

# Nutritional assessment and growth monitoring in IMCI countries

Karimen León Flández

MD Preventive Medicine and Public Health

# Survey

## Objectives

- Describe how nutritional assesment is performed as part of IMCI.
- Describe some characteristics of growth monitoring in countries implementing IMCI.

## Material and Methods

Conducted: February – March 13th 2015

6 regions : AFRO, EMRO, Europe, PAHO, SEAR, WPRO.

Instrument → Questionnaire with 8 questions about:

- Updates of National IMCI chart booklets
- Nutritional assessment in IMCI
- Growth monitoring in IMCI countries

**IMCI CHART BOOKLET NUTRITION ADAPTATION**

- Has the national IMCI chart booklet been updated based on the 2014 generic chart booklet (Trial version)?  
a. Yes ☐ b. No ☐
- In the current version of the national IMCI chart booklet, what anthropometric measurements are used to assess nutritional status?  
a. Weight for age ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
b. Weight for height ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
c. Height for age ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
d. MUAC ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐
- In your current national IMCI chart booklet version, what measurements and/or clinical signs do you use to define acute malnutrition?  
a. Weight for age ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
b. Weight for height ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
c. Height for age ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
d. MUAC ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
e. Visible severe wasting ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
f. Nutritional edema ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
g. Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- Is there a separate growth monitoring program independent of the IMCI?  
a. Yes ☐ b. No ☐
- If yes, how is growth monitoring carried out through?  
a. Routine immunization in child health card ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
b. Child nutritional & growth monitoring clinics ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
c. Community surveys ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
d. Other, specify \_\_\_\_\_
- In which age group is growth monitoring routinely done?  
a. 0-6 months ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
b. 0-12 months ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
c. 0-24 months ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
d. 0-60 months ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐
- What anthropometric measures are used for growth monitoring?  
a. Weight for age ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
b. Weight for height ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐  
c. Height for age ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐
- What is the approximate percentage coverage of routine growth monitoring (individual measurement) among children at 2 months of age?

# Results

- Global response: 45 from 101 countries (44,6 % )
  - AFRO : 18 (40%)
  - Americas : 6 (13,3%)
  - EMRO: 6 (13,3%)
  - Europe : 4 (8,9%)
  - SEAR : 1 (2,2%)
  - WPRO : 10 (22,2%)

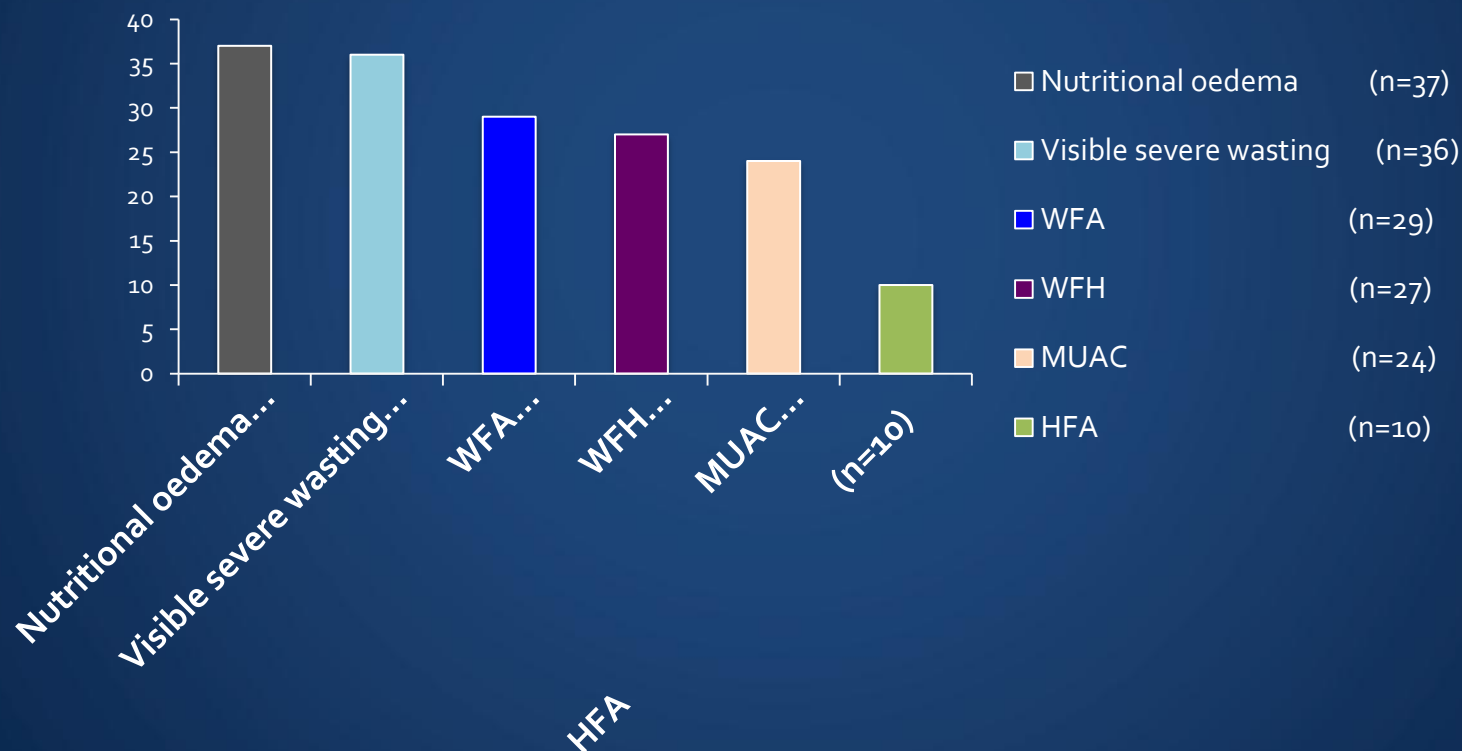
**Q1. Has the National IMCI chart booklet been updated based on the 2014 generic chart booklet (Trial version)?**

