

## Introduction

- In countries like Malawi, there are newborn and child health challenges, particularly, in provision of care. Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPGs) have the potential to improve quality of care. However, CPG haven't been consistently adopted or adapted or updated in Malawi.

## Study objective

- To identify the available national clinical CPGs for newborn and child-health topics developed between 2017 and 2022, describe their scope and appraise the quality using the AGREE II tool.

## Methods

### Study design

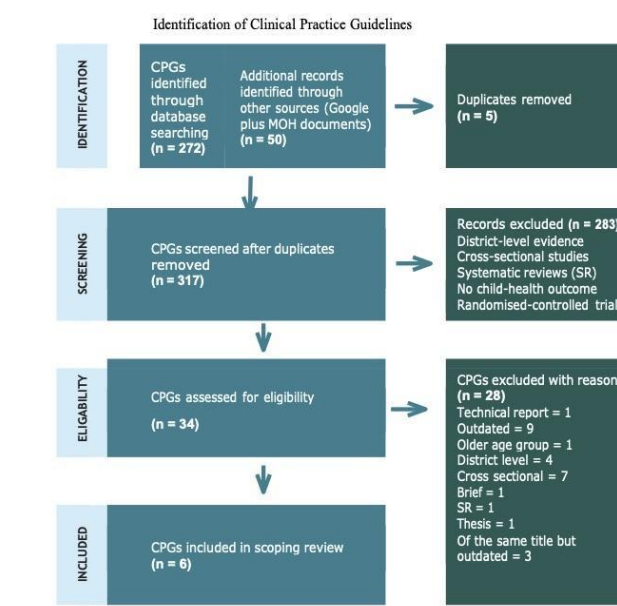
- A scoping review of Clinical Practice Guidelines in Newborn and Child-health in Malawi.

### Methods

- We searched Google and Google scholar for CPGs addressing newborn and child health published in Malawi between 2017-2022. Two authors independently extracted data using a pre-developed and piloted excelsheet.
- AGREE II tool was used to appraise the quality of reporting of the CPGs.

## Results

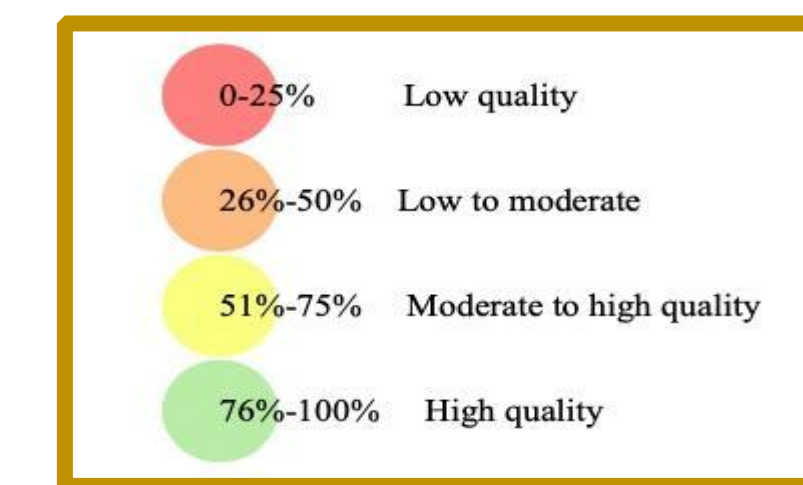
### Figure 1. PRISMA FLOW DIAGRAM



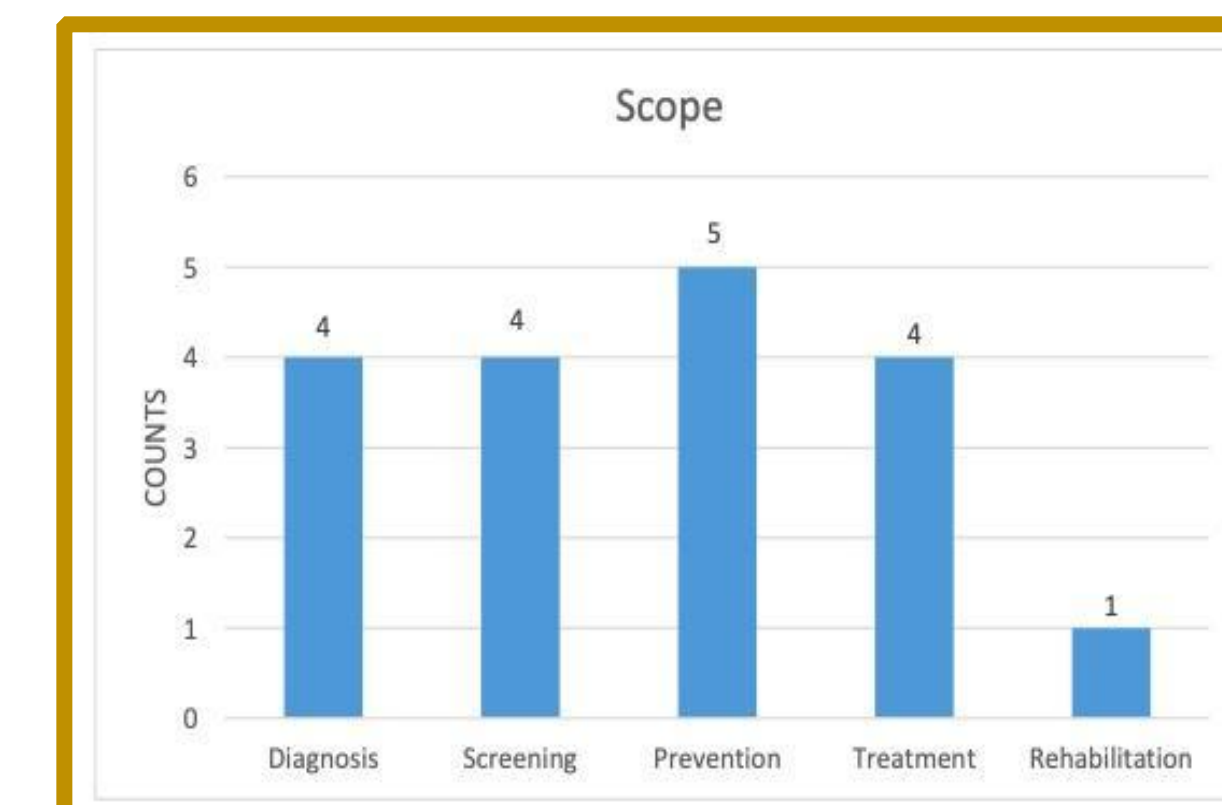
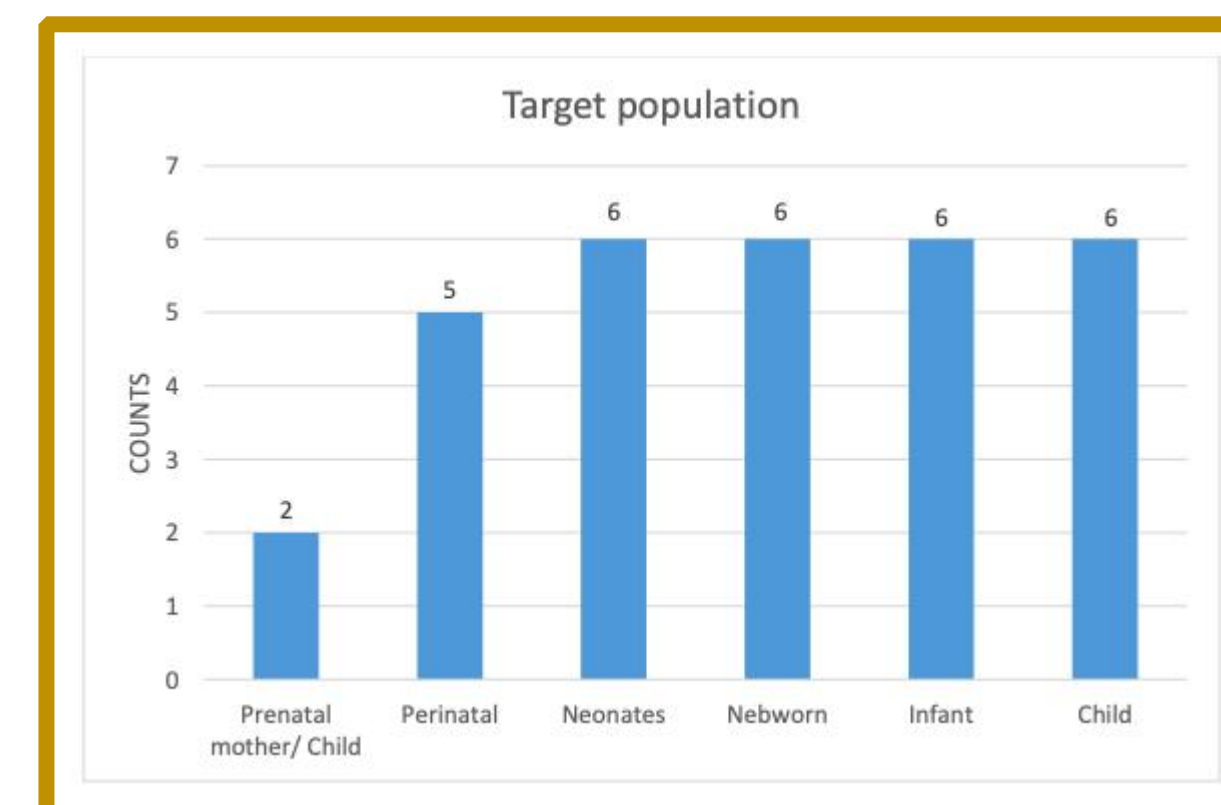
322 records were identified. After removing duplicates, 317 titles and abstracts were screened, then 34 full text of potential eligible CPGs. 28 records were excluded, thus 6 CPGs were included for review.

### Table 1 & Figure 2. Agree II scores and interpretations

AGREE II Domain	Scope and purpose	Stakeholder involvement	Clarity of objectives	Clarity of questions	Applicability	Evidence independence	Overall
Median	54.3	58.3	52	48	58.3	5	52.07
Range	26-76	3-76	3-51	10-55	10-55	0-10	42-67
Score 0-25%	26	27	11	22	26	0	27
Score 26%-50%	44	44	22	22	44	0	44
Score 51%-75%	72	72	51	51	72	0	72
Score 76%-100%	76	76	76	76	76	0	76



### Figure 3 & 4. Target population and scope of CPG



- Target populations included: perinatal (3), prenata (2), neonates, newborn, infants and young children (6) (Figure 3).
- The scope covered by the CPGs included screening (4), diagnosis (4), prevention (5), treatment (4), and rehabilitation (1) (Figure 4).

## Conclusion

- This review described and evaluated national CPGs for child and newborn health in Malawi over the past 5 years.
- The Malawi Ministry of Health (MoH) was the main CPG developer.
- A collaborative effort including the MoH, NGOs, professional associations, and researchers in developing and adapting newborn and child-health CPGs could yield large benefits in improving the quality of care of children in Malawi.

## Future research direction

- Further research to inform relevant newborn and child health prioritisation of health topics is necessary, while addressing reporting standards such as systematic approaches to assess evidence and manage transparent disclosure of funding.

## References

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