



Pharmacists for Better Health  
Outcomes

# THE HYGEIAN

The official e-Newsletter of the Philippine Pharmacists Association, Inc.

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## Upcoming Conferences:

- ◆ 23rd Asian Conference on Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) | 25-28 July 2024 | Interprofessional Collaboration for Better & Cost-effective Outcomes: From Greater Bay Area (GBA) to the Globe | Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre Link: <https://www.accp2024.org/en/registration-information.php>
- ◆ 82nd FIP World Congress of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences | 4-8 September 2024; | Innovating for the future of health care | Cape Town, South Africa; Link: <https://capetown2024.fip.org/>
- ◆ FAPA 2024; October 29-November 2, 2024; COEX, Seoul, Korea; Link: [https://fapa.asia/fapa\\_congress\\_main/](https://fapa.asia/fapa_congress_main/)

## A Glimpse of the PPhA National Convention 2024: “Empowering for the N.E.X.T in Healthcare”

This year, the Philippine Pharmacists Association, Inc. National Convention 2024, the highly anticipated and dynamic gathering, welcomes all Filipino Pharmacists, stakeholders, regulators, partners and visionaries to a transformative event with the theme **"EMPOWERING FOR THE N.E.X.T. IN HEALTHCARE"**.

The 2024 PPhA National Convention will be held on April 11-13, 2024 at the Iloilo Convention Center and has been awarded with 20 CPD units for onsite attendance and 16 units for virtual participation via the Zoom platform.

The Scientific Program of the convention has been divided into 4 plenary sessions covering:

**N (NOVEL PHARMACY PRACTICES):** Explore groundbreaking and innovative pharmacy practices that redefine the landscape of healthcare. From cutting-edge technologies to revolutionary



approaches, discover how novel practices are reshaping the future of pharmacy.

**E (ENGAGED PATIENT-CENTRIC APPROACHES):** Dive into the heart of patient-centric care, where Pharmacists engagement takes center stage. Uncover strategies and initiatives that empower patients, fostering a collaborative and inclusive approach to healthcare delivery.

**X (EXPANDED PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS):** Witness the power of collaboration as we explore expanded partnerships among healthcare professionals. Learn how interdis-

ciplinary collaborations are enriching the healthcare ecosystem, leading to holistic and comprehensive patient care.

**T (TRAINING AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT OF PHARMACISTS):** Embark on a journey of continuous improvement with a focus on the training and skills development of Pharmacists. Discover initiatives that empower the profession to adapt, grow, and thrive in the ever-evolving healthcare landscape.

This year's Keynote Address entitled, "Charting Strategic Policy Direction for the N.E.X.T in

...continued on page 7

## New PPhA Officers for Term 2023-2026 Installed



*The PPhA Officers for the Term 2023-2026 took their oath last June 25, 2023 at the Bonifacio C Hall Shangri-La The Fort Manila, Taguig City*

The installation of the new PPhA Officers and Board of Trustees was held last June 25, 2023 at Bonifacio C Hall Shangri-La The Fort Manila, Taguig City. The PPhA officers were elected from the board of trustees selected by 4,660 out of 5,860 (80%) voters during the elections conducted in the PPhA National Convention 2023 last May 25, 2023 at the SMX Convention Center Clark, Pampanga.

The new PPhA Officers are for the term 2023-2026 are:

- President: Aleth Therese L. Dacanay
- Executive Vice-President: Hazel Faye R. Docuyan
- Executive Secretary: Maria Donnabelle U. Dean
- Assistant Secretary: Rosalynn L. Pangan

- Treasurer: Mona Lita S. Maracha
- Assistant Treasurer: Ma. Lourdes S. Garganera
- Auditor: Helen Maita E. Reyes
- PRO: Maria Fay Nenette M. Cariaga
- Trustee: Ma. Gilda S. Saljay

Vice Presidents:

- Luzon: Dennis O. Casares
- Visayas: Mellisa R. Dela Cruz-Mirto
- Mindanao: Jevie Lyn P. Tan Nery

Section Representatives:

- Pharmaceutical Education: Mark Ryan D. Langit;
- Pharmaceutical Practice: Jingle G. Diola
- Pharmaceutical Science: Erwin M. Faller. ■

## Pfizer gives grant for Training of 100 Immunizing Pharmacists

With the aim of training and certifying one hundred (100) immunizing pharmacists all over the Philippines for the “Filipino Immunizing Pharmacist Certification Program” or Pfizer-PPhA Immunizing Pharmacist (IP) Scholarship Program, PPhA solidified its partnership with Pfizer Inc. as representatives officially turned over the Medical Education Grant for the 100 for #ONEPPhA Filipino Immunizing Pharmacist Certification Program (FIPCP) Scholarship at the Red Jade, Manila Hotel last October 17, 2023.

The PPhA-FIPCP is an innovative interactive practice-based educational pro-

gram that provides Filipino pharmacists with the skills necessary to become primary sources for vaccine advocacy, education, and administration. This PPhA-Pfizer partnership will help in bringing in a new batch of trained pharmacists ready to advance public health through immunization services.

Eligible candidates for the FIPCP Scholarship programs were licensed pharmacists who are active members of PPhA and their chapter, affiliate or sectoral organizations. Regular employees with a minimum of 1-2 years of professional experience in a pharmacy setting were preferred.



*Pfizer representatives present the check for the Filipino Immunizing Pharmacist Certification Program Scholarship to PPhA President Dr. Dacanay and officers of the PPhA Board*

Scholars must have a valid BLS Training Certificate and Hepa B Vaccine/ Titer Value Certification.

The FIPCP training program ran from October 2023 to December 2023. ■



## PPhA celebrates 103rd Founding Anniversary with the theme, “The Filipino Pharmacists: Caring Medication Experts”

By: Jennifer M. Flores, RPh, RREB, MBA, JD

The Philippine Pharmacists Association celebrated its 103rd Founding Anniversary last August 29, 2023 with the theme, “The Filipino Pharmacists: Caring Medication Experts”. The event officially started with the blessing of the façade of the PPhA Office and unveiling of the new PPhA vision and mission. The festivities continued at the Bayleaf Hotel Intramuros Manila.

Assistant Secretary for Health Facility and Patient Support Team of the Department of Health Atty. Charade B. Mercado-Grande served as the Key-



PPhA Board and Council of Advisers with DOH Assistant Secretary Atty. Charade B. Mercado-Grande during the PPhA 103rd Founding Anniversary

note Speaker for the event. In her speech, Atty. Mercado-Grande declared, “*The role of the pharmacists extends beyond the traditional role of being health providers as you are deemed solution-oriented health professionals. Therefore, your participation is also evident in the development of effective health policy, designing contingency plans to contribute to resource mobilization by providing mechanisms that optimize medication use and distribution.*”

She also assured that the DOH recognizes the roles of the pharmacists in the fight against antimicrobial resistance, increasing awareness on generic medicines, providing service as drug therapy management experts and contributing to disease prevention as immunizing pharmacists. Atty. Mercado-Grande ended with a call towards collabo-

ration, in the light of complexities in the healthcare system, to “respond to the ever-changing needs of the people” and to contribute to the goal of revitalizing the Philippine Healthcare System.

The second part of the celebration looked back at the history of the organization with “PPhA Balik-Tanaw” since its inception in 1920. The PPhA Council of Leaders who have also served as past presidents of the association, Ms. Normita Leyesa, Ms. Leonila Ocampo, Ms. Olivia Limuaco, Ms. Yolanda Robles and Ms. Gilda Sebua-Saljay, joined in the Ceremonial Toast to PPhA.

The celebration ended with the singing of the Philippine Pharmacy Hymn together with the call to continue serving in the organization with passion and to continue taking action for the future of Filipino pharmacists. ■

## PPhA launches new (PIDS) Database:

The Philippine Pharmacists Association officially launched its new database through its official Facebook page last February 17, 2024. The new database aims to consolidate members’ information and will function as a platform to personally invite and inform pharmacists to the upcoming events of PPhA.

It also serves as a one-stop shop where pharmacists can easily register to future events and seminars and quickly renew their PPhA membership online. To register, scan the QR code found below or go to <https://bit.ly/newpphaonlineaccountsignup>

The following information are required to register:

- Last Name, First Name
- PPhA Membership ID number, for those who have already registered or;
- PRC ID No.
- Contact No.
- Email Address
- Scanned copy of OR as proof of payment. ■



Access the new PIDS database here!!



Blessing of the new PPhA Office Facade



## PPhA gets ready to be Glocal Professionals at the PPS 12

By: Vina Rose Dahilig-Talan, MS.

The PPhA officers, led by President Aleth Therese Dacanay, attended the 12th Philippine Professional Summit (PPS12) held at the Manila Hotel, Philippines last October 17-18, 2023.

At the PPS12, the participants embarked on a transformative journey with esteemed Glocal Filipino Professionals with the Summit theme, "The Filipino Glocal Professionals: Riding through the Crest of Change." The yearly summit, organized by the Philippine Association of Professional Regulatory Board Members Inc., in cooperation with the Professional Regulation Commission, gathers professionals from various disciplines in Business, Education and Social

Services Professions, Medical and Health Professions, Engineering and Technology Professions for two days of insightful discussions, networking opportunities, and present action plans and strategies to upgrade the competencies of Filipino professionals as they thrive in an ever-changing world.

The summit was made available through a Hybrid Modality via the Zoom platform and face-to-face at the Manila Hotel and was granted with 15 CPD units.

With their active participation in the PPS12, the PPhA Officers align their strategies with PAPRB and PRC's future directions as Filipino Pharmacists adapt, thrive, and shape the future together. ■



PPhA Officers with the Professional Regulatory Board of Pharmacy at the 12th Philippine Professional Summit

## PPhA celebrates National Pharmacy Week 2024

By: Justine Marie Ocampo, PhD

*"Let us reaffirm our commitment to embracing education's vital role in ensuring quality healthcare in the Philippines, infused with the guiding principles of Christian values."*

Sister Ma. Marissa R. Viri, RVM gave her keynote address and warm greetings during the opening ceremonies of the National Pharmacy Week held last December 11, 2023 at the Buenaventura G. Paredes, OP Bldg., University of Santo Tomas, Manila. The opening ceremonies marked the beginning of the week-long celebration.

The following were some of the National Pharmacy Week's highlights:

"Kalingang PPhA Para sa Senior Citizens Ngayong Pasko", an extension activity project by PPhA in coordination with the 3rd District of Manila, Quiapo. The different affiliate organizations namely PACOP, PPGP, CPhAD and FJCPPhA also donated in-kind goods and milk products to the senior citizens of the said district.

PPhA Partners Day held on December 14 which aimed to convene the organization's industry partners and cele-



PPhA Officers with Sr. Ma. Marissa R. Viri, RVM, Keynote Speaker

brate good working relations with the pharmacy community. Member of PPhA Council of Leaders Ms. Leonila M. Ocampo discussed the key priority agenda of PPhA moving forward while Ms. Rosalynn Pangan and Mr. Mark Ryan Langit, sector

heads of PPhA, shared their respective sector advocacies. The week-long celebration concluded at the Manila Central University on December 16 with Dr. Renato C. Tanchoco, MCU's university president, as the keynote speaker. ■



## PPhA 2023 National Convention highlights Transformation and Resiliency in Pharmacy Practice

The Philippine Pharmacists Association, Inc. (PPhA) National Convention 2023 was held last May 24-26, 2023 through hybrid modality with onsite attendance at the SMX Convention Center Clark, Mabalacat, Pampanga and online via Zoom. The Scientific Program was granted with 20 CPD units.

Around 5,240 pharmacists attended the convention. With the theme “Transformational Pharmacy

Practice for Sustainable Healthcare”, the national convention featured discussions on “Forward thinking Approaches in Pharmacy Practice” which highlighted success stories on the expansion of pharmacy roles across communities and stories on resilience and surpassing challenges during the pandemic.

Eamon Daragh Connolly, Chair of the Board of Pharmaceutical Practice of the Inter-



*PPhA Officers and Board of Trustees, PPhA Chapter, Affiliate and Sectoral Organization Presidents and Convention Speakers gathered together for the Processional during the Opening Ceremonies of the PPhA NatCon 2023*



*Top: PPhA Officers and Organizing Committee members celebrate on the first day of the 2023 PPhA National Convention at the SMX Convention Center Clark, Pampanga; Bottom: The 2023 Outstanding Pharmacist in the Industry, Ms. Roan P. Evangelista, Outstanding Pharmacist in the Industry, Dean Fatima May Tesoro and Outstanding Pharmacist in Research, Dr. Agnes L. Castillo*

national Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP) gave the Key-note Lecture. Dr. Samuel Zaccate, FDA Director General also delivered his message of support to the PPhA Convention. Day 2 of the convention showcased inspirational stories from past PPhA Awardees and included panel discussions on transformational leaders as ambassadors of Philippine Pharmacy Practice. Expert speakers also shared their insights on “Reinventing New Age Practices: Diversity, Inclusivity and Equity in Pharmacy.” This was followed by the fellowship night with the theme, “PPhA goes to the Movies”.

The last day of the convention featured discussions on the future directions of Philippine Pharmacy practice with the plenary session, “Manifesting Sustainability in Pharmacy and in Healthcare.”

Updates on the Philippine Pharmacy Roadmap was also presented and a consultative panel discussion followed. The PPhA General Assembly and General Membership Meeting was conducted in the afternoon session after the Oral Research Presentations.

The 2023 Convention was very significant in PPhA history as this was also the first PPhA election conducted after the pandemic. ■



*The 2023 PPhA National Convention Logo was conceptualized by Mark Anthony M. Casilla. The design featured a butterfly that signifies the beautiful metamorphosis that comes after overcoming challenges. The ten stars surrounding the butterfly represented the characteristics of the Ten-Star Pharmacist.*



## PPhA takes part in the 2023 FAPA Congress, builds partnership with Korean Pharmaceutical Association (KPA)

By: Vina Rose Dahilig-Talan, MS

Filipino pharmacists actively joined as one of the largest delegations from the 24 member countries in the 2023 Federation of Asian Pharmaceutical Associations (FAPA) Congress last October 24-28, 2023 at the Taipei International Convention Center.

With the theme: "Health Systems Resilience, Security, and Equity: Pharmacists Can Help", the 29th FAPA Congress highlights the resilience and fairness of health and

social systems to overcome public health challenges, and how pharmacists can contribute as frontliners that ensure the equitable distribution of safe and effective medicines and evidence-based health information.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony, led by the FAPA President and PPhA former President and Member of the PPhA Council of Advisers, Dr. Yolanda Robles, was held to officially start the congress.

The PPhA's attendance to the 29th FAPA Congress was also historic as it served as a venue for PPhA's Memorandum of Understanding Signing with the Korean Pharmaceutical Association (KPA) held on October 27, 2023. In attendance during the MOU signing were PPhA President, Dr. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay and KPA President Dr. Kwang-



The 2023 FAPA Congress Opening Ceremonies with representatives from FAPA's 24 member countries



MoU Signing Ceremony between KPA and PPhA

Hoon Choi. The purposes of the MOU are to improve mutual understanding and friendship between PPhA, Inc. and KPA as well as to provide added value to the improvement of pharmacist professionalism and fine-tuning the proposal of pharmaceutical regulations in the government.

The FAPA Congress provided a special platform for sharing of expertise, presentation of new developments or discoveries, learning of new strategies, and networking with pharmacists from other organizations. ■

## Filipino Pharmacists win big in 2023 FAPA Congress

Filipino pharmacists were given recognitions for their exemplary global achievements last October 27, 2023 at the Taiwan International Convention Center during the 29th Federation of Asian Pharmacists Association Congress in Taipei, Taiwan.

Former PPhA President and Member of the PPhA Council of Leaders, Dr. Yolanda R. Robles, was conferred with the Honorary Fellowship by the FAPA-College of Pharmacy (FAPA-CP) during the FAPA-CP Graduation. Dr. Robles was recognized for her lead-



Dr. Yolanda Robles is conferred with the Honorary Fellowship by the FAPA-College of Pharmacy during the FAPA-CP Graduation



Dr. Imelda G. Peña receives the FAPA Section Award for Social and Administrative Pharmacy

ership in both national and international organizations of pharmacy and for being a prime mover and advocate of various programs that aimed to enhance the competencies of pharmacists. The Federa-

tion of Asian Pharmaceutical Associations College of Pharmacy (FAPA CP) is an affiliate organization of FAPA that serves as an advanced training ...continued in page 7

## A Glimpse of the PPhA National Convention 2024: “Empowering for the N.E.X.T in Healthcare”

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Healthcare: Viewpoints from the Philippine Senate Committee on Health” will be given by Hon. Sen. Christopher Lawrence T. Go, Chairman of the Committees on Health, Demography and Sports. The message will discuss legislative measures aimed at ensuring equitable access to quality healthcare for all, the integral role of Pharmacists within the framework of innovative programs and policy interventions and updates on the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Implementation vis-a-vis Department of Health’s Programs.

The Keynote Lecture on “The Philippine Pharmaceutical Landscape: Trends and Analysis, to be delivered by Ms. Mylene Rodriguez, CPA, General Manager of IQVIA, will feature updates from the Philippine pharmaceutical market, discussions on the Ethical, OTC, and Consumer Health products as elements of growth, identification of macro-economic challenges and future growth drivers, and discussions of current pharmaceutical trends in the ASEAN and Global market to get glimpses on the future directions of Filipino Pharmacists.

The Keynote Lecture entitled “Learnings from the Federation of Asian Pharmaceutical Associations Pharmaceutical Market” will be presented by FAPA President Dr. Yolanda R. Robles. The lecture will highlight the results of the benchmarking initiatives on Pharmacists’ roles for all-round healthcare initiative upgrades, and will feature international models, frameworks and standards for Asian Pharmacists.

Highlights of the conference include thought-provoking keynote lectures that aim to provide insights into the challenges, opportunities and innovations that shape the industry. The interactive panel discussions and oral presentations are also designed to enhance skills and empower attendees with practical knowledge applicable as we usher in the N.E.X.T. era of healthcare. ■



*The Iloilo Convention Center, home of the PPhA National Convention 2024*

## Filipino Pharmacists win big in 2023 FAPA Congress

*...continued from page 6*

platform for pharmacists across the member countries.

In the same congress, Immunizing Pharmacist Certification Program (IPCP) adviser, Dr. Imelda G. Peña, was presented with the FAPA Social and Administrative Pharmacy Section Award. Dr. Peña was given the award for her work in spearheading the development of the IPCP training modules for PPhA.

Three Outstanding Good Pharmacy Practice (GPP) Alumni awardees were also recognized for their exemplary work in pursuing a higher

standard of pharmaceutical services in the Asian region. Prof. Roderick L. Salenga, Dean Francis R. Capule, and FAPA Secretary-General Christine Aileen Benosa received their awards from FAPA Foundation President Mr. Joseph Wang during the GPP forum.

The PPhA delegation also bagged the 3<sup>rd</sup> Best Performer Award as they showcased the true Filipino spirit with their award-winning dance presentation in the Gala Dinner on the last day of the Congress on October 28, 2023. ■



*PPhA delegation wins 3rd Best Performance during the Gala Dinner of the FAPA Congress on October 28, 2023 in Taiwan*



## Oath Taking Ceremony for New Pharmacists held

By: Jarmaine Z. David, PharmD.

With a national passing percentage of 73.65%, a total of 2,974 out of 4,038 examinees have triumphed in the Pharmacists Licensure Examination conducted by the Board of Pharmacy composed of Hon. Mildred B. Oliveros (Officer-In-Charge), Hon. Adelina C. Royo, and Hon. Anthony Aldrin C. Santiago. The examination took place across multiple locations last November 2-3, 2023.

The oath-taking ceremony for the new pharmacists was held at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC) last December 9, 2023 at 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm.

The ceremony started with a procession comprising of the November 2023 board topnotchers, deans from pharmacy schools and colleges, key officers which included Dr. Maria Fay Nenette Cariaga, President of the Philippine Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (PACOP), Dr. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, President of the Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA), and the distinguished members of the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) Board of Pharmacy. Hon. Jose Y. Cueto Jr., Commissioner II of the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC), gave the keynote address that further inspired the new pharmacy professionals in serving the public.

The Pharmacist's Oath and Panunumpa ng Propesyunal formalized the induction of the 2,974 new pharmacists, signifying their commitment and acceptance of responsibilities associated with professional licensure under the Republic of the Philippines.

The ceremony recognized the top ten examinees, each receiving awards from different pharmacy professional organizations. The topnotcher, Justine KayeFajardo Gajo, hailing from Centro

Escolar University-Manila, was awarded by Dr. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, PPhA President

The top performing schools were also awarded taking into account both outstanding performance and the number of examinees. Saint Louis University secured the highest spot with an impressive passing percentage of 96.84%, followed closely by Angeles University Foundation (96.10%), University of Santo Tomas (95.05%), Negros Oriental State University-Dumaguete (92.16%), San Pedro College-Davao City (91.16%), Aquinas University (89.47%), Centro Escolar University-Malolos (87.72%), Our Lady of Fatima University-Antipolo City (87.10%), Centro Escolar University-Manila (86.33%), and De La Salle Medical and Health Sciences Institute (86.15%).

Following the recognition rites, the ceremony proceeded with the response from Ms. Gajo, the November 2023 exam topnotcher. The induction of new members into the PPhA, led by Dr. Dacanay signified their official debut as professionals. The event concluded with the final message from Hon. Santiago.

The oath taking ceremony not only celebrated the academic triumphs of the new Filipino pharmacists but also sets the stage for their commitment to serving humanity through pharmacy practice by acknowledging top achievers, providing inspirational guidance, and instilling a sense of pride and anticipation as these professionals embark on their careers. ■

*Top right: Mr. Lorenzo Javier of DOH-PD as a speaker during the 1st General Assembly of PPhA Affiliate and Sector Organizations; Bottom right: PPhA President Dr. Aleth Dacanay at the Oathtaking Ceremonies of Pharmacists*

## First General Assembly of Sectoral and Affiliate Organizations Conducted

Hosted by the Section on Pharmacy Practice and Professional Specialization Committee chaired by Ms. Jingle G. Diola, RPh, MBA, the PPhA conducted the first Sectoral and Affiliate General Assembly last September 16, 2023 at the Bayleaf Intramuros, Manila.

This high-impact meeting served as a platform for all stakeholders under the scope of Pharmacy Practice to come together, gather insights, discuss challenges and collaboratively chart the 3 year development goals of the Section or Committee aligned with the overall PPhA key performance areas as directed by PPhA. Goals, Key Performance Areas and definition of PPhA Chapter,

Affiliates and Sectoral Organizations based on the Constitution and By-laws (CBL) were presented by PPhA President Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, RPh, PhD. Keynote messages were given by Dr. Irene Flor-entino-Fariñas Director II, OIC, FDA-Policy and Planning Service and Mr. Lorenzo P. Javier, RPh, Pharmacist III AC Secretariat of the Pharmaceutical Division of the Department of Health.

PPhA affiliates and sectoral organizations CPAP, COSHWELL, IPAP, DOH-LP, PACOP, PAPPI, PAPVI, PSHP, PPGP, FJCPPHA and YPG represented by their respective officers participated in this meeting. ■





## PPhA Officers, Committees chart Future Directions for Term 2023-2026

By: Maria Fay Nenette M. Cariaga, PhD.

“The Philippine Pharmacists Association, Inc. is taking a trajectory that is both forward-looking and trailblazing. We cannot sit still and let things happen. We dream big. We take huge steps. We make things happen. That is the credo we shall all live by. It is important that we strengthen our support to all of our members and future members who are also integral members of the healthcare workforce.”

This was articulated by Dr. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, President (2023-2026) during the PPhA Inc.’s Leadership Session, Teambuilding

Activities, and Strategic Planning for the term 2023-2026, with the theme, “Dream, Believe, Achieve: We’re all in this together”, held on July 29-30, 2023 at the Sampaguita Hall A of the Manila Hotel,

This is a milestone for the good association as the high – yield event gathered together all its officers, Board of Trustees, committee chairpersons, and Council of Advisers in revisiting, deliberating, and setting the strategic directions for the ultimate good of its members, the pharmacy profession and healthcare as a whole. ■

## PPhA pledges full support against Counterfeit Meds in the NCWACM 2023



PPhA Executive Secretary Dr. Maria Donnabelle U. Dean delivering PPhA’s special message of support on behalf of President Dacanay

The Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA) renewed its strong partnership with the Food and Drug Administration Philippines through its powerful message of support in the fight against counterfeit medicines last November 24, 2023 at the Vivere Hotel, Alabang, Muntinlupa. PPhA President Dr. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay was represented by Dr. Maria Donnabelle U. Dean, PPhA Executive Secretary.

Through Dr. Dean, Dr. Dacanay expressed the PPhA’s appreciation in being invited to be a part of the 2023 National Consciousness Week Against Counterfeit Medicines. She stressed that pharmacists have a vital role to play in the campaign against counterfeit medicines. The Philippine Pharmacists Association, Inc. committed to engage in activities that support the initiatives in the fight against counterfeit medicines through the following actions:

- Promote awareness about the dangers of counterfeit drugs among the public and within professional networks.
- Support and participate in educational campaigns and workshops on this topic.
- Collaborate with healthcare professionals, law enforcement, and regulatory agencies to identify and report suspected counterfeit drugs.
- Encourage the adoption of technologies and practices that ensure the authenticity and safety of medications.

Her message concluded with a strong reassurance of the PPhA’s unity with the FDA in the fight against counterfeit medicines. ■



Top: Oath-taking of PPhA Standing Committee Chairpersons 2023-2026; Bottom: PPhA President Dr. Dacanay presenting her goals for the organization during the strategic planning of the association

## PPhA Speaks Up as Resource Expert on HB 8554, E-botika Bill

Dr. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, President of the Philippine Pharmacists Association, Inc. (PPhA, Inc.), took a pivotal role as a distinguished resource speaker during the deliberations on House Bill No. 8554, more commonly referred to as the E-pharma or E-botika Bill, organized by the Committee on Trade and Industry of the House of Representatives on February 20, 2024.

Dr. Dacanay shared her insights and indicated the position of the PPhA on the House Bill alongside key stakeholders including the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Philippine Medical Association (PMA), Consumer Healthcare Industry Association of the Philippines (CHAP), Drugstores Association of the Philippines Inc. (DSAP), The Pharmaceutical and Healthcare Association of the Philippines (PHAP) and other leaders from the pharmaceutical industry.

The e-Botika bill, introduced by Iloilo 4th District Representative Ferjenel Biron, seeks to oversee the establishment and functioning of online pharmacies, referred to as "e-Botikas," across the Philippines. The bill highlights the pressing need for regulation due to the surge in e-commerce, wherein a vast number of pharmacies engage in illegal and improper practices. Rep. Biron claims that the proliferation of e-Botikas poses significant risks to public health, as it increases the prevalence of unsafe and counterfeit drugs and medicines.

Dr. Dacanay shared that the PPhA strongly advocates for provisions in the Bill that should be included for the protec-

tion of consumers against scrupulous e-prescriptions. Measures concerning signatures, the return of used prescriptions, and partial filling must therefore be implemented. Additionally, the legislation should precisely delineate criteria for identifying genuine online pharmacies amidst the proliferation of online vendors. She also emphasized the necessity of an educational campaign in the event of the bill's approval. The PPhA's active presence in deliberations for legislation affecting public health underscores the commitment of pharmacy leaders to advancing regulations that ensure the highest standards of pharmaceutical care and patients' well-being. ■



*PPhA President Dr. Dacanay with stakeholders during the E-botika Bill consultation held last February 20, 2024*

## PPhA supports DOLE's 90th Year Celebration

*By: Jennifer M. Flores, RPh, RREB, MBA, JD*

A two-day Medical Mission and Wellness Program for the employees of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) was held at the DOLE Central Office, Intramuros, Manila from 5 to 6 December as part of the DOLE's 90th Anniversary.

In its second year, the Philippine Pharmacists Association was tapped to source medicines from various donors and dispensing of medicines to recipients. Jennifer Flores is the Team Lead of the PPhA for this initiative for two years (2022 and 2023).

The following chain drug stores provided medicines for the medical mission this year: Mercury Drug, South Star Drug, The Generics Pharmacy, and Watsons.

The following pharmacists dispensed medicines to the recipients on 5 and 6 December 2023: Rebecca Flores (Community Pharmacists Association of the Philippines); Cristina Magdula (PPhA CAMANAVA Chapter); Christopher Maming (PPhA QCCEM Chapter); Guia Rizette Mangulabnan (PPhA QCCEM Chapter); and Rosenanette Nastor (PPhA CAMANAVA



*PPhA volunteers with Dr. Mildred Oliveros during the first day of the DOLE Medical Mission held last December 5-6, 2023*

Chapter). Hon. Mildred Oliveros, OIC Chairperson, Professional Regulatory Board of Pharmacy, Professional Regu-

lation Commission also joined the PPhA members on 5 December 2023. ■



## PPGP, CPhAD recognized as new PPhA Sectoral Organizations

By: Vina Rose Dahilig-Talan, MS

The Philippine Pharmacists Association Inc. (PPhA) welcomed the Pharmacy Preceptors Guild of the Philippines, Inc. (PPGP) through its President, Anbel M. Bautista, RPh, MS Pharm. and the Community Pharmacists Association of DSAP, Inc. (CPhAD) with National President Maribel Rafael as the newest sectoral organizations of PPhA.

PPGP was given the recognition last September 16, 2023 at the Bayleaf Intramuros, Manila while CPhAD was officially conferred last December 14, 2023 during the Closing Ceremonies of the National Pharmacy Week held at the Helix Auditorium of the Manila Central University, City of Caloocan.

As per PPhA Guidelines, membership in sectoral organizations must be composed of individuals engaged in different fields of practice as defined in the Pharmacy Law. The scope of membership is nationwide and is legally independent, with separate SEC registration, from the PPhA.

PPGP and CPhAD officially joined the Young Pharmacists Group-Philippines (YPG-Phils) and the Federation of Junior Chapters of the Philippine Pharmacists Association (FJCPhA) as PPhA sectoral organizations. ■



President Anbel M. Bautista represented the Pharmacy Preceptors Guild of the Philippines, Inc. on its recognition as new PPhA sectoral organization

## PPhA Partners Day 2023: Celebrating Moments of Grace and Gratitude

The Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA) hosted the Partners Day, a gathering that celebrated the spirit of partnership, grace and gratitude among the various stakeholders in the Pharmacy community as part of the National Pharmacy Week celebrations.

The celebration took place last December 14, 2023, at the Dr. Robert C. Sy Grand Ballroom, 2F B.G. Paredes O.P. Bldg., University of Santo Tomas, Manila.

This event marked an occasion for Pharmacy leaders and key decision-makers to come together and reflect on the shared journey towards better healthcare and to support "Pharmacists as Caring

Medication Experts".

The program featured engaging networking discussions with highlights on PPhA's Key Priority Agenda discussed by PPhA President Aleth Dacanay, Directions of PPhA Moving Forward by PPhA former President and Member the of Council of Advisers Ms. Leonila Ocampo, Updates on PPhA Advocacy Programs by Ms. Rosalynn Pangan, Committee Chair on PPhA Advocacy and Mr. Mark Ryan Langit, Section Representative on Education and Committee Chair of Education, Training and Development. ■



President Maribel Felix received the recognition for CPhAD upon its conferment as a new PPhA sectoral organization



## Talaghay: PPhA Luzon

By: Dennis Casares, Vice President for Luzon

The Philippine Pharmacists Association Luzon Chapters conducted General Assembly Meetings and Induction of the newly elected Chapter officers. The occasions were attended by PPhA National President Prof. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay and VP for Luzon Dennis O. Casares.

PPhA President Prof. Dacanay talked about opportunities for Pharmacy profes-

sion. In her message, she also reminded the Luzon Chapter leaders to remember and do the following: Be Patient Centered, Promote Medication Therapy Management, Champion Public Health Initiatives, Lifelong Learning, Foster Collaborative Healthcare, Embrace Technological Advancements,

*...continued in page 13*



PPhA Nueva Ecija Chapter Induction of Officers  
October 21, 2023 at Hapag Vicenticos, Cabanatuan City



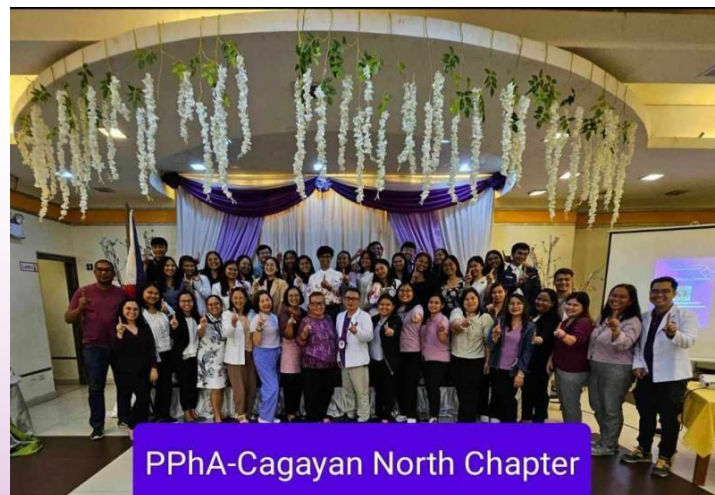
PPhA QCEM Day, August 12, 2023 via zoom



PPhA Palawan Chapter General Membership, Year-end Party and Induction of Officers



PPhA Laguna Chapter  
General Membership Meeting and Induction of Officers  
October 01, 2023 at Danielito's Home Kitchen-Bay, Bay, Laguna



PPhA-Cagayan North Chapter  
PPhA Cagayan North Chapter General Membership, Year-end Party and Induction of Officers



## Padayon: PPhA Visayas

By: Mellisa R. Dela Cruz-Mirto, Vice President for Visayas

The PPhA Visayas Cluster performed well in 2023 and will continue to do so in the coming years.

The Visayas Cluster is composed of 13 local chapters that have united to bring pharmacists and healthcare professionals together to interact, learn, and advocate for professional advancement. With a strong focus on community and professional development, these chapters have organized a variety of initiatives and programs that benefit members and promote competencies in pharmacy practice.

One of their most significant programs is the Continuing Pharmacy Education Series that were organized by different chapters and provided members with access to high-quality training events and seminars. These seminars cover an array of topics, including new medications, treatment suggestions, and emerging trends in pharmacy practice and patient care. By offering extensive learning opportunities, these chapters ensure that their members are educated and were kept up to date on the most current advances in the field of pharmacy.

In addition to educational sessions, the chapters planned social events to promote member camaraderie and cooperation. These events provide a sense of community and inspire pharmacists and healthcare professionals to build relationships, share ideas, and create connections to help them advance personally and professionally. The open and welcoming atmosphere invited members to gather, exchange knowledge, and work together to achieve common goals. Furthermore, they actively engaged in lobbying efforts to advance pharmacists' interests and legislation that encourage high-quality patient care.

The chapters also worked with government agencies such as the Department of Health (DOH), Department of Education

(DEPED), Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) and others to support and help promote their objectives. Collaborations with professional groups including the Philippine Dental Association, the Philippine Medical Association, and the Young Pharmacists Group-Philippines were explored. Strategic partnerships with humanitarian groups such as the Philippine Red Cross and other non-governmental organizations such as local Kiwanis Clubs and Rotary Clubs, pharmacy schools as well as other community stakeholders were also established. These partners assisted our pharmacists in raising awareness of key issues confronting the profession, the community, and the impact of beneficial improvements in the healthcare system.

Key achievements of PPhA Visayas Clusters were also earned this 2023. The Eastern Samar Pharmacists Association (ESPhA) and Cebu Pharmacists Association (CPhA) both won the "10 FOR 10" PROJECT FUNDING PROGRAM of the PPhA National office which focused on Antimicrobial Stewardship (ESPhA), and Pharmacy DOTS Initiative (CPhA). Overall, these initiatives reflect its commitment to developing and enhancing the pharmacy profession and its community stakeholders in the Visayas Cluster.

By providing valuable training opportunities, fostering a sense of community and cooperation, and advocating for community issues, the PPhA Visayas Cluster makes a substantial contribution to advancing pharmacy practice and promoting patient well-being in the community. The PPhA Visayas Cluster will continue to commit ourselves to create a positive impact on the profession, motivate our members to strive for excellence in their job, and contribute significantly to the Visayan community. ■ *...continued in page 14*

## PPhA Luzon In Action

*...continued from page 12*

Expand Your Scope of Practice, and Entrepreneurship and Innovation.

VP for Luzon Mr. Dennis Casares also discussed the privileges and benefits of members as well as the Chapter responsibilities during the said general assembly. ■



*PPhA Tarlac Chapter General Assembly, November 16, 2023 at Tessie's Grills and Roasters Restaurant*



*PPhA Batangas Chapter General Membership Meeting, CPD seminar and Election of Officers*



## Padayon: PPhA Visayas

*...continued from page 13*



The Antique Pharmacists Association organized a series of medical missions in collaboration with various government and private sector organizations. Despite their hectic schedules and enormous distances, they make time to plan for future projects and partnerships while enjoying and having



The Philippine Pharmacists Association - Aklan Chapter collaborated alongside numerous government and private sector groups to organize medical missions, dental missions, blood donation drives, feeding programs, and gift giving. Members of Aklan chapter believe that collaboration is essential for providing better pharmacy services to the community, especially its marginalized sector. Professional development was also a focus for the officers, thus, a self-directed CPD session was held in conjunction with their 56th Founding Anniversary, Pharmacists Coating, and Induction of New Members in a one-day event to welcome new members and to enjoy the holiday season.



As one of the grantees of the "10 for 10" Project Funding Program, the ESPHA launched a province-wide antimicrobial awareness initiative to educate healthcare personnel, students, and other community members about proper administration of antimicrobial medications. Despite their busy timetable, their ever-enthusiastic president made sure her chapter members had a good time in their chapter anniversary following several successful runs, which is still running as of this writing. ■



## Tabang: PPhA Mindanao

By: Jevie Lyn P. Tan Nery, Vice President for Minda-



PPhA Davao Del Oro and Davao Del Norte representatives providing aid to the victims of the Masara landslide

The Philippine Pharmacists Association Inc., in partnership with PPhA Davao De Oro and PPhA Davao Del Norte, organized a relief effort for the victims of the Masara landslide in Maco, Davao de Oro. Medicine kits, hygiene kits, children's packs, food packs, pails and dippers and drinking water were delivered.

Boxes of OTC medicines and maintenance medicines were endorsed to the health office in the Municipality of Mawab to its six evacuation centers -

Nuevo Iloco National High School, Nuevo Iloco Elementary School, Nueva Visayas Elem. School, Andili National High School, Bawani National High School and Lorenzo National High School. Some of the medicines kits were also distributed to the victims of floods in Brgy. Diwalwal, Monkayo, Davao de Oro.

The PPhA Mindanao Cluster ensured that individuals in need received relief goods and assistance as soon as possible.

Collaborative efforts from different association are prerequisites to ensure effective operation in extending the distribution of goods.

As the scale of the disaster became apparent, the Philippine Pharmacist Association, through PPhA Mindanao, continued to extend its heartfelt support to the victims of the landslide. In times of disaster, we foster the virtue of helping one another as we are one in overcoming this disaster, as well as resiliency. We continue to seek Divine providence and protection from God and pray for the victims of natural disasters. ■



Relief goods distribution of the Davao de Oro Chapter with PPhA VP for Mindanao Jevie Lyn P. Tan Nery

## PPhA presents Position on Proposed Legislations

In line with the celebration of the World Pharmacy Day with the theme, "Pharmacy Strengthening Health Systems", PPhA representatives presented the position of the organization and its members through an exploratory meeting with Hon. Jude Acidre of Tingog Partylist, Member, House of Representatives last September 25, 2023 on the following proposed legislations:

**1. House Resolution 222**, entitled: "Directing the Appropriate Committee of the House of Representatives to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the proliferation of internationally and locally Manufactured Falsified Medicines, with the end in view of addressing the problem and ensuring the safety of the public," introduced by Rep. Ralph Recto.

**2. House Resolution 1090**, entitled: "Resolution urging the Committee on Health, Committee on Trade and Industry, and other appropriate House Committees to look into

and investigate the proliferation of the Online Sale of Unregistered Products such as Cosmetics and Food Supplements," introduced by Rep. Ferjanel G. Biron

**3. House Bill 8554**, entitled: "An Act regulating the establishment and use of Online Pharmacies in the Philippines," introduced by Rep. Ferjanel G. Biron and;

**4. House Bill 4829**, entitled: "An Act strengthening the regulation of Online Pharmacies in E-commerce Platforms and providing for the prohibitions and penalties for violations and revising for the purpose of Republic Act No. 10173 or the Data Privacy Act of 2012," introduced by Rep. Samuel S. Versoza, Jr.

Representing PPhA were Ms. Jingle Garcia Diola, Representative of PPhA Pharmacy Practice Section, Ms. Kharoll Tobias, member of the PPhA Legal and Ethics Committee and Ms. Jennifer Flores, PPhA Executive Director. ■



## PPhA in Action for the World Pharmacists Day 2023

By: Justine Marie Ocampo, PhD.

In line with the celebration of the World Pharmacists' Day with the theme "Pharmacy Strengthening Health Systems", the Philippine Pharmacists Association Inc., represented by its officers, actively participated these relevant initiatives in Philippine Healthcare:



PPhA Representatives with FDA Director General Zacate during the public consultation held last September 07, 2023

1. Public Consultation on the Draft Administrative Order entitled, "Rules and Regulations on the Issuance of Authorization for Registration Applications of Drug Products and Drug Substances for Human Use by the Food and Drug Administration" held last September 7, 2023 at the Crimson Hotel, Filinvest City. Represented by: Ms. Jingle Gracia Diola, Representative - Pharmacy Practice Section and Ms. Malou Garganera, PPhA Assistant Treasurer



PPhA Pharmacy Practice Section Representative Jingle Garcia Diola with other stakeholders during the Community Model-Building Workshop on Mapping the Pharmaceutical System

2. *Mapping the Pharmaceutical System: A Community Model-Building Workshop* held last September 8, 2023 at the ADB Auditorium, Mandaluyong City. Represented By: Ms. Jingle Garcia Diola, Representative - Pharmacy Practice Section



PPhA Executive Vice President Hazel Faye R. Docuyan during the Generics Awareness Month Celebration last September 21, 2023

3. Generics Awareness Month