- Yes, in 19 countries

Q2. In the current version of the national IMCI chart booklet what anthropometric measurements are used to assess nutritional status ?

Measurements	n
WFA + WFH + MUAC	8
WFA + MUAC	7
WFA + WFH + HFA + MUAC	6
WFA	5
WFH + MUAC	5
WFA + WFH + HFA	5
WFA + WFH	2
WFA + HFA + MUAC	2
WFA + HFA	2
WFH + HFA + MUAC	1
WFH	1
Total	44

**Q3. In your current national IMCI chart booklet version, what measurements or/and clinical signs do you use to identify acute malnutrition?**



**Q4. Is there a separate growth monitoring program independent of the IMCI?**

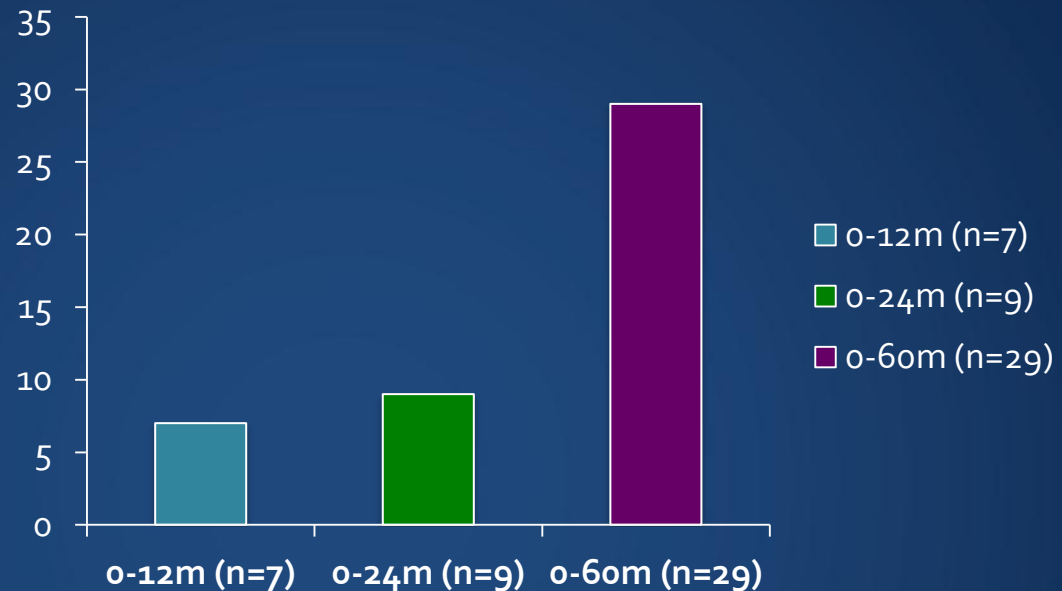
- Yes, in 39 countries.

**Q5. If yes, when is growth monitoring performed?**

<b>Performance of GM</b>	<b>n</b>
Routine immunization on child health card	32
Child nutritional and GM clinics	25
Community Surveys	18
Others*	12

Others\* include Child Health and vaccination week, by village health workers at community level, by health workers at community activities, at nurseries, kindergartens, baby homes and polyclinics by pediatricians, at National Nutrition Days

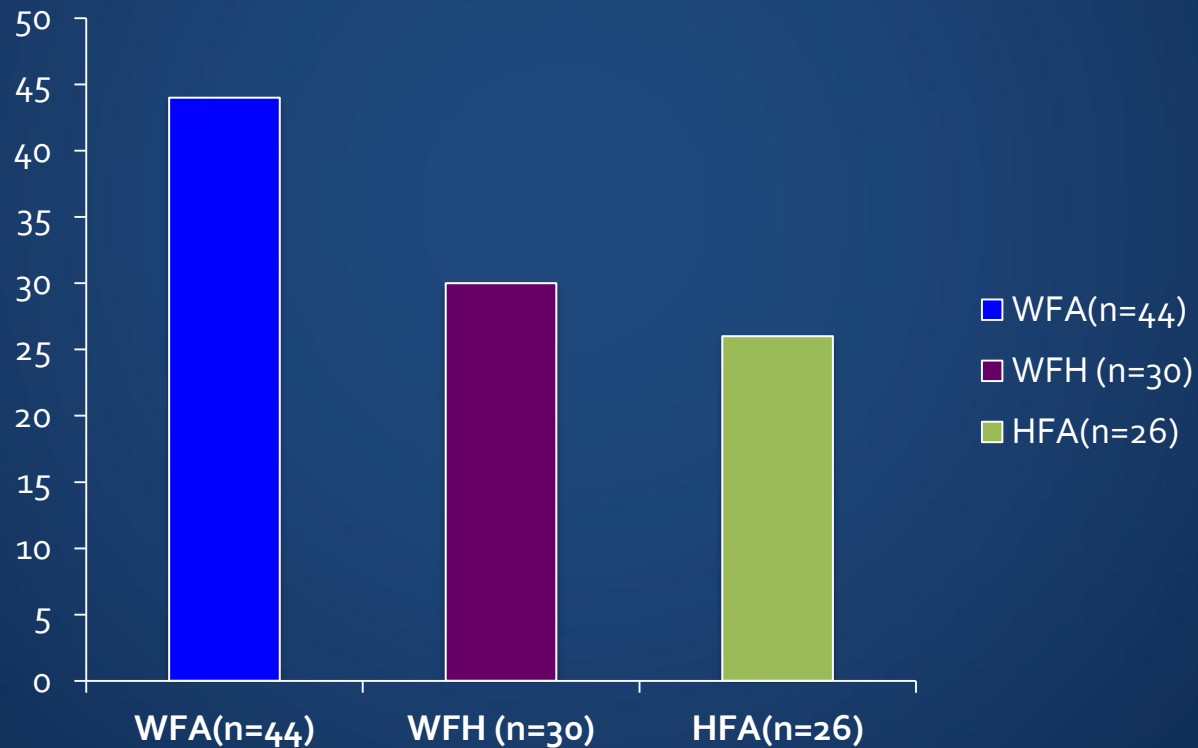
## Q6. In which age group is growth monitoring routinely done?



Frequency	n	Countries
Monthly	6	Botswana, Eritrea, Lesotho, Ethiopia, Malawi, Pakistan
Monthly for the first year	4	Kazhakastan, Guinea, DPR Korea, Ghana
Every 2 months after 1 year old	1	Guinea
Every 6 months after 1-2 years old	2	Kazhakastan, Ghana
At time of immunization	2	Salomon Islands, Syria



## Q7. What anthropometric measures are used for growth monitoring ?



## Q8. Approximate % coverage of routine growth monitoring among children at 12 months of age?

Coverage of routine GM	n	Countries
No data	12	Cambodia, Bangladesh, Dominic Republic, Iraq, Lesotho, Namibia, Venezuela, Salomon Islands, South Sudan, Syria, Swaziland, Zambia
< 50%	4	Afghanistan, Madagascar, Papua New Guinea
50 - 80%	7	Bolivia, China, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Honduras, Kyrgyzstan, Philippines
> 80%	12	Albania, Burundi, DPR Korea, Gambia, Ghana, Guyana, Jordan, Kazhakastan, Kiribati, Oman, Vietnam, Tajikistan

# Conclusions

1. In 19 countries the national IMCI Chart booklet has been updated based on the 2014 version.
2. The combination of measurements to assess nutritional status most frequently used was WFA + WFH + MUAC.
3. Clinical signs were used more frequently than anthropometric measurements to define acute malnutrition (visible severe wasting is still being used in 39 countries).
4. 39 countries have a separate GM program and is carried out mostly together in routine immunizations.

# Conclusions

5. GM is most commonly performed in 0-60 months children.
6. The anthropometric measurement used most frequently for GM was WFA, then WFH and HFA.
7. Data on Coverage of GM among children (until 12 months of age) was available in 23 countries. No data for the rest. High coverage ( 80 – 100% ) in 12 countries.