



# THE PHYSICIAN

JUNE 2015

AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF PHILIPPINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

VOLUME XXV NO. 1

## CALIMAG INDUCTED ANEW



Maria Minerva P. Calimag, M.D. was inducted as 2015-2016 Philippine Medical Association President by Hon. Commissioner Florentino C. Doble, MD, PRC Chairman, during the closing ceremonies of the 108<sup>th</sup> PMA Annual Convention at the Marriott Grand Ballroom in Pasay City. Dr. Calimag was reelected PMA President during the March 15, 2015 National Elections.

In her speech, Dr. Calimag said that the doctors have been under constant external threats but a united front and a solid foundation would be their shield against all of these threats. She also stated that the physicians are revered and looked up to by society because eminence, empathy, erudition and expertise have been the values attributed to them. The same values could undermine the very core of the Philippine Medical Association's existence leading to territorialism, turfism, tribalism and turncoatism. She thus called for all Filipino physicians, especially those in leadership positions, to make sure that they love their profession because it has imbued them with God-given talents to heal physically and

emotionally; that they all love their fellow physicians because that was what they have sworn to do when they took the Oath of Hippocrates; that they should love the Philippine Medical Association because it was built upon the age-old ideals of its founders as an association of all physicians that would look after each other's welfare. She urged the members to thwart any attempt by any sector to disembowel the profession, to divide the physicians, and disintegrate the PMA in exchange for personal gains or political ambitions.

Dr. Calimag asked all physician-leaders present during the closing ceremonies to stand up, recite and live up to heart the Declaration of Commitment to the Ethos of the Philippine Medical Association which was launched during the Opening Ceremonies of the 108th PMA Annual Convention.

The induction was witnessed by her family.



### *In this issue:*

<i>From the President's Desk</i>	p2-3
<i>Editorial</i>	p4
<i>As I See It</i>	p5
<i>Dates to Remember</i>	p6
<i>The Vice President's Corner</i>	p7
<i>Money Matters: The National Treasurer's Report</i>	p8-9
<i>Know your Governor</i>	p12-19
<i>Feature</i>	p20-21
<i>The MCP-KLP</i>	p22
<i>MERS-CoV</i>	p23
<i>CME Commission</i>	p24
<i>Specialty &amp; Affiliate Societies</i>	p26-27



## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

MARIA MINERVA PATAWARAN-CALIMAG, MD, MSc, PhD, FPBA

### A Time to Lead at the PMA: Journeying with Commitment, Confidence, Conviction and Character

We live in interesting times!

"Ang lahat ay may gintong nasa at ang kapisanan ay tunay ang dam-damin". Mga katagang halaw sa ating Awit ng PMA na dapat nating isapuso. Because at the end of the day, leadership and our involvement in our respective medical societies is not about the positions we hold but about the relationships we build.

Thirty years ago, as a young medical graduate, I see how policies and laws were proposed, some passed, that would make life significantly harder for us and for our patients. I realized that I needed to do something about such legislation to protect our patients, and that the most effective way was to become involved in my medical society, the Manila Medical Society and use the clout of organized medicine to protect my patients.

Now standing here before you as the 93<sup>rd</sup> PMA President and the 7<sup>th</sup> female to lead this prestigious association of physicians I recognized the power of organized medicine. I see how an issue I faced in my practice could be taken to a higher level. And if resolved at that higher level, the benefits would reach not only my own patients, but also every patient in the country.

As I travelled and visited 17 Regions and 102 out of 119 Component

Societies and countless Specialty, Subspecialty and Affiliate Societies in the past 466 days, I listen to our colleagues' stories and come to understand and appreciate the diversity of ideas and approaches to health care challenges found in different regions - and realize that each has its merits.

As I continue the heady experience of traveling around the country this year representing the Philippine Medical Association, I am reminded again and again of the responsibility we have as physicians to provide the best care possible to our patients. In addition I believe we have a dual responsibility to provide the leadership to ensure that the environment in which care is given, the structure of the health care system, is one that promotes good quality care. Now I also recognize the challenges and fears we physicians have of losing our autonomy - we fear that "...crucial health care decisions will be dictated by government, or administrators, or health insurance companies."

Moreover, they have taken notice in the Halls of Senate and Congress as I represent the PMA in the Committee of Health on issues of drug safety profile and fake drugs, in the Committee on Budget and Finance on issues of taxation, in the Committee on Economic Reforms on issues related to the Asian Harmonization; in the Halls of the Department of Health Committee as Resource Person in the Formulary Executive Committee and the FDA Pharmacovigilance Committee; in the Board Rooms of the Dangerous Drugs Board on issues of drug regulations and the revision of Board Regulation No. 3, which is the IRR of the Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002; the

Board Rooms of PHILHEALTH on issues of fees reimbursement; in the PRC and CHED on issues related to Outcomes-based Education, the revised framework for the Continuing Professional Education and the ASEAN Qualifications Reference Framework and in the Conventions and Congresses of the Philippine Council for Health Research and Development and the different local, national and international Specialty Societies; in the Medical Staff Meetings and corridors of hospitals nationwide; and in the corridors and auditoria of Universities and Medical Colleges, and speaking my mind in the numerous press conferences, while calling for transparency and accountability in all our transactions.

The ground is shifting beneath our feet and change is upon us. But even so, our foundation at the PMA is solid, built upon the age-old ideals of our predecessors. Because this solid foundation, our platform at the PMA has survived some 111 years. This platform yielded the first code of medical ethics and the first standards for Philippine medical education. So yes, right now we are living through historic change. And some may lament that fact. But I say, we are lucky. Because the great thing about living through history, is we don't have to just witness it. We can shape it.

Together we can combat the epidemic of chronic conditions plaguing the nation. Together we can foster innovation in medical education, so future physicians are better prepared for the realities of 21<sup>st</sup> century health care.

Together we can improve health care technology. Together we can achieve meaningful legislative and

medical liability reforms. By standing together, united in vision and commitment, Filipino physicians can shape the health care system this country needs. To put it simply, I realized that the collective voice – the voice of the Filipino physicians – had the power to make a difference.” ASAM-ASAM, ISIP-ISIP, USAP-USAP, SAMA-SAMA. I therefore call for unity and solidarity to reform the PMA and make it relevant to each and every Filipino Physician. “Magkapit-bisig para sa Pagbabago... para sa PMA at sa Bayan”. In return, the PMA tagline as an organization shall be: **“PMA: Empowering the Filipino Physician for Nation Building.”**

We are **ONE PMA!** We are an 80,000-strong member organization of Filipino physicians! We are the biggest lobby group that can speak for and on behalf of all physicians. All Component, Specialty, Subspecialty and Affiliate Societies are under constant external threats but a united front and a solid foundation is our shield against all of these threats. All eyes are on us and I call upon all physicians for us to examine our conscience and ask ourselves about what we have done to uplift the lot of our fellow physicians...let us maintain the respect of all our peers...let us reflect on what we are doing, ...to ourselves, to our fellow physicians and to the Philippine Medical Association. . The medical profession is a magnet for controversy...why? Because the physicians that comprise it are revered and looked up to by society...eminence, empathy, erudition and expertise are values that are attributed to all physicians. The same values however can undermine the very core of our existence as an organization at the Philippine Medical Association... leading to territorialism, turfism, tribalism and turncoatism. Let this be a wake-up call for all of us Filipino physicians... especially those among us in leadership positions.

Our common goal should be to

make sure: that we **love our profession** because it has imbued us with God-given talents to heal physically and emotionally; that we all **love our fellow physicians** because that is what we have sworn to do when we took the Oath of Hippocrates; that we should **love the Philippine Medical Association** because it is the oldest, at 111 years old, medical organization of Filipino physicians built upon the age-old ideals of our predecessors. The Philippine Medical Association as envisioned by our forefathers is an association of all physicians that would look after each other's welfare. Our duties and responsibilities at the PMA should be to make sure that all physicians, regardless of specialization and affiliation are cared for, nurtured and empowered. We should thwart any attempt by any sector to disembowel the profession, to divide the physicians, and disintegrate the PMA in exchange for personal gains or political ambitions. Let us make sure that our votes during PMA elections is a mature, informed and discerned vote that reflects the directions and needs of our times.

Hillary Rodham-Clinton in *Hard Choices* wrote “All of us face hard choices in our lives. Life is about making such choices. Our choices and how we handle them shape the people we become.”

We launched the **Declaration of Commitment to the Ethos of the Philippine Medical Association** during the Opening Ceremonies of the 108th PMA Annual Convention! During my Valedictory-Inaugural Speech, I even asked all physician-leaders present to stand up, recite and live up the Commitment to heart. We have to start while they are young...teaching medical students about all possible moral hazards and temptations that they will encounter in clinical practice. We will revise our PMA Code of Ethics to include all nuances in medical practice that involve physician-patient interaction; physician-industry interaction; social media in healthcare;

networking schemes; etc.

Dear colleagues, change can be scary. But we must never forget: change can also be good. Today we stand at a crossroads in the history of health care in this great nation. Behind us lies a century of failed attempts to improve the system. Ahead of us lie two distinct paths.

One is the path of inaction. Of glorifying the past, succumbing to partisan politics that muddle all our issues, and thwarting any attempt to move forward. The other is the path of action. Of collaborating, innovating, and leading the drive toward productive change. Today, we look back, thank and celebrate three groups of people who played an important role in the development of our organization **First** – to the group of early PMA pioneers who believed and acted upon an idea that such an association would be useful to promote and serve the medical profession in our country; **Second** – to the group of leaders and members who expanded the original vision of the organization by offering exciting new activities and events that continue to serve our constituency today; **Third** – to the group of future leaders and members who will continue to nurture and develop our association into a vibrant future. If the relevance and vitality of professional organizations is based on the services and support it provides to its members, as well as its ability to change and transform itself to reflect the changes in ‘our’ world, then we at the PMA, can truly call ourselves leaders and I am honored (and proud) to be among fellow leaders of PMA! We think creatively, work collectively, and lead passionately! We all look forward to many more years of learning, sharing, mentorship and forming lasting friendships. Mahatma Gandhi said...If we want to find ourselves...we have to lose ourselves in the service of others....We celebrate Our Legacy: A Distinguished Past... A Vibrant Future!





## EDITORIAL

MARIANNE L. ORDOÑEZ-DOBLES, MD  
Editor-in-Chief



**ONE PMA, ONE HEALTH, ONE NATION**

**PMA: Empowering the Filipino Physician for Nation Building**

### *On the Wings of Unity I*

Every Fall, without fail each year, hundreds of thousands of birds of every species and size fly South for the Winter. Among them, tens of thousands of geese travel thousands of miles from the farthest tips of North America to Mexico and even farther South.

They fly South with a common purpose and destination-to ensure survival during the cold winter nights when food is scarce. They fly, strictly following a flight path, deviating when needed but always forward. They fly in unison, flapping their wings together, following a V-Formation. They fly with great determination and speed, year in, year out.

This year, the Philippine Medical Association (PMA) is flapping its wings as it soars high and mighty with a purpose of unity and further growth.

In the past year, PMA has healed itself from controversies surrounding the organization and our PMA President Dr. Minerva Calimag has reached out to different sectors of all physicians nationwide. This healing process continues throughout our flight path to unity and growth on the last year of her term.

As the geese fly South, their sheer numbers crowd the sky, and display their true strength, which is a sight to see. With only half of the PMA's 80

thousand strong organization active, it already is a force to reckon with. It will also be a sight to see as all doctors come together and unite under the wings of the PMA. For this reason, the PMA's flight path has been drawn via various programs.

- The Balik PMA program was conceptualized during the last Board of governors of 2014-15. Moreover, the ONE PMA Movement was launched during the 108<sup>th</sup> PMA Annual Convention last May 2015 by Dr. Minerva Calimag.

- Amidst all controversies of Phil-health fraud, tax evasion, and misrepresentations, the PMA will review and strengthen our present Code of Ethics, to amend our Constitution and By-laws, to uplift the lot of our fellow physicians, and to maintain respect for all physicians.

- The Owl@PMA was launched last May 2015, which is an online program for CPD/CME for all our members. This will be endorsed by the PRC. This will enable all our members to gain the required CME units.

The sheer number and the perfect V-formation of the geese as they fly illustrates the importance of unity

especially amongst people. According to the various articles, as each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately behind it. By flying in a "V" formation, the flock together gains over 70% more flying range than if each bird flew on its own.

As our PMA president exhorts us all to love our profession, our peers, and the PMA, these programs aim to bring us all together, in V-Formation towards a common purpose.

With the success of these programs, imagine what can happen- as we increase our numbers, together, we can fly higher, faster, and further.

Just like the geese, if we all work together- if we all unite, we can achieve the goals and changes that we have set out for. We can do more than we would, had we worked alone.

Henry Ford once said, "Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress".

Without doubt, when we work closely together, anything is possible. Together, we can move mountains. Together, we move forward and go the distance. Together, we will do this with great determination and speed.

✻•✻•✻•✻

### EDITORIAL BOARD

#### Editor-in-Chief

Marianne L. Ordoñez-Dobles, M.D.

#### Assistant Editor-in-Chief

Albert C. Guevarra, M.D.

#### The Physician

Arnel A. Asifio, M.D.

Arthur T. Catli, M.D.

Albert C. Guevarra, M.D.

Ma. Corazon S. Maglaya, M.D.

Mechael Angelo G. Marasigan, M.D.

Bayani P. Tecson, M.D.

#### PMA Journal

Arnel A. Asifio, M.D.

Maria Christina H. Ventura, M.D.

#### Contributing Editors

Sol Veronica E. Bagaipo, M.D.

Erlinda G. De Los Reyes, M.D.

Eliza D. Laurente, M.D.

#### PMA Governors

Component Society Presidents

Specialty Division Presidents

Specialty Society Presidents

Affiliate Society Presidents

### The Physician

*The Physician* is an internal publication of the Philippine Medical Association instituted by the PMA Board of Governors for the dissemination of information to PMA Members. Its office is at the PMA Secretariat, North Avenue, Quezon City 1105; contact numbers: 9296366; 9262447, 09189234732, 09178221357; fax number: 9296951;

#### Email:

info@philippinemedicalassociation.org,

philmedas@yahoo.com

website: [www.philippinemedicalassociation.org](http://www.philippinemedicalassociation.org)

# As I See It...

By: *Marianne L. Ordonez-Dobles, MD*  
*PMA Secretary General*

During the 108<sup>th</sup> PMA Annual Convention last May 2015, the PMA President Dr. Maria Minerva P. Calimag launched the "ONE PMA MOVEMENT" wherein she emphasizes the fact that in "Unity there is Strength". We are the biggest medical organization nationwide and if we project a united front as well as a solid one, we can surmount any external threat that aims to undermine the PMA.

\*\*\*

The first PMA Board of Governors meeting was held on June 12, 2015 at the Hotel Sarrosa International in Cebu. This was followed by the National Orientation and Leadership Seminar for all 119 Component Societies, Specialty Divisions, Specialty Societies, and Affiliate Societies. The aim of making the leadership seminar simultaneous is to disseminate information uniformly and various concerns may be addressed in a nationwide manner. The event was well attended.

\*\*\*

The PMA was a finalist for the Most Outstanding Accredited Professional Organization of the PRC in their Awards Night at the Manila Hotel last June 18, 2015. Dr. Rosario Capedeng was awarded the 4th Nubla Award for Excellence. The first Nubla Awardee is our incumbent PMA President, Dr. Minerva P. Calimag. She bested all the other professionals in 2012.

\*\*\*

The updating of the PMA database is a continuing process. The membership listing adopted in 2014 will be the basis for the update. A CD with the present list of each component society together with the list of members with arrears have been given out to all component medical societies during the leadership seminar in Cebu. For those who were not

able to attend, these CD's were mailed by courier. The list in the CD should be reconciled with the component society's listing and any discrepancy should be transmitted to the PMA membership staff on or before August 31, 2015. Any deaths of your members should also be reported with a photocopy of the death certificate or a notarized written notice by the next of kin before they can be delisted from the PMA roster.

\*\*\*

We are again reminding everyone that annual dues for the current year **SHOULD HAVE BEEN RECEIVED BY THE PMA ON/OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**, in order for the member to be included in the voters' list, as stated in our election code. All component societies who have received payments should have deposited the paid dues through our depository banks by September 30, 2015, or paid directly to the PMA.

\*\*\*

PMA Power Card Holders will be able to avail of discounted Unilab products through Med Express. Discounts with other business establishments are still readily available. This list will be on all smart phones, androids, tablets and iPads through the use of a mobkard application which can be downloaded.

\*\*\*

All PMA employees had their first team building at the PMA Auditorium last June 27, 2015 conducted by PMA Executive Director, Ms. Bebbet Recinto. Ms. Recinto is a Bachelor of Psychology graduate as well as a Human resource expert. This is in line with the current thrust of the Execom to professionalize the PMA workforce. Every first Tuesday of the month they will have their regular assessment meetings. And the criteria has been set for the employee of the month. And eventually, an employee of the year. On this scope, the PMA is moving forward with a CPA accountant and a CPA internal auditor in place. The landscape of the PMA secretariat has been changing with the view in mind of enhancing their performance, improving

their self esteem, improving their work relationship with each other and making them realize that working for the betterment of the PMA would make this organization succeed in all aspects and this would eventually lead to the upliftment of their status in life.

\*\*\*

We encourage all inactive members to avail of the Balik PMA program which has been extended by the present board to December 31, 2015. A 50% discount will be granted to all members who have arrears from 2013 and earlier. However, the annual dues for 2014-15 and 2015-16 should be paid in full. A 10% per cent rebate shall be given to all component societies whose members have availed of the program.

\*\*\*

The PMA Committee on Membership is enjoining all component medical societies to have their own website. Plans are underway to link all these websites to the PMA website. The PMA programmer has also been instructed to make our website mobile friendly. This will enable all members to access our website through their smartphones or androids.

\*\*\*

The Committee on the Constitution and Bylaws met last July 10, 2015 at the PMA Board room. The chair is Dr. Bayani Tecson and the meeting finalized the needed amendments after discussions by all concerned. The PMA will be transmitting the final form for comments from all sectors, after which we shall move to obtain the required 2/3 votes of the general membership.

\*\*\*

The PMA Commission on Ethics was convened by the Chair, Dr. Santiago del Rosario. Dr. Minerva P. Calimag, PMA President emphasized the need to review the present Code of Ethics of the PMA to make it attuned to the present time.

\*\*\*

***As I See It... from page 5***

Preparations are underway for the celebration of the 112th PMA Foundation Day on September 15, 2015 under the Chairmanship of Dr. Arnel Asino. Dr. Carlito Pajarillo is the Chair of the Medicine week which will fall on September 20 - 26, 2015.



We call on all doctors to heed the call of the PMA to UNITE. Only the PMA can encompass all physicians nationwide. It is 112 years old, come September 15, 2015. As Dr. Minerva Calimag has said, "Only the PMA can harness the Power of Organized Medicine".



A meeting was held at the PHIC presided by the DOH Secretary, the Honorable Dr. Janet Garin and Assistant Secretary Dr. Dominga Padilla last August 27, 2015. Presidents and representatives from all the Specialty Divisions and Specialty societies, Dr. Minerva Calimag from the PMA and Dr. Ruben Flores from the Philippine Hospital Association were in attendance. A board resolution was passed by the PHIC board to require again the Certificate of Good Standing from the Philippine Medical Association, the specialty divisions or societies and from the Philippine Hospital association from their members. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the implementing rules and regulation for a Memorandum of Agreement between the PMA, PHA and Specialties. A Certificate of Good Standing from the PMA requires the payment of Annual dues for the PMA and the local component society, as well as completion of the required CME units. This certificate shall be issued by the local component society of the PMA where the physician is a member.



## IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

**112<sup>th</sup> PMA Foundation Day celebration**  
September 15, 2015

**58<sup>th</sup> Medicine Week Celebration**  
September 20-26, 2015

**109<sup>th</sup> PMA Annual Convention**  
May 18-20, 2016

## PMA National Election and Local Component Elections

March 13, 2016

**Our Code of Ethics states:**

**“Colleagues, legitimate children who are minors, or even those who are not minors but mentally incapacitated and dependent upon our colleague for support, should be given the courtesy. However, this shall not apply to plastic or cosmetic procedures unless the cosmetic service is for Reconstructive” procedure for conditions resulting from diseases or accidents. In case of package deals, professional fees included in said package shall be waived.”**

## APMA'S SEARCH FOR 2015 TOPICS AWARDS

Believing that “success comes to those who prepare well and put in effort”, the Auxiliary to the Philippine Medical Association, Inc. (APMA) would like to invite nomination of members of good standing of the Philippine Medical Association (PMA) to participate in the search for **THE 32<sup>nd</sup> OUTSTANDING PHYSICIANS IN COMMUNITY SERVICE** more commonly known as **TOPICS Awards**. Guided by the pursuit of excellence in community service, TOPICS awards are intended to give recognition to outstanding physicians who perform medical services, over and above their professional duties, to showcase the commendable Filipino traits of compassion, concern and sense of responsibility and to draw up exemplars of models in community service. The honor will be awarded during the annual celebration of the National Physicians Day on September 27, 2015 which is the feast day of Sts. Cosme and Damian, the patron saints of physicians. Each awardee shall receive a TOPICS Award trophy made by national artist Napoleon Abueva accompanied by a citation. The

board of judges is composed of at least three distinguished Filipinos representing the field of medicine, public health, social work education and related fields.

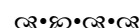
The deadline of submission of nomination is on August 24, 2015, at APMA Boardroom.

**Please mail, email or submit your nomination forms to any of the following:**

*APMA TOPICS AWARDS Committee*  
*Chairperson*  
**MA. LUCIA T. ALVARADO, MD, MBA, FPCR**  
[malucia\\_alvarado@yahoo.com](mailto:malucia_alvarado@yahoo.com) /  
 (0917) 8000037

APMA National President  
**THERESA SALAZAR-BONGOLAN, DMD**  
[tsbongolan.apma@yahoo.com](mailto:tsbongolan.apma@yahoo.com) /  
(0917) 8560043

**PMA Secretariat c/o Cathy or Neneth**  
[info@philippinemedicalassociation.org](mailto:info@philippinemedicalassociation.org) /  
[philmedas@yahoo.com](mailto:philmedas@yahoo.com)  
 (0917) 8221357







## The Vice President's Corner

KAREN Y. CONOL-SALOMON, MD

### PMA Membership: What to do?

Encouraging members to be active or encouraging fellow non-member physicians to join and be active with the PMA has always been a challenge to majority of the component societies. Every now and then, we hear the same complaints from officers of the different societies. Take for instance during the 2015 PMA National Orientation and Leadership Seminar held in Cebu City, almost all the groups mentioned many members have fallen out from the list of their active members.

One of the main reason cited was that PHIC and PRC no longer ask for the Certificate of Members in Good Standing with the PMA. Is the certificate the reason why physicians join the PMA? If that is the case, then no wonder PMA membership is going down. In 2003, only 49.86% are active members (25,631 of 51,406 PMA members). And in 2014, active members were only 32,334 of the 72,283 total PMA members or 44.73%

There was a time when doctors loved to associate themselves with PMA and they looked forward to the PMA Annual Conventions bringing their family with them. My parents were doctors that time and it was like a big family vacation, the highlight of our summer vacation.

It is important to note though that membership has never been a problem to my home society, the Misamis Occidental (Oroquieta City) Medical Society (MOMS). Misamis Occidental Medical Society was formed in 1946. However, some years later,

the doctors residing in the northern half of the province decided to separate from the southern half. It was because during that time, the roads were so bad and it was so hard for the two groups to travel to either side. Thus, in 1960, the Misamis Occidental (Oroquieta City) Medical Society was officially approved by the PMA Board of Governors. In the mid 70s, the group decided to build an office where monthly meetings and RTDs would be held. My parents donated a parcel of land for this purpose. In the early 80s, the construction of the building started with the little money they had. Such was a big challenge that they asked help several times from the national PMA only to be ignored. Thus, they concluded that the only people who could help them were themselves. This formed a very special bond within them, putting all their energy and resources for the building. Years have gone by, construction was so slow and there were even years when the construction was literally stopped. Then came a new generation of highly energetic and idealistic doctors who decided to continue and finish what the founding members started. Because of this goal, both the older and the younger doctors became so united. On March 2010, on the occasion of the society's 50<sup>th</sup> Golden Anniversary, and roughly 30 years since the ground breaking, the PMA MOMS Oroquieta City Building was officially opened by then incoming PMA President, Dr Oscar Tinio, and the Northcentral Mindanao Governor, Dr. Osop MP Abbas.

Is the project the reason why the members are so united and active? It may be a big factor in the formation of this special bond. Feeling so helpless made them strive to work hard together. The senior members make efforts to invite the younger members and make them feel welcome and at home with the group. Even when the construction was already done, our camaraderie continues. We treat each

construction was already done, our camaraderie continues. We treat each one as family. We are like a fraternity group. In addition, another factor why we are so close and solid is because we involve our family, spouses and children in almost all our activities. Our spouses, although they are not yet registered as APMA yet, are also very close. They have their own group, and the children also have theirs.

Who cares about the certificate? Whether the certificate is required or not, our society remains as one and solid. We love being with each other. We do not bond during RTDs only. We go beyond that. Such that we call for "tea parties" as often we can so that we can just be together. The induction of the new officers 2015 was probably the most unique among all the societies throughout the country. With the induction as the highlight, we had the program "Sophistique" which showcased the talent and uniqueness of each member as well as being ONE with one another. For indeed MOMS Oroquieta City is ONE.

To recap, the MOMS Oroquieta City has 87.5% active membership (of those who are currently residing and practicing in the area totaling 72, 63 are active, 9 inactive; excluded in the numbers are those who have migrated, transferred without proper documentation, and on residency training) because of the following: (1) involvement in the fulfillment of a project, (2) treatment of each other as family, (3) involvement of family members, and (4) having fun wholesome family activities as a group.

It is my dream that all other component societies will also find ways to be more meaningful to the lives of its members so other non-member doctors will be encouraged to join as well.

Hopefully, all component societies will then be ONE in solidarity. ONE PMA.



## Money Matters: The National Treasurer's Report

OSCAR T. CABAUG, MD

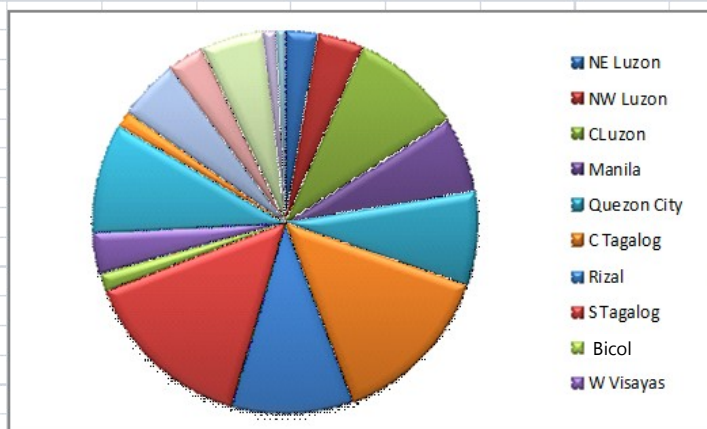
### BALIK PMA PROGRAM

In response to the clamor of the PMA component societies for a "Balik PMA *pa more*", the Board of Governors in the meeting held at the PMA Boardroom last July 12, 2015 has approved the **EXTENSION of the Balik PMA Program until December 31, 2015.**

The Balik PMA Program which was implemented last October 1, 2014 grants a 50% discount to all members who will settle their arrears on membership dues with the PMA covering the period 2013 and earlier. Moreover, with the payment of the arrears on membership dues on or before September 30, 2015, the right to vote and be voted upon will be reinstated.

Since the program started way back in October 2014, the generated revenue reached a total of Php 3,101,250.00 from the 1,658 balik PMA members who availed of the program as of the end of July 2015. For the months of June and July 2015, Western Visayas registered the highest revenue from a total of 14 Balik PMA members who availed of the program.

NE Luzon	45
NW Luzon	65
CLuzon	155
Manila	107
Quezon City	130
C Tagalog	232
Rizal	171
S Tagalog	243
Bicol	25
W Visayas	58
C Visayas	151
E Visayas	22
W Mindanao	85
SE Mindanao	51
NE Mindanao	89
NC Mindanao	18
Caraga	11
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1658</b>



### MUTUAL AID BENEFIT

MONTH	DEATH		DISABILITY	
	NO.	AMOUNT	NO.	AMOUNT
JUNE	9	450,000.00	13	293,750.00
JULY	12	562,500.00	8	200,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1,012,500.00</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>493,750.00</b>

One of the benefits available to a GOOD standing PMA member is the entitlement to the Mutual Aid Benefits that includes Death (P 50,000), Disability (P 25,000.00) and Legal aid (P 40,000.00). In the past 2 months, the PMA has paid a total of

P 1,506,250.00 to 42 active members. Most of the claims approved by the Committee on Mutual Aid have been cases of cancer, chronic diseases and pneumonia, conditions common in the elderly.

For the FY 2014-2015, about 9.67 M was spent on Mutual Aid grants. This is reflective of a 51% increase compared to the previous year where 6.42 M was spent. With the trend of an increasing amount spent on Mutual Aid grants, the PMA would be well to initiate programs meant to generate additional sources of revenues to be able to sustain such increased spending.

•••••



## INDIGENCY CENTER

Effective August 16, 2015, the Indigency Center, as approved by the Board of Governors has implemented new rates to its laboratory fees to defray the increase in the cost of reagents and materials being used as well as to fund the rehabilitation of some of its equipment and facilities. The following are the adjusted laboratory fees.

The initial consultation fee was likewise increased from P 50.00 to P 70.00 and the follow-up consultation fee from P 30.00 to P 50.00.

Currently, an average of 30 patients a day are accommodated in the center for medical consultations and about 10 patients a day undergo physical therapy. A significant increase in the number of patients is however anticipated in the near future with the addition of one more physician to handle patient consultations and the eventual assignment of a permanent physical therapist once the construction works in the renovation of the center is completed.

	OLD PRICE	NEW PRICE
A. CONSULTATION		
INITIAL	50.00	<b>70.00</b>
FOLLOW-UP	30.00	<b>50.00</b>
B. LABORATORY		
CBC	70.00	<b>110.00</b>
RH TYPING	70.00	<b>80.00</b>
BLEEDING TIME	60.00	<b>80.00</b>
CLOTTING TIME	60.00	<b>80.00</b>
HEPA- B TEST	160.00	<b>180.00</b>
PREGNANCY TEST	100.00	<b>120.00</b>
FBS	90.00	<b>100.00</b>

The Indigency Center is a program initiative of the PMA as it endeavors to achieve its mission to extend medical services to the less fortunate in an attempt to contribute to excellent healthcare delivery to the community at large.

Cheers to the PMA's vision, "In a dedicated selfless and humane service of the Medical Profession for a healthy Philippines and for the Glory of God."

✪•✪•✪•✪

## Dates of the PMA/UNILAB Regional Assemblies

### Fiscal Year 2015-2016

DATE	REGION	DATE	REGION
October 4, 2015	Western Mindanao at	February 7, 2016	Southern Tagalog at Tagaytay City
October 11, 2015	Eastern Visayas at Ormoc City	February 21, 2016	Northeastern Luzon at Ifugao
November 8, 2015	Northwestern Luzon at La Union	February 28, 2016	Western Visayas at Aklan
November 15, 2015	Central Visayas at Cebu City	March 6, 2016	Southeastern Mindanao at General Santos City
January 17, 2016	Northcentral Mindanao at Marawi City	April 3, 2016	CARAGA at Butuan City
January 24, 2016	NCR (Manila, Quezon City, Rizal, Central Tagalog) at UNILAB Bayanihan Center	April 10, 2016	Northern Mindanao at Bukidnon
January 31, 2016	Central Luzon at Bulacan	April 17, 2016	Bicol at Legazpi City





## PHILIPPINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION OFFICERS AND GOVERNORS 2015-2016

First Row (Seated Left to right) : Maria Lourdes G. Monteverde, M.D. – Governor, South Eastern Mindanao; Albert C. Guevarra, M.D. – Assistant Secretary General; Marianne Ordóñez-Dobles, M.D. – Secretary General; Maria Minerva P. Calimag, M.D. – President; Karen Conol-Salomon, M.D. – Vice-President; Oscar T. Cabahug, M.D. – National Treasurer; Rosario C. Dalida, M.D. – Governor, Quezon City;

Second Row (Left to Right): Osop MP, Abbas, M.D. – Governor, North Central Mindanao; Florencia T. Miel, M.D. – Governor, Central Visayas; Jeisela B. Gaerlan, M.D. – Governor, North Western Luzon; Annette M. Macayaon, M.D. – Governor, Southern Tagalog; Felma R. dela Cruz, M.D. – Governor, Western Visayas; Eliza D. Laurente, M.D. – Governor, Eastern Visayas; Judith N. Allaga, M.D. – Governor, North Eastern Luzon; Lakandula A. Elayda, M.D. – Governor, Manila;

Third Row (Left to Right): Ramon C. Echano, M.D. – Governor, Bicol; Ruben O. Go, M.D. – Governors Northern Mindanao; Edgar A. Legaspi, M.D. – Governor, Western Mindanao; Vincent C. Santos, M.D. – Governor, Central Tagalog; Bernardo T. Mora, M.D. – Governor, Caraga; Jose C. Rabe, M.D. – Governor, Rizal; Paul Ruel C. Camaña – Governor, Central Luzon.







## 2015 - 2016 PMA Officers and Board of Governors



**Maria Minerva P. Calimag, M.D.**  
President



**Karen Y. Conol-Salomon M.D.**  
Vice President



**Oscar T. Cabahug, M.D.**  
National Treasurer



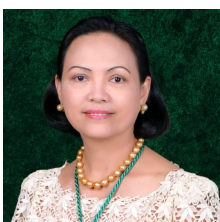
**Marianne L. Ordoñez-Dobles, M.D.**  
Secretary General



**Albert C. Guevarra, M.D.**  
Asst. Secretary General



**Judith N. Allaga, M.D.**  
Governor, Northeastern Luzon



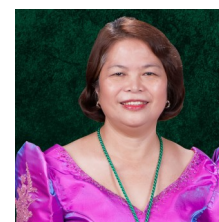
**Jeisela B. Gaerlan, M.D.**  
Governor, Northwestern Luzon



**Paul Ruel C. Camiña, M.D.**  
Governor, Central Luzon



**Lakandula A. Elayda, M.D.**  
Governor, Manila



**Rosario B. Cruz-Dalida, M.D.**  
Governor, Quezon City



**Jose C. Rabe, M.D.**  
Governor, Rizal



**Vincent C. Santos, M.D.**  
Governor, Central Tagalog



**Annette M. Macayaon, M.D.**  
Governor, Southern Tagalog



**Ramon C. Echano Jr., M.D.**  
Governor, Bicol



**Felma R. Dela Cruz, M.D.**  
Governor, Western Visayas



**Florencio T. Miel, M.D.**  
Governor, Central Visayas



**Eliza D. Laurente, M.D.**  
Governor, Eastern Visayas



**Edgar A. Legaspi, M.D.**  
Governor, Western Mindanao



**Ruben O. Go, M.D.**  
Governor, Northern Mindanao



**Maria Lourdes G. Monteverde, M.D.**  
Governor, Southeastern Mindanao



**Osop MP. Abbas, M.D.**  
Governor, Northcentral Mindanao



**Bernardo T. Mora Jr., M.D.**  
Governor, Caraga





## Know your Governor...

By: Bayani B. Tecson, MD

*My task for this first issue of our PMA newsletter, "The Physician", is to introduce to the whole membership, the governors who will represent the North and Central Luzon Regions. These elected leaders will be the voice of the members in the PMA board.*

*It is important and appropriate for members to know who are representing them in the PMA Board, the policy making body of the association because knowing your governor is the first step in trust building. To know who they are, will reassure us that we are being represented by the right people with intellectual and moral ascendancy to lead the PMA to greater heights.*

*It is my distinct honor and privilege to introduce to you the PMA governors of North and Central Luzon Regions.*



**JUDITH N. ALLAGA, MD**

*Governor, Northeastern Luzon Region*

Dr. Allaga is the epitome of a true public servant. Immediately after graduation from the College of Medicine at the UERMMM in 1973, she went back to her home province in Ifugao and served as a Resident Physician at the Ifugao General Hospital for 10 years. Her love for public health service earned her to be promoted as the Chief of Hospital of Tinoc District Hospital, which is located in the far-flung municipality of Ifugao. This remote municipality can be reached only by hiking 10 - 12 hours. After 3 years, her services was needed further and thus, was transferred to Panopdopan District Hospital in another municipality of Ifugao for an additional 3 years.

A native of the Cordillera region,

tracing her roots from Benguet and Ifugao provinces, she has not forgotten to give back to the community that nurtured her youth. Fully aware of the need for a better public health service that her beloved fellow Ifugao truly deserve, Dr. Allaga went back to school to take up a Masteral Course in Hospital Administration at UP-College of Public Health. She is a member of the Ifugao Medical Society and became the president for more than 5 years in the 1980's when IMS was still enduring its growing pains. She was promoted as Assistant Provincial Health Officer of Ifugao. During the devolution of Health Services in 1996, she was retained as the Provincial DOH Representative until 2003, and later promoted as the Assistant Regional Health Director of the DOH-CAR, Baguio City. After 39 years in public health service, she retired as the OIC-Regional Health Director in 2012.

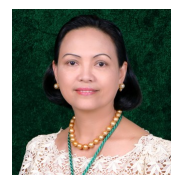
She is a staunch advocate of graft and corruption eradication in the government service, and take refuge in her belief that there is God who is always watching, guiding, and protecting us.

Dr. Allaga served as the representative of the IMS to the Provincial Health Board, Provincial Blood Council, and the Provincial Disaster and Risk Reduction Management Council (PDRPMC). She is an active member and adviser to the Basic Ecclesiastical Community (BEC) of Banaue, Ifugao and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Westville Academy at Lamut, Ifugao.

In July 2015, she was elected Convenor/Chairman of the Ifugao Reproductive Health Advocacy

Network (RHAN), working for the full implementation of the Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Law (RPRH Law).

•••••



**JEISELA C. BALDERAS-GAERLAN, MD**

*Governor, Northwestern Luzon Region*

Dr. Gaerlan is the presiding officer of the Northwestern Luzon Regional Council. She is the voice of the following component Medical Societies: Mt. Province medical society, Baguio-Benguet medical society, La Union medical society, Pangasinan medical society, Southern Ilocos Sur medical society, Ilocos Sur medical society, Abra medical society and the Ilocos Norte medical society.

Dr. Gaerlan is a dedicated pediatrician, who embodies the Thomasian spirit and values. She is a specialist in Infectious Diseases. She holds a diploma in Tropical Medicine and Hygiene from Mahidol University, Thailand. She is a fellow of the Philippine Pediatric Society and has served as President of the North Luzon Chapter from year 2002 to 2004.

Currently, she is the Assistant Medical Director of Lorma Medical Center, the Assistant Chairman of the Department of Paediatrics in Ilocos Training and Regional Medical Center, and a member of the Board of Trustee of Saint Louis College, all in San Fernando City, La Union.

She is the loving wife of a fellow Thomasian, Dr. Jerome A. Gaerlan, who is the current Vice President of the Philippine College of Radiology. She is a fulfilled mother of 3 great kids: Jerome Andrio (19 years old), Gerard Matthew (17 years old), and Jeisela Merice (16 years old), all of them taking up pre-medical courses at the University of Sto. Tomas.

**Dr. Balderas-Gaerlan, from page 12...**

Dr. Gaerlan, a member of the Alpha Delta Sorority of UST - Faculty of Medicine and Surgery, is an accomplished, multi-awarded professional and socio-civic leader. She was recognized by the UST Medical Alumni Association in 2013 to be worthy of the most coveted "THOMAS AWARD"; by the Auxiliary to the PMA (APMA) in 2008 as the Outstanding Physician In Community Service ("TOPICS AWARD"); Most Outstanding Pediatrician in Community Service 2011, a Dr. Fe Del Mundo Award by the Philippine Pediatric Society. She was also given recognition by the Philippine Medical Association in 2001 as one of the Most Outstanding Physician (MOP AWARD); twice awarded as Most Outstanding Club President by the Inner Wheel Club of the Philippines - on the National Level in 1998 and in 2013. And finally, the Provincial Government of La Union gave recognition of her passionate delivery of community services and awarded her the "La Union Service Award" in 2011.

Dr. Gaerlan is also an active member and leader of religious organizations such as Daughters of Mary Immaculate and the Mother Butler Mission Guild. She spearheaded the construction of the Adoration Chapel of the St. William Cathedral of San Fernando City and the construction of the Holy Family Chapel of ITRMC and other Barrio Chapels of San Fernando City, La Union.

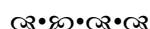
She loves to paint in oil medium during her leisure times. She collects antiques and keeps an elephant collection of different materials as her memorabilia during her travels with her husband in the different parts of the world. She is also engaged in embroidery and enjoys cooking for her family. A special way to relax and

wind up her hectic day is attending to the ornamental plants in her garden.

An entrepreneur for the past 4 years, she manages the pharmacy started by her mother.

Dr. Gaerlan also recognises the value of preserving our cultural heritage and started reviving an inherited century old house, "Bahay na Bato," and converted it into a Bed and Breakfast, "Residencia Concepcion". This will soon open on December 8, 2015.

Lastly, her ultimate passion as a socio-civic servant leader is centered in serving the SPED School of San Fernando City and the Christian Praise Fellowship Orphanage since 1997 and on her advocacies in HIV/AIDS Awareness Campaign & ARV Therapy.



**PAUL RUEL C. CAMIÑA, MD**

*Governor, Central Luzon Region*

Dr. Camina is an orthopaedic surgeon currently practicing in Malolos, Bulacan and married to Dr. Jovy Camina, an anesthesiologist. He is a father to 6 wonderful kids.

Dr. Camina, a native of Iloilo, is a high academic achiever. He graduated with honors in his elementary years, salutatorian graduate in high school, accelerated with honors, graduating as Cum Laude in BS Biology degree, and Benemeritus in Doctor of Medicine Degree at the University of Sto. Tomas, Manila.

He took his residency training in Orthopaedics at the Veterans Memorial Medical Center, became a travelling fellow at the Nagoya, Japan. And had fellowship training in Joint Reconstructive Surgery at NUH,

Singapore. He is a Fellow of the Philippine Orthopaedic Association and the Philippine College of Surgeons. He had three Research Papers presented in Paper Reading and reviewed one in an Asian Congress of Orthopaedics.

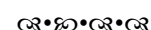
Dr. Camina is a dedicated socio-civic leader, served as President of the Rotary Club of Metropolitan Malolos in 2008-2009 and Assistant Governor for Rotary District 3770 area 13 in 2011-2012, Malolos Jaycees in 1998-2000, and Sta. Isabel Tennis Club in 1998-2000.

Dr. Camiña served as President of the Bulacan Medical Society in 2001-2002, Chairman of the Bulacan Medical Mission Group Health Service cooperative in 2002 - 2006, and as a General Manager of the Bulacan Medical Mission Group Cooperative Hospital in 2008 - 2010. He served as a member of the Board of Trustee in the Philippine Orthopedic Association in 2008 - 2010. Currently, he is the Health Emergency Management Staff Coordinator of the Bulacan Medical Centre and holds the position of Medical Officer II at the same institution.

Dr. Camina is an advocate of Lay Fora Activities as an effective method of disease prevention, better than Medical Missions.

His philosophy in life is, *"We can get better in our chosen work, in leading others, and in improving ourselves, by striving to be a better Filipino in the Philippines. It's better done, here."*

Dr. Camina is active in the church serving as an extraordinary minister of Holy Eucharist at the Diocese of Malolos.





## Know your Governor...

*By: Maria Corazon S. Maglaya, MD*

*The new PMA fiscal year has started last June 1 and a new set of governors are now at the helm of the PMA together with Dr. Maria Minerva P. Calimag, reelected PMA president. Let's get to know the governors from the regions of Quezon City, Bicol, Manila, Southern Tagalog, Rizal, and Central Tagalog.*



**LAKANDULA A. ELAYDA, MD**

*Governor, Manila Region*

Dr. Lakandula A. Elayda, or Lucky to his friends and colleagues, is no stranger to the job as PMA governor being a third term governor of Manila. He is an active member of the Manila Medical Society (MMS), the first and oldest medical society of the Philippines.

Dr. Lucky is happily married to Sally, a registered nurse and home maker, they are blessed with three children: Nitela Grace, who followed the footsteps of her dad and became a doctor with a diplomate in clinical and cosmetic dermatology, Francis, an executive of Accenture International, and Hazel May, a lawyer. All the three children are married and have given Dr Lucky and Sally a total of nine grandchildren. He enjoys listening to classical music, playing golf, and of course, doing APOstolate duties with his grandchildren.

He is a practicing Family physician and dermatologist, a Fellow of the Philippine Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP) and the founding president of the Philippine Academy of Clinical and Cosmetic Dermatology (PACCD). He is also a retired OB-Gyn practitioner.

He has always been busy sharing his expertise at the MMS Medical Indigency Clinic, giving lectures about dermatology, treating patients with skin problems, and doing minor surgery during summers. At present, he is the administrative officer of the Manila Medical Society building at M. dela Fuente, Sampaloc, Manila, the permanent home of the MMS.

Dr. Lucky has been active in the PMA in various capacity including being the Secretary-General in 1995-1997. His final PMA advocacy, as Chairman of the PMA Building Plan, is to maximize the economic potentials of the PMA property.

•••••



**ROSARIO B. CRUZ-DALIDA, MD**

*Governor, Quezon City Region*

Dr. Rosario B. Cruz-Dalida, or Cherry to her friends, is an active member of the Quezon City Medical Society. She is happily married to Eng. Anacleto Dalida, a practicing Civil Engineer and they are blessed with one child, who decided to follow the footsteps of her mother and became a physician.

Her love of the Filipino was shown very early in her medical career. While most young doctors preferred to have their "rural" assignments in the urban setting, Dr. Cherry volunteered to go to some towns in Samal Island - towns where there was no electricity nor potable water, the means of transportation was a carabao or a horse and was

exposed to the danger of sporadic fighting between the government forces and the NPA. Even now, as the owner of a hospital in Jordan Plains, Novaliches, she renders free medical services and gives livelihood training to residents in the depressed area near her hospital. Dr. Cherry has been among the selfless volunteers for the PMA medical missions when typhoons like Ondoy, Pedring, Kiel and the habagat brought massive flood not only in NCR but in nearby areas.

Dr. Cherry enjoys dancing and traveling. She believes that there is always a silver lining on the horizon.

•••••



**JOSE C. RABE, MD**

*Governor, Rizal Region*

Dr. Jose C. Rabe, Boy to his family, relatives and friends in Bicol, Joe to his friends in Manila and Tatay to his sons and grandchildren, is an active member of the Taguig Medical Society

Dr. Joe originally wanted to be a surgeon and first applied for a surgery training program in the USA and several years later in Rizal Medical Center. But things did not work as he planned. He decided he would just concentrate his energies to general practice and he was able to start a 10-bed capacity hospital in Taguig. His efforts to improve the hospital paid off and he was able to expand it to a 25-bed facility in 5 years. Hard work and good business sense enabled him to build a 50-bed capacity hospital in Paranaque and he named it South Superhighway Medical Center.

He is happily married to Dr. Erlinda Cruz-Rabe of Taguig and they have been blessed with three sons







**RAMON C. ECHANO JR., MD**  
Governor, Bicol Region

Dr. Ramon C. Echano, Jr, who is called Mon by friends and colleagues, is the governor for the Bicol Region. He is an active member of the Camarines Norte Medical Society and a practicing Internist and is presently a Medical Officer IV at the Bicol Sanitarium, Cabusao, Camarines Sur.

Dr. Mon is married to Claribel F. Echano, a registered nurse from Alangilan, Batangas City and they have been blessed with five (5) children: Francine Isabelle, Chloe Alessandra, Gwen Carmela, Aldrich Russel Josh and Josmon Charles F. Echan.

His care for others was greatly manifested during the typhoon 'Yolanda' and his service did not go unnoticed. He was given certificate of recognition by the DOH as one of the Unsung Heroes "Typhoon Yolanda Responders" and by the PMA as Medical Volunteer for Yolanda Victims.

His advocacies include Expanded Primary Care for Healthier Philippines, and Coalition Against Corruption. He also believes that the Local Government Code of 1991 (RA 7160) should exclude the health and social services.




---

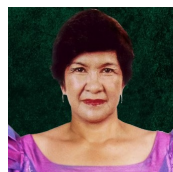
"Effective leadership is not about making speeches or being liked; leadership is defined by results not attributes." - Peter Drucker

---



## Know your Governor...

By: Erlinda G. Delos Reyes, MD



**FELMA R. DELA CRUZ MD**  
Governor, Western Visayas Region

**Education:** Elem Education: Polo Elem School - Polo, Banga, Aklan High School: Northwestern Visayan Colleges - Kalibo, Aklan College: Pre-Medicine - University of the East, Manila - 1965-1969, BS Biology - University of the East, Manila - 1969-1970, Medicine Proper - UE Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Medical Center 1970 - 1974 Post Graduate Internship- 1974 - 1975 - Veterans Memorial Medical Center. **Examination Passed:** Passed the Medical Board Examination - 1975. Passed the Medical specialty Qualifying Exam in Pediatrics given by DOH - 1989. Passed the Diplomate Examination in Family Medicine given by PAFP - 1999. **Employment History:** Resident- Galang Maternity Hospital-1976 -1977 Junior Resident-> Medical Specialist II - Aklan Provincial Hospital now DRSTMH - 1977 - 1993 Private Practice in Family Medicine - 1993 to present. **Professional Trainings:** In service Training in Pediatrics - 6 mos, DOH - 1985 Hypertension Training - one week, PSH - 2007. Professional Memberships: Member & Past Vice President, President & Board of Director of PAFP, Aklan chapter, Life Member of Aklan Medical Society, Past President of Aklan Medical Society - 2000 - 2002; 2008-2009, Past Board of Director, PRO of Aklan Medical society, Certified Family Physician - 1993, Fellow PAFP-2004, Fellow Life PAFP-2009, Member - Phil Society of Hypertension- 2007, Member- Foundation for Lay Health Education - 2010. Radio Anchor - every Sunday: Health Line - Radio Bombo-2001 to present, PHO Radio Health Program - DYRU - 2007 to present. **Non-Government Organization Memberships:** Aklan TB

Council, Aklan Blood Coordinating Council, Kool Earth Inc. Soroptimist Int'l., Catholic Women's League. **Awards:** Most Outstanding Physician- 2007-2008

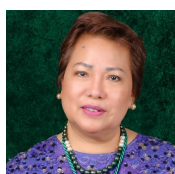
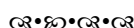


**FLORENCIA T. MIEL, MD**  
Governor, Central Visayas Region

**Professional background:** Graduate of the Cebu Institute of Medicine, Class '72 Trained at the Cebu Maternity Hospital and at the Cebu Doctors' Hospital (Exchange residency consortium) for OB-GYN. Diplomate of the Philippine Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology (PBOG), November, 1981. Fellow of the Philippine Obstetrical and Gynecological Society, May, 1982, Philippine College of Surgeons, December, 1982 and Philippine Society for Gynecologic Endoscopy, April 6, 2008. **Practice:** Obstetrics and Gynecology and Gynecologic Endoscopy. **Member of the Active Staff of the following institutions:** Cebu Doctors' University Hospital, Chong Hua Hospital, Perpetual Succour Hospital, Visayas Community Medical Center and Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center (Under the One-peso a year status). Has held chairmanship in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology in the following institutions: Cebu Doctors' University Hospital - 2005-2008, Cebu Community Hospital (now VCMC) - 1984 -1987 and North General Hospital, 2008-2010. Associate Professor of the following: **Associate Professor of the following:** Cebu Doctors University College of Medicine and current Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology Gullas College of Medicine, Cebu Institute of Medicine (on leave). Past president of Cebu Medical Society - 1988-89,

*Dr. Florencia T. Miel, from page 16..*

Philippine College of Surgeons, Cebu-Eastern Visayas Chapter, 1998-99. PCS Governor – 1999-2001; Regional Director, POGS, 2002. President of the Zonta Club of Cebu II, 2006-2008; Area 3 Director of the Zonta International District 17 – 2010-2012 whose advocacy is in the improvement of the status of women, Advocacy against VAWC (Violence Against Women and Children). Member of the Committee on GBV (Gender-Based Violence) of the Philippine Obstetrical and Gynecological Society chaired by Dr. Lyra Ruth Chua. Current Area 3 District 17 Zonta International Co-chair for Advocacy Member of the Current Board of the Zonta Club of Cebu II. Member of the Board of Directors, Cebu Doctors University and the Cebu Doctors; University Hospital. Member, Board of Directors, Cebu Woman's Club.



**ELIZA D. LAURENTE, MD**  
Governor, Eastern Visayas Region

Born in Merida, Leyte on April 24, 1950. Consistent honor student from elementary to high school. Magna Cum Laude in BS Biology. Doctor of Medicine - Southwestern University College of Medicine. Residency Training – Bethany Hospital and Daniel Z. Romualdez Hospital, Tacloban City. In Private Practice from 1979 up to present. President PMWA Ormoc Chapter President, 1988 - 1990. Recipient of numerous awards, so far the most number for Ormoc Chapter. President Ormoc City Medical Society 1990-1994. Most awarded OCMS President. To date the first and the only recipient of the PMA Leadership Award (Icasiano) for Region VIII. MOP – 1995 & 1998; Hippocrates Awardee (local) by the APMA – Ormoc Chapter 1998; PMA Governor Region VIII – 2008-2010; Officer of the Philippine National Red Cross, Ormoc

*continued on page 17....*



## Know your Governor...

*By: Sol Veronica E. Bagaipo, MD*

*This year we have an interesting mix of governors for Mindanao. There are returning governors who gave significant time and effort to the PMA board during their terms of office therefore coming back for another term or two is a walk in the park. The second termers and the newbies are dedicated and passionate in helping out the PMA. Similar to last year, we have a delightful board this year too, so timely and relevant changes are very much anticipated.*

*So here are the governors for Mindanao:*



**EDGAR A. LEGASPI, MD**  
Governor, Western Mindanao Region

Dr. Ed has his roots back up North, where his parents, Mr. Severino and Ms Isabel Legaspi are from. His parents come from Calasiao, Pangasinan but, like many from the North, have found their homes in the South. Dr. Ed was born in Pagadian, Zamboanga del Sur on July 19, 1958.

He studied in Pagadian City Pilot School during his grade school and had his high school studies in Holy Child Academy, also in Pagadian. He had his preparatory medicine in University of Santo Tomas and proceeded into Medicine in the same institution. He graduated from UST as a Doctor of Medicine in 1983.

Dr. Ed proceeded to have his specialty training in Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat at the Rizal Medical Center from 1986-1990. He became a Diplomate in Ophthalmology in 1990. He is an active Life member of our PMA, and an enthusiastic member of the Philippine Academy of Ophthalmology, Zamboanga del Sur Medical Association, the

Northern Mindanao Chapter of the Philippine Society of Otolaryngology Head and Neck Surgery as well as the Philippine Society of Medical Specialists Inc.

Aside from professional organizations, he is very much in touch with his social/civic organizations being a 4<sup>th</sup> degree member of the Knights of Columbus and being an involved in the Brotherhood of Christian Businessman and Professionals.

He is actively practicing his EENT specialty at Clinica Legaspi, Pagadian City and as Medical Specialist II at the Zamboanga del Sur Medical Center.

It is interesting to know that he holds close into his heart the mantras "Be honest and do what is right" and "Think and do things that we can control, and let go of things we can not". It is a small wonder then that as a physician he believes that a physician must give the best service to every patient regardless of social status. He is lovingly taken care of by his wife, Carmencita and has three children, a boy and two girls.

With Dr. Edgar Legaspi as governor, the physicians of Western Mindanao Region have another passionate leader to represent them in the PMA Board of Governors.



**RUBEN O. GO, MD**  
Governor, Northern Mindanao Region

Dr. Ruben Go is not a newbie in the PMA board of governors having served as a governor several years back. And he remained a very active



**Dr. Ruben Go, from page 17...**

member even if he no longer sat in the board by contributing what he can in the pursuit of righteousness.

Dr. Ruben hails from Jimalulud, Negros Oriental. He had his college in Siliman University and graduated as a physician from Cebu Institute of Medicine. He further specialized in family medicine, passing the PAFP specialty board in 1992 and has a subspecialty in industrial medicine. He is also a very active member of the Philippine Hospital Association with Cagayan de Oro's largest private tertiary hospital, the Polymedic General Hospital and the Polymedic Medical Plaza, under his care. His practice ran a span of 35 years and counting.

He is married to a physician, Dr. Josephine Goking-Go. They have three children who are also active physicians in Cagayan de Oro - Dr. Judee Ann Go-See, Dr. Rubee Ann Go-Gotil and Dr. Joseph Reuben Go. He is already a grandfather to six grandchildren.

Aside from watching movies, Dr. Ruben loves to travel and Italy was the last that he visited.

He is one doctor in Cagayan de Oro many look up to, not only in his practice, but also in his desire to guide people into the right path.

He is an active member of his component society, the Misamis Oriental Medical Society (MOMS). So for the members of PMA in Northern Mindanao, you can sit well knowing that your voices will be heard and represented in the present board.

•••••



**MARIA LOURDES G. MONTEVERDE, MD**  
Governor, Southeastern Mindanao Region

This year is the second and last term of Dr. Malou. And she has high hopes not only for Southeastern Mindanao but for the whole PMA as well.

Foremost in her list is to further strengthen component societies by ensuring unity and encouraging members to be properly accounted for and that membership should be through area of practice and not residency. Involvement of the component societies in the health related programs of the local governments comes second in her list. She believes that by doing so, the PMA and the nation itself will move towards one common goal.

With the fast changing times, it is also her hope that the PMA will be abreast with all the changes by making it more relevant to the practice of each and every member and that by the leadership of the PMA, an integrated health professional service will be possible. This also includes the leadership of the PMA in ushering changes and providing safety nets in the eventual ASEAN integration of the practice of Medicine.

It is every dedicated PMA member's desire that these lofty goals be realised soon.

•••••



**OSOP MP. ABBAS, MD**  
Governor, Northcentral Mindanao Region

This year, the PMA Board of Governors, is once again fortunate to have Dr. Osop Abbas who is both a physician and a lawyer. Looking at his achievements and experiences, it is easy to tell that what we have now, as both doctor and a lawyer, is the real deal.

Dr. Abbas had his Degree in Bachelors of Science in Far Eastern University, and Doctor of Medicine from Southwestern University MHAM College of Medicine. He had his Master in Public Administration at the Bukidnon State University and his Bachelor of Laws at the Mindanao State University.

Practising both professions, he has been a Mayor of Pantar, Lanao del

Norte, an Associate Provincial Prosecutor of Lanao del Sur and a Medical specialist 1 in the Cotabato City Regional Health Office 12.

He is married to Hadji Shania Abbas, an educator.

He is now a Presiding Judge at the 9<sup>th</sup> MCTC, Wao-Amai Manalibang, Lanao del Sur and a Professor in Forensic Medicine and Criminal Law at the Mindanao State University.

His civic duties are highlighted by his active involvement in Radjah Indraputra Lodge 387 of Free and Accepted Masons and in Maranaw Law Advocates. It comes as no surprise then that he has his zeal on *"Effective and speedy delivery of health services and speedy administration of justice as the key to attaining sustained peace and development"*.

•••••



**BERNARDO T. MORA JR., MD**  
Governor, Caraga Region

Allow me to be a bit nostalgic here, because I had the chance to sit with him as member of the board in 2010-2011. And he is one gentleman, a kind you need to meet at least once in your lifetime.

Dr. Bernie is a veteran, having sat in the PMA Board of Governors for several terms. In as far how the dynamics of the PMA Board is concerned, he is a wealth of knowledge. I am sure he is not only an active member of our organization but also a very productive leader in his own right. Here's why.

Dr. Bernie had his degree in Doctor of Medicine at Far Eastern University in 1961. He has been a City Health Officer in Surigao City for twelve years, has been a Regional Health Director for Region (Cebu) for seven years and Director of Biological Production Service for seven years as well.

***Dr. Bernardo T. Mora Jr., from page 18...***

Aside from being a physician, he has been elected as Surigao City Councilor for three terms, from 1998 to 2007. He now sits as a Board of Director of the Surigao Metropolitan Water District. He has his hands full with civic duties as well being president for Surigao Nickel Jaycees and Surigao City Rotary Club at different times. He is a Family Planning advocate being the National President of Family Planning Organization of the Philippines for several terms.

On top of his professional achievements, he is married to an equally engaging person, Dr. Vicky Espina Mora, an obstetrician gynaecologist and his classmate in FEU. They are blessed with an enterprising son, Pedro Valentino, who manages the Animo Marketing Inc.

Welcome back Dr. Bernie.



**Dr. Eliza D. Laurente, from page 17...**

Chapter; Officer of the Ormoc City  
Host Lion's Club. President – Ormoc  
Involved in Paramedic Services, the  
laboratory arm of Ormoc Maternity  
and Children's Hospital from 1997 up  
to present. Past President – Ormoc  
Scholarship Builders, 2007-2011;  
Board Member – Sanctus Vincenzus  
Scholarship Foundation, 2008 up to  
present. At present – PMA District  
Governor, 2015-2016



*"A leader is one who  
knows the way, goes  
the way, and shows  
the way"*

- John Maxwell

## NEWS IN ACTION



*The PMA Board of Governors on their first regular board meeting and the PMA National Orientation and Leadership Seminar held at Sarrosa International Hotel and Residential Suites, Cebu City.*



*Dr. Maria Minerva P. Calimag, PMA President delivering her message during the PMA National Orientation and Leadership Seminar at Sarrosa International Hotel and Residential Suites, Cebu City*



*PMA President Dr. Maria Minerva P. Calimag with PMA Secretary General Dr. Marianne L. Ordoñez-Dobles and former PMA Governor for Quezon City Region Dr. Ma. Realiza G. Henson with PRC Chairman Hon. Dr. Florentino C. Doble, Dr. Ma. Victoria M. Abesamis (2<sup>nd</sup> from Left) Finalist for Most Outstanding Professional in Medicine and Dr. Maria Rosario Z. Capeding (3<sup>rd</sup> from Left) winner of the 4th PRC Eric Nubla Award 2015. Given during the PRC 2015 Awards Night, June 18, 2015 at the Manila Hotel*



*The PRC Chairman Hon. Florentino C. Doble, MD with the PRC Board of Medicine posing with the PMA National Officers and the winners of the PRC 4<sup>th</sup> Eric Nubla Award Dr. Maria Rosario Z. Capeding*



*The PMA President Dr. Maria Minerva Calimag and PMA Secretary General Dr. Marianne L. Ordoñez-Dobles with the representatives of specialty societies and the PHA President Dr. Ruben Flores during their meeting with the DOH Secretary Hon. Dr. Janette Loreto-Garin.*



**Labor Omnia Vincit**  
**("Hard work conquers all")**

**Cuncti Adsint Meritaeque Expectent Praemia Palmae**  
**("Let all come who by merit deserve the most reward")**

**By Arnel M. Asino, MD**

*"Happiness is not in the mere possession of money; it lies in the joy of achievement, in the thrill of creative effort."*  
 – Franklin D. Roosevelt

Because every man is the artisan of his own fortune, it is a fact that majority of the great achievers possess the correspondence of mind and reality, i.e. when the mind has the same form as reality, by their own wisdom and effort the truth prevails. A true worthy accomplishment are those intended for a better purpose, where action follows belief and when the intention sincerely arises from the heart. These are just few of the many reasons why I believe in the Latin phrase "Labor Omnia Vincit", which means "Hard Work Conquers All". And nothing can really be achieved without hard work.

*"Happiness is not in the mere possession of money; it lies in the joy of achievement, in the thrill of creative effort."*  
 – Franklin D. Roosevelt



*Let us all remember that we grow in the esteem of the future generations and conquering darkness by science is one of the boldest thing to do in*

*search for an answer. Blessed is our colleague woman achiever who finds wisdom in devoting herself for excellence, the second physician to date to receive the most coveted Eric Nubla award bestowed by the Philippine Regulations Commission (PRC), my dear colleagues, let us get to know the awardee herself, **Dr. Maria Rosario Zeta Capeding**.*

*Our culture has created two almost irreconcilable descriptions of a 'good woman.' The first is the individual achiever; the second, the self-sacrificing domestic goddess.*  
 – Martha Beck

Dating back in June of 1995, after successfully passing the written Diplomate board exam in Anesthesiology, I am lucky to have met a respected physician named Rose, as she is fondly called, in Alabang Medical Clinic where we both work as consultants. She is simple, humble, and assuming the stance of a true professional with integrity and character. During those days, I already knew that she has a knack and interest in research work.

Rose is married to Leo J. Capeding, D. Ed., University Guidance Counselor, University of the Philippines Manila and a doting mother of three well-mannered gentlemen namely, Theo Prudencio Juhani (Medical Intem, UP-PGH), Leo Angelo (AB in Digital Film Making, De la Salle - College of St. Benilde), and Joseph Mari (Legal Management, Ateneo de Manila University). Current affiliations are: Department of Microbiology Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM), FCC, Alabang, Muntinlupa City, Philippines and Asian Hospital and Medical Center.

She finished B.S. Pre-Med. **Cum Laude** at Velez College, Cebu City, Doctor of Medicine, Cebu Institute of Medicine, Cebu City, Philippines, and Residency training in Pediatrics at Manila Doctors Hospital. Other trainings; receptorship in Bacteriology Helsinki University, Central Hospital, Helsinki, Finland, Research Fellowship in Clinical Microbiology National Public Health Institute, Helsinki, Finland, Fellowship in Infectious Diseases, UP-PGH, and Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM). As a full pledged paediatrician, Rose is a Fellow, Philippine Pediatric Society (PPS), Diplomate, Philippine Pediatric Society, and Fellow, Pediatric Infectious Disease Society of the Philippines (PIDSP).

At present, she is the Head, Department of Microbiology Research Institute for Tropical Medicine, Medical Specialist III, Pediatric and Infectious Disease Consultant Medical Department, Research Institute for Tropical Medicine, Head, Section of Infectious Diseases, Department of Pediatrics, Asian Hospital and Medical Center, Consultant, Department of Pediatrics Manila Doctors Hospital. As a dedicated worker, she also got herself involved in various organizational activities: Course Director, Third Country Training Programme in Acute Respiratory Infections sponsored by the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Overall Chair, 10<sup>th</sup> Philippine National Immunization Conference, RITM 7th Postgraduate Course, and Overall Chair, Pediatric Infectious Disease Society of the Philippines (PIDSP) 22nd Annual Convention.

Rose is not only a private practitioner but also a member of various local and international organizations; Philippine Medical Association, Philippine Pediatric Society, Pediatric Infectious Disease Society of the Philippines, Philippine Foundation for Vaccination, Philippine Society for Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, National Research Council of the Philippines, Immunization Partners in Asia Pacific, Asian Society for Pediatric Infectious Disease, International Society for Infectious Diseases, International Society for Tropical Pediatrics, American Academy of Pediatrics, and European Society of Pediatric Infectious Diseases. A truly devoted paediatrician, Rose is also a member: Technical Committees scientific Organizations, WHO Regional Verification Commission for Measles Elimination in the Western Pacific Region, ASEAN Member States Dengue Vaccination Advocacy Steering Committee (ADVASC), World Society for Pediatric Infectious Diseases (WSPID), Denguev2V, Invasive Bacterial Vaccine Preventable Disease (IB-VPD) Surveillance, DOHA/WHO Program, Reviewer for Scientific Journals/Health Researches, Journal of Infectious Diseases University of Washington School of Medicine USA, PLOS Neglected Tropical Diseases



Researches of Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (pCHRD), Pediatric Infectious Disease Society of the Philippines Journal, Scientific Courses training Workshop/ Consultative Meetings, Pediatric Pneumococcal Disease in the Asia Pacific Region and Its Prevention by Vaccination Seoul Korea, Preventing Pneumococcal Disease in Children, Asia Pacific Advisory Board Bangkok, Thailand, Clinical Investigators Meeting on Safety Lyon, France and so many more.

*"Only those who dare to fail greatly can  
ever achieve greatly."*

— *Robert F. Kennedy*

A woman of action, this charming paediatrician also garnered the following awards: Philippine Medical Association (PMA), 23<sup>rd</sup> **Dr. Jose P. Rizal Memorial Award for Research** (2014), **Top Women in Biotech 2014**, Awarded by Fierce Biotech, **Paper of the Year 2014**, awarded by International Society for Vaccines, and Recognition for her **Outstanding Leadership in Cultural, Civic, Social and Religious Activities** of the community, awarded by the Sangguniang Bayan of Basey, Samar thru a Municipal Council Resolution (Resolution no. 15, February 7, 2011).

*"If you can't do great things, do small things in a great way."*

— Napoleon Hill

Having a pull toward research and training, she practically spent almost her entire career for it. She did a lot of contributions to the advancement of the medical profession by making herself devotedly involved in research works published in local and international journals. To mention a few of her 184 latest original articles and reviews with which some are currently ongoing: A prospective, multicentre, comparative, open label, randomized phase III study to assess immunogenicity and safety of LBVP0101 fully liquid pentavalent vaccine, Diphtheria-Tetanus-whole cell Pertussis-Hepatitis B-Haemophilus Influenzae type B (tetanus toxoid conjugate) compared with Euforvac-HibTM (reconstituted pentavalent

vaccine, which is reconstituted from Diphtheria-Tetanus-whole cell Pertussis-Hepatitis B and Haemophilus Influenzae type B (tetanus toxoid conjugate) just before intramuscular injection) in healthy infants at six, ten and fourteen weeks of age, August 2013 - February 2014, A phase III, Open-label, randomized parallel-group study on the immunogenicity and safety of Quinvaxem® (DTwP-HepB-Hib) in Uniject® with Quinvaxem® monodose vials in healthy infants at 6, 10 and 14 weeks of age, September 2013 - March 2014, 43 Safety and Immunogenicity of Two Doses of Oral Cholera Vaccine (ShanColrM) in Subjects Aged 1 Year and Older in the Philippines April 2014 - October 2014, Efficacy and Safety of a Novel Tetravalent Dengue Vaccine in Healthy Children Aged 2 to 14 Years in Asia June 2011 - present, A Prospective Study of Dengue Virus Infection During Infancy to Define Correlates of Protective Immunity National Institutes for Health. August 2012- present, A Prospective, Multicenter, Comparative, Open-label, Randomized Phase III Study to Assess Immunogenicity and Safety of LBVP0101-01 {fully liquid pentavalent vaccine, Diphtheria-Tetanus-whole cell Pertussis-Hepatitis B-Haemophilus influenza type B (Tetanus toxoid conjugate)) compared with Euforavac-HibTM {reconstituted pentavalent vaccine,, Diphtheria-Tetanus whole Cell Pertussis\_Hepatitis B and Haemophilus influenza type b (tetanus toxoid conjugate)) in Healthy Infants (LGVPCL003) October 2014 – Present, A Phase III, Stratified, Randomized, Observer Blind, Controlled, Multicenter Clinical Study to Evaluate the Safety, and Immunogenicity and Efficacy of an Adjuvanted Quadrivalent Subunit Influenza Virus Vaccine Compared to Non-Adjuvanted Comparator Influenza Vaccine in Children > 6 to < 72 Months of Age, February 2015 – Present.

*“Only those who attempt the absurd  
can achieve the impossible.”*

– *Albert Einstein*

Dr. Maria Rosario Z. Capeding was the recipient of the most coveted Eric Nubla Award by the Philippine Regulations Commission for the following reasons: (1) **She amply**

**demonstrated professional competence of the highest degree and conducted herself with integrity in the exercise of her profession as an accomplished Pediatrician, infectious disease specialist and a medical researcher, highly regarded by his peers and recognized in the medical community she serves with an unblemished professional reputation.** For the past thirty (30) years, Dr. Maria Rosario Zeta Capeding has engaged in significant researches that impacted positively in safeguarding public health. She holds various posts at the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) as Head of the Department of Microbiology, Consultant in Pediatric and Infectious Disease of the Medical Department and Head of the Dengue Study Group. She also serves in private medical institutions such as Asian Hospital and Medical Center (Head of Section of Infectious Diseases of the Department of Pediatric and Manila Doctors Hospital (Consultant of the Department of Pediatric). Dr. Capeding earned a degree in Medicine, Residency in Pediatrics, and a Fellowship in Infectious Diseases from the leading medical institutions in the Philippines. She also received her Research Fellowship in Clinical Microbiology and Preceptorship in Bacteriology from Helsinki, Finland and for the aforementioned trainings and accomplishments, (2) **She participated meaningfully in professional activities through the professional organizations,** (3) **She contributed significantly to the advancement of the profession, and lastly** (4) **She contributed significantly to the effective discharge of the profession's social responsibility through meaningful contribution/participation in socio – related activities.**

In behalf of the executive officers and board of governors of the Philippine Medical Association, allow me to extend my sincere congratulations to you Dr. Maria Rosario Z. Capeding!

*"Never throughout history has a man who lived a life of ease left a name worth remembering."*

– Theodore Roosevelt



## The Philippine Code of Business Ethics in the Biopharmaceutical, Herbal and Medical Device Sector

By Arthur Toloza Catli, MD

In the latter part of 2011, during the APEC Summit in Honolulu, Pres. Benigno Simeon Aquino III signed two documents that endorse guidelines, which aim to promote the creation of voluntary codes of business ethics in the Biopharmaceutical and Medical devices sector. They are later to be known as the Mexico City (MCP) and Kuala Lumpur Principles (KLP) respectively. It is worth saying that at the forefront in the drafting of the MCP, representing the Philippines is Dr. Francisco Tranquilino from the Philippine College of Physicians.

In 2013 and 2014, the Philippine Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued memorandum circulars that formally adopts the two guidelines and shall ultimately lead to the draft of an Administrative Order from the DOH.

The medical community initially received this development with concern, amidst the confusion of misinformation, the lack of clarity on issues pertinent to the intent of the guidelines as the promulgation of the AO will have an impact to existing dynamics of interaction and engagement between the pharmaceutical industry and the doctors. There were even allegations that CME activities that are customarily supported by drug companies shall be adversely affected.

Consistent with the pre-requisites of establishing a formidable regional trade bloc through the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA), breaking down trade barriers while ensuring the protection of Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) is of paramount priority. In order to achieve this, it has been established that an essential strategy would be to ensure a corrupt – free and ethics based

business ecosystem. APEC member economies realized that corruption is an obstacle to economic growth. The Pharmaceutical Industry is seen as a sector in need of this intervention.

A case in point therefore declares that these guidelines target to regulate the Pharmaceutical, Herbal and Medical Device Industry, NOT the Medical Profession. These guidelines latch on the premise that *“Appropriate and Ethical interactions between Industry and the Healthcare Providers (HCPs) help ensure that medical decisions are made in the best interest of patients.”*

The six basic principles being espoused in these guidelines include: Healthcare and Patient focus, integrity, independence of HCPs from undue influence, legitimate intent to do what is right and avoidance of conflicts of interest, transparency and accountability. All of these are geared towards guiding the pharmaceutical industry in **appropriate** and **ethical** practices that involve: Interactions with HCPs; Promotional Information and Activities; drug safety; Sponsorships of HCPs to Symposia and Congresses; Validity of Informational Presentations by Company Representatives; Entertainment; Educational Items and Gifts; Support for Continuing Medical Education, Drug Samples; Consultant and Speaker Arrangements; Compliance Procedures and Responsibilities of the pharmaceutical industry; Appropriate Conduct and Training of Company Representatives; Public Sector (Government) Relations and Procurement; Ethical Clinical Trials; Industry Donations for Charitable Purposes; Industry’s involvement with Patient Organizations.

Ultimately, these principles aim to provide the Filipino patient access to safe, effective and quality medicines

and avoid unwanted doctor prescriptions in exchange for entitlements (monetary and the like); gifts; entertainment and privileges as well as junket trips abroad disguised as legitimate CME activities.

We are all winners here because right away, we weed out undesirable industry players engaged in corruption and bribery; we indirectly curtail the abusive behavior and practices of some of our colleagues who only think of self entitlement and self profit at the expense not only of the patients but also the credibility of the Medical Profession as well. They totally undermine the Hippocratic oath they swore to uphold. In this context, everybody is a casualty. We lose our character as an upright human being. No wonder our profession continues to be unjustly accused of easy corruptibility and ridiculed of tax evasion. Do we not adhere to or much less know the PMA Code of Ethics?

During the 108<sup>th</sup> PMA Annual Convention held at the grand Ballroom of the Marriott Hotel, this administration, thankfully, cognizant of the importance of the concept of integrity of the Filipino Physician both as Healer and professional, initiated the PMA member commitment to the “Ethos of the Philippine Medical Association”. It stipulates adherence to the tenets of the Physician Oath of Hippocrates; commitment to the primary mission of the physician as healer; nurture, strengthen and uphold the PMA Code of ethics; and recognize that each of us must ensure the best interest of the patient.

In this age wherein all fall under the microscopic scrutiny of the public through social media, we should close ranks and undertake measures that raise ourselves to a higher form of self worth and affirmation, not just for show and lip service but simply because it is the right thing to do. We are used to making hard decisions, let us decide to *“find ourselves by losing ourselves in the service of others”*. Let us band together as ONE PMA.



## Of Camels and Desserts : MERS-CoV

By Michael Angelo G. Marasigan , MD

Picture a middle aged Arabian, taking a leisurely ride on a dromedary camel's back one arid late afternoon in Sahara. In a matter of days, this man would consult a downtown Medical Center not because of symptoms referable to his long standing emphysema but a flu like illness, this time with more pronounced cough and a difficulty of breathing. His pulmonologist would definitely start anti microbials for Pneumonia but would not suspect a novel disease enfolding, and might miss the plausible diagnosis if there was a strong index of suspicion.

On September 2012, the Arabian peninsula was in the news again not because of a terror attack, but because of a novel illness that was unprecedented in the annals of medical literature. Aside from Saudi Arabia, cases were also confirmed in Jordan, United Kingdom and Germany, clearly another disease that could have been spread by travel. In 2013, 7 more countries were added to those with reported cases (Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, United Arab Emirates, France, Italy and Tunisia). From 2014 to date, 26 more countries have reported MERS-CoV cases, including recent ones in Asia (China, Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines) and the US. The Republic of South Korea have been shaken by this modern virus, killing 27 victims out of 180 cases, so far the biggest outbreak outside Saudi Arabia. Like all new infections, the mystery remains as how a zoonotic infection has become an illness with a probable human to human transmission. Though bats are known reservoir of the virus, dromedary camels, goats, sheeps, and fur bearing mammals are identified as possible source of infections through air, by consuming animal milk or meat. Among those health workers who have taken care of the confirmed cases, it is prudent to say that a close contact

would probably transmit the disease especially under nosocomial settings rather than in the community.

The Philippines' first case was in February this year, a nurse who worked in Saudi Arabia. She was quarantined for 14 days, and had recovered from the illness. Secretary of Health Dr Janette Loreto Garin have declared Philippines MERS-CoV-free only until July when a second case of a 36 year old foreigner from Dubai tested positive for the virus. He was subjected to standard observation and testing, and was recently discharged from the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) in Muntinlupa.

So what should symptoms need to be asked to suspect a probable MERS-CoV infection? MERS-CoV is a shortened name for the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Corona Virus, the microbe that have been isolated from those afflicted. The corona virus is not a new virus as it is also responsible for the common colds, but have been the plague of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century as it has been identified for the controversial SARS epidemic of recent times. In the Philippines, the PIDSR (Philippine Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response), has released its new Case Investigation Form (CIF) to track possible cases. The CIF enlists patient profile, residence in the Philippines, travel history, overseas employment address, countries visited/traveled/worked during the last 14 days and exposure history. In the clinical part, symptoms of fever (100°F or more), cough, difficulty of breathing, sore throat, runny nose, pneumonia, chills, chest pain, body aches, malaise, diarrhea, nausea/vomiting are asked and elicited.

Final classification would fall under 6 categories : PUI or patient under investigation, Suspected Influenza-like

investigation, Suspected Influenza-like Illness, Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI), Suspected MERS-CoV Case, Probable MERS-CoV Case and Confirmed MERS-CoV Case. A "PUI" is a person with sudden onset of fever and cough or sore throat or diarrhea in the absence of other diagnoses, AND with history of travel from Arabian Peninsula or neighboring countries within 14 days OR a person who visited any health care facility with a known MERS-CoV OR any health care worker with signs and symptoms of severe acute respiratory infection (SARI). A "Suspect Case" is a symptomatic person with history of travel and suspicion of pulmonary parenchymal disease (pneumonia or acute respiratory distress syndrome based on clinical or radiological evidence of consolidation) AND not already explained by any other infection or etiology, including all clinically indicated tests for community acquired pneumonia. A "Probable Case" is a person fitting the definition of a "Suspect Case" with clinical, radiological or histopathological evidence of pulmonary parenchymal disease (pneumonia or ARDS) but no possibility of laboratory confirmation either because the patient or samples are not available or there is no testing available for other respiratory infections, AND close contact with a laboratory confirmed case, and not already explained by any other infection or etiology, including all clinically indicated tests for community acquired pneumonia (according to local management guidelines). A "Confirmed Case" is a person with laboratory confirmation of infection with MERS-CoV.

Generally the symptoms are flu-like just as SARS was, but with a predilection for renal failure, a common sequelae of those dying from this illness. The profile of those developing serious illness were the elderly, suffering from a co-morbid disease like diabetes, chronic lung disease, heart disease, those on organ transplantation and have cancer hence on immunosuppressive treatments. Of the 1374 confirmed cases worldwide, 490 have died accounting for a 36% case fatality rate. In simple terms, 4 out of 10 confirmed



**MERS-Cov, from page 23...**

will succumb MERS-CoV cases will succumb to the illness.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO) has collaboratively expressed no specific treatment for MERS-CoV but only supportive medical care to relieve symptoms, emphasizing prevention to limit complications and sequelae. The travel advisory is to shy away from countries with confirmed cases especially if you have a comorbid condition, as it also predisposes to traveller's diarrhea and flu. Frequent hand washing, cough etiquette and proper nutrition can never be underemphasized in a highly mobile generation.

As a nation ever cautious of natural and man-made calamities in its midst, the MERS-CoV scare has been added to the long list of worries that the average Filipino has to address. This is understandable as majority of families hoping to traverse the poverty line have a family member who has worked, is currently working and probably applying to work in foreign shores, specially in regions closer to the archipelago such as the Arabian peninsula. The anxiety of having the disease is tantamount to loss of life and limb, and the hope for a better future for our families.

The MERS-CoV is a virus that has mutated to exhibit new spectrum of diseases such as SARS and MERS-CoV, and like the uncanny X-Men, we should always be vigilant to these diseases. As treatment is still supportive, and a vaccine is yet to be developed, the only chance for cure is being prepared with knowledge of this new disease, and ever emphasizing the age-old wonders of good nutrition, patient education and early diagnosis and treatment. These will remain as pillars of health for our patients, and will continue to portray doctors as heroes of Generation X.

☪•☪•☪•☪•☪



## CME COMMISSION

**REBECCA W. DEDUYO, M.D.**

*Chair, Commission on Continuing Medical Education*

The Commission on the Continuing Medical Education (CME) which is currently chaired by Dr. Rebecca Deduyo and Co-Chaired by Dr. Minerva Calimag together with its members, namely, Josefina Chikiamco Dizon, MD, Alberto De Leon, MD, Janeth B. Serrano, MD, and Gil Vicente, MD fully recognize the physician's obligation to update his knowledge and practice to better provide medical services attuned to the needs of the community and the changing times.

Under the tutelage of its Honorary Chair, Ramon F. Abarquez Jr., MD and the Governor-in-charge, Dr. Paul Ruel Camiña, the Commission on CME has adopted the "ONE PMA, ONE HEALTH, ONE LIFE" theme and further derived a sub-theme "CARING, SHARING AND MENDING" to capture the essence of providing full medical service vis-à-vis professional development of medical practitioners.

In the pipeline for next year's scientific sessions are the following very interesting and relevant topics:

### **CARING (PREVENTIVE)**

1. G.O.O.D. (Goiter, Osteoporosis, Obesity, Diet) HABITS
2. FOTI vs TOFI (Fat Outside, Thin Inside vs Thin Outside, Fat Inside)
3. Lose muscles, Gain Fats (Age related Sarcopenia)
4. SELFIE saves lives (importance of self BP and blood glucose monitoring)
5. A Stick in Time saves mine (timely vaccination saves lives)

6. Smoking Gun, Smoking Gone: The hazards of First, Second and Third Hand Smoke)

### **MENDING (TREATMENT)**

1. MAXI vs MINI (Open/Traditional surgical procedures vs Minimally Invasive surgery)
2. Antibiotic Resistance
3. Hot flashes, hormone replacement and menopause issues
4. Forever Young (Medical vs Surgical)
5. To cut or not to cut (Foot Ulcers)

### **SHARING**

1. Medical Professionalism
2. Rich Doc, Poor Doc (Financial literacy for Medical practitioners)
3. Health vs Wellness (7 Dimensions of Wellness: Emotional, Environmental, Intellectual, Occupational, Physical, Spiritual and Social)

3.1 The Doctors Wear Prada: (Practical Dressing-Looking Good doesn't have to be expensive)

These learning portfolios are very well-aligned with PMA's vision to foster a culture of lifelong learning. Take the challenge of keeping abreast with the new development in the medical field and earn a CME credit today.

☪•☪•☪•☪•☪

# PMA COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

**COMMISSION ON LEGISLATION**

Filomena S. San Juan, MD

**COMMISSION ON ETHICS**

Santiago A. Del Rosario, MD

**COMMISSION ON CONTINUING  
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

Rebecca W. Deduyo, MD

**COMMISSION ON MUTUAL AID**

Albert C. Guevarra, MD

**COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS****COMMISSION ON PROFESSIONAL  
SPECIALIZATION**

Maria Minerva P. Calimag, MD

**COMMISSION ON AUDIT**

Teresita Ortin-Oliver, MD

**COMMITTEE ON FOOD, DRUG  
AND COSMETICS**

Sonia E. Bongala, MD

**COMMITTEE ON HOSPITALS AND  
LABORATORIES**

Tomas P. Maramba Jr., MD

**COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH,  
EDUCATION & CULTURE**

Jose Florencio F. Lapeña Jr., MD

**COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

Jose Asa Sabili, MD

**COMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND  
PLANNING**

Albert C. Guevarra, MD

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Harry G. Soller, MD

**COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AFFAIRS****COMMITTEE ON MEMBERSHIP  
SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT**

Marianne L. Ordoñez-Dobles, MD

**COMMITTEE ON AWARDS**

Jose Asa Sabili, MD

**COMMITTEE SPECIAL PROJECTS**

Nenita C. Lee Tan, MD

**COMMITTEE ON AFFILIATE SOCIETIES**

Ma. Encarnita B. Limpin, MD

**COMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY  
AND DISASTER**

Hector M. Santos Jr., MD

**COMMITTEE ON BY-LAWS AND  
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE**

Bayani B. Tecson, MD

**ADHOC COMMITTEE ON CMAAO**

Jose Asa Sabili, MD

**COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS**

Marianne L. Ordoñez-Dobles, MD

**COMMITTEE ON FOUNDATION DAY**

Arnel M. Asino, MD

**COMMITTEE ON MEDICINE WEEK**

Carlito P. Pajarillo MD

**COMMITTEE ON ANNUAL  
CONVENTION**

Ma. Realiza G. Henson, MD

**COMMITTEE ON MEDIA AFFAIRS**

Ms. Hilda Ong

**COMMITTEE ON PHYSICAL PLANT  
AND DEVELOPMENT**

Lakandula A. Elayda, MD

**ADHOC COMMITTEE ON ADVOCACY  
AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

Anthony C. Leachon, MD

**COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL  
HEALTH AND ECOLOGY**

Edgardo Ulysses N. Dorotheo, MD

**COMMITTEE ON MEDICAL  
MISSIONS**

Ferdinand E. Cercenia, MD

**COMMITTEE ON INDIGENCY  
CLINIC**

Domingo C. Pascual Jr., MD

**COMMITTEE ON SPORTS**

Alfred Q. Lasala II, MD

**COMMITTEE ON OPINION BUREAU**

Ma. Encarnita B. Limpin, MD

**COMMITTEE ON PHIC and HMO**

Maria Minerva P. Calimag, MD

**COMMITTEE ON INFORMATION  
TECHNOLOGY AND  
COMPUTERIZATION**

Alvin Valeriano B. Marcelo, MD

**COMMITTEE ON NUTRITION**

Cynthia Cuayo-Juico, MD

**COMMITTEE ON PROTOCOL**

Marianne L. Ordoñez-Dobles, MD

**COMMITTEE ON BIDS AND  
AWARDS**

Salvador G. Silverio, MD

**COMMITTEE ON DOCTOR'S INN**

Francisco E. San Diego Jr., MD

**COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL  
RELATIONS**

Jose Asa Sabili, MD

**COMMITTEE ON AUDITORIUM AND  
DOCTOR'S LOUNGE**

Sylvanno T. Agustin, MD

**COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY AND  
ARCHIVES**

Santiago A. Del Rosario, MD

## PMA 8 SPECIALTY DIVISION PRESIDENTS



**Philippine Academy of  
Family Physicians**  
*Alex J. Bienvenido D. Alip, Jr., MD*



**Philippine College of  
Physicians**  
*Mariano B. Lopez, MD*



**Philippine College of  
Radiology**  
*Johanna Patricia A. Cañal, MD*



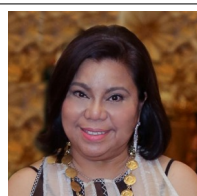
**Philippine College of  
Surgeons**  
*Arturo E. Mendoza Jr., MD*



**Philippine Obstetrical and  
Gynecological Society**  
*Ditas Cristina D. Decena, MD*



**Philippine Pediatric Society**  
*Milagros Salvani-Bautista, MD*



**Philippine Society of  
Anesthesiologists**  
*Ma. Concepcion L. Cruz, MD*



**Philippine Society of  
Pathologists**  
*Januario Antonio D. Veloso Jr., MD*



By:  
**ARNEL M. ASINO, MD**

## SPECIALTY SOCIETIES

### PHILIPPINE ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

Hospice and Pallative Medicine  
Philippine College of Emergency Medicine  
Philippine College of Occupational  
Medicine

### PHILIPPINE COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

Diabetes Philippines  
Philippine Academy of Rehabilitation  
Medicine  
Philippine College of Chest Physicians  
Philippine College of Geriatric Medicine  
Philippine Dermatological Society  
Philippine Heart Association  
Philippine Neurological Association  
Philippine Psychiatric Association  
Philippine Rheumatology Association  
Philippine Society of Allergy, Asthma &  
Immunology, Inc.  
Philippine Society of Endocrinology  
Diabetes and Metabolism  
Philippine Society of Gastroenterology  
Philippine Society of General Internal  
Medicine  
Philippine Society of Nuclear Medicine  
Philippine Society for Hematology and  
Blood Transfusion  
Philippine Society of Medical Oncology  
Philippine Society of Microbiology and  
Infectious Disease  
Philippine Society of Nephrology

### PHILIPPINE COLLEGE OF RADIOLOGY

Computed Tomography Magnetic  
Resonance Imaging Society of the  
Philippines  
Philippine Radiation Oncology Society  
Philippine Society of Vascular and  
Interventional Radiology  
Ultrasound Society of the Philippines



## PHILIPPINE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

Academy of Filipino Neurosurgeons  
 Association of Women Surgeons of the Philippines  
 Philippine Academy for Head and Neck Surgery, Inc.  
 Philippine Academy of Ophthalmology  
 Philippine Association of Plastic Reconstructive & Aesthetic Surgeons  
 Philippine Association of Thoracic & Cardiovascular Surgeons, Inc.  
 Philippine Association of Training Officers in Surgery  
 Philippine Hip and Knee Society  
 Philippine Orthopaedic Association, Inc.  
 Philippine Society of Colon & Rectal Surgeons  
 Philippine Society of General Surgeons, Inc.  
 Philippine Society of Laparoscopic & Endoscopic Surgeons  
 Philippine Society of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery, Inc.  
 Philippine Society of Pediatric Surgeons  
 Philippine Society of Ultrasound in Surgeons  
 Philippine Society for the Surgery of Trauma  
 Philippine Society for Transplant Surgeons  
 Philippine Society for Vascular Surgery  
 Philippine Spine Society

Philippine Urological Association  
 Surgical Oncology Society of the Philippines

## PHILIPPINE OBSTETRICAL AND GYNECOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Perinatal Association of the Philippines  
 Philippine Society for Cervical Pathology & Coloscopy  
 Philippine Society for Gynecologic Endoscopy Foundation Inc.  
 Philippine Society for Study of Trophoblastic Disease  
 Philippine Society of Climacteric Medicine  
 Philippine Society of Maternal and Fetal Medicine  
 Philippine Society of Reproductive Endocrinology and Infertility, Inc.  
 Philippine Society of Ultrasound in Obstetrics & Gynecology  
 Society of Gynecologic Oncology of the Philippines

## PHILIPPINE SOCIETY OF PATHOLOGISTS

## PHILIPPINE PEDIATRIC SOCIETY

Child Neurology Society of the Philippines, Inc.  
 Pediatric Infectious Disease Society of the Philippines, Inc.  
 Pediatric Nephrology Society of the Philippines  
 Philippine Academy of Pediatric Pulmonologists, Inc.

Philippine Society for Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics

Philippine Society of Adolescent Medicine Specialist

Philippine Society of Newborn Medicine

Philippine Society of Pediatric Cardiology

Philippine Society of Pediatric Gastroenterology, Hepatology, and Nutrition

Philippine Society of Pediatric Metabolism and Endocrinology

Philippine Society of Pediatric Hematology

Philippine Society of Pediatric Oncology

Philippine Society of Pediatric Surgeons

Section of Allergy & Immunology

Section of Ambulatory Pediatrics

Section of Community Pediatrics

Section of Genetics

Society of Pediatric Critical Care Medicine

## PHILIPPINE SOCIETY OF ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

Philippine Society of Cardiothoracic Anesthesiologists, Inc.

Philippine Society of Pediatric Anesthesiologists

Society for Neuroanesthesiologist of the Philippines

Society of Obstetric Anesthesia of the Philippines

• • • • •

## - AFFILIATE SOCIETIES -

Aerospace Medical Association of the Philippines  
 Community Pediatrics Society of the Philippines  
 Department of Education & Culture Physicians Association  
 Fetus as Patient Institute of the Philippines  
 Maternal and Child Health Association of the Philippines  
 Molecular Oncology Society of the Philippines  
 Osteoporosis Society of the Philippines  
 Pan Pacific Aesthetic Institute (PPAI) Foundation Inc.  
 Pain Society of the Philippines  
 Philippine Academy of Cutaneous Surgery  
 Philippine Academy of Lactation Consultants, Inc.  
 Philippine Academy of Aesthetic and Age Management Medicine Inc.  
 Philippine Academy of Aesthetic Surgery  
 Philippine Academy of Clinical and Cosmetic Dermatology, Inc.

Philippine Academy of Dermatologic Surgery Foundation, Inc.  
 Philippine Academy of Medical Specialists, Inc.  
 Philippine Ambulatory Pediatric Association, Inc.  
 Philippine Association of Academic Biochemists  
 Philippine Association for the Study of Overweight and Obesity  
 Philippine Association of Medical Writers  
 Philippine Association of Military Surgeons, Inc.  
 Philippine Association of Primary Skin Health Physicians Inc.  
 Philippine College of Addiction Medicine  
 Philippine College of Pharmaceutical Medicine  
 Philippine Federation of Private Medical Practitioners  
 Philippine Leprosy Society  
 Philippine Lipid and Atherosclerosis Society  
 Philippine Medical Artists Association  
 Philippine Society for Burn Injuries

Philippine Society For Cosmetic Surgery  
 Philippine Society for the Study of the Aging Male Foundation Inc.  
 Philippine Society of Anatomists  
 Philippine Society of Critical Care Medicine  
 Philippine Society of Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology  
 Philippine Society of Hypertension  
 Philippine Society of Insurance Medicine  
 Philippine Society of Medical Specialists (in Government Service)  
 Philippine Society of Neurological Surgeons  
 Philippine Society of Oncologists  
 Philippine Society of Sleep Medicine  
 Philippine Society of Ultrasound and Clinical Medicine, Inc.  
 Philippine Society of Venereologists, Inc.  
 Philippine Thyroid Association  
 Sports Medicine Association of the Philippines

• • • • •

# **DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT TO THE ETHOS OF THE PHILIPPINE MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

## **Background**

**Ethos** is the spirit and moral nature of a community or individual. It is derived from the Greek word for *character*, which is the trustworthiness or credibility of a person. Ethos forms the guiding beliefs of the person or community, which in turn, builds the codes or ethics that guides the community or organization in its behaviour. Thus, ethos resides within the person, while ethics are displayed in words, symbols, and actions.

If the leaders' ethos is of good character, it builds esprit de corps (moral), if it is bad, morale suffers. It has this powerful effect because it establishes the way members interact with each other in an organization and the degree of responsibility they have to achieving the organization's goals and objectives.

The practice of Medicine has had recent major changes that impact on the Standards of Conduct, Performance and Ethics of the Medical Profession, i.e., shifts in physician-patient interaction, shifts in physician-industry interaction, social media in healthcare, etc.

In the spirit of interprofessional collaborative practice, the practice of the medical profession, invariably requires a safe and ethical physician engaged in a systematic environment made conducive to such safe practice together with other healthcare professionals.

**I understand that my role as a Filipino physician at the Philippine Medical Association is a significant responsibility and will make it a priority. I look forward to working with other Filipino physicians and, like the others:**

### **I commit to uphold the tenets of the Oath of Hippocrates**

- \* Will offer my expertise to help maintain the highest level of practice of the medical profession;
- \* Will look after the welfare of my fellow physicians;

### **I commit to always place the Mission first**

- \* Support the Mission, Vision, Values and Goals of the Philippine Medical Association;
- \* Will ensure a commitment to the best interest of the organization as a whole.

### **I commit to strengthen and uphold the PMA Code of Ethics**

- \* Will continually uplift the level of ethical culture of the Association so that it is able to achieve what really matters;
- \* Will actively report unethical behaviour and regularly survey leaders and staff as to how well the Code is being met.

### **I commit to ensure the best interest of my patients**

- \* Will work with the rest of the team to communicate the organization's role to ensure the safety of our patients.

**As Filipino Physicians, we commit to strengthen our Philippine Medical Association Code of Ethics that will work for positive change, towards serving the needs of its constituents, the original intentions so captured in the PMA's mission and values of integrity, dignity, respect for peers, dedication to every physician's constituent rights and patient's safety.**

**I have read and fully agree to this Declaration of Commitment and look forward to assisting the Philippine Medical Association in this role.**

**Signed this 20<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2015 at Marriott Hotel Grand Ballroom, Pasay City, Manila, PHILIPPINES**