and IFA supplementation reported as a combined indicator, in 2026, will separate.
- PMIS captures commodities procured by local government units, regional, and national government; captures facility-level stock-on-hand for IFA/MMS.
- eLMIS used for monitoring stock and supplies; piloting real-time stock-on-hand for IFA and MMS in select local health units.
- ENNS is conducted every 5 years with intermittent update every 3 years; Captures ANC services and multiple antenatal supplements, not just IFA; doesn't measure adherence or include an indicator for MMS. Future surveys will capture MMS consumption.

Governance & Data Use for Decisions

- National/regional level FHSIS data used to monitor program implementation and budget accountability.
- **Challenge:** Reliance on manual reporting.
- **Challenge:** Inaccurate and delayed data reporting, FHSIS annual reports are often released by the second semester of the succeeding year
- **Challenge:** Multiple non-interoperable systems collecting the logistics data often reporting different data (e.g Stock-on-Hand).
- **Challenge:** Weak data use for decision making (LGU-level utilization of data are limited to perfunctory reporting instead of strategic planning etc.)

Indicators

- 2026 FHSIS will report MMS and IFA separately.
- MMS to be included in the 2028 National Nutrition Survey indicator list

Adaptations & Emergent Innovations

- MMS is included in the iClinics platform, a new electronic medical record system for Rural Health Unit (RHU) and hospital levels; It is not being released in the barangay level due to internet connectivity issues.
- MMS to be included in updates of the iClinicSys, iHOMIS and other local EMR systems
- MMS included in Expanded Maternity Care Package (MCP) of the Philippine Health Insurance Corporation; MCP claims are reported as proxy indicator for MMS use.

Measurement Practices & Considerations

- **Challenge:** Health workers are poorly trained on FHSIS, and do not collect IFA indicators as-intended; unsure of how to add MMS information into FHSIS and often include MMS-related data in the IFA columns.
- **Challenge:** There is discrepancy in FHSIS data quality since some districts have moved to the electronic system while others are still using the paper-based format.



Future Directions

- Improve the supply and demand for MMS scale-up.
- Supply context assessment underway to sustainably procure or manufacture MMS in the country and social-behavior materials being used to raise awareness about MMS among the mothers.
- Plan to completely digitize FHSIS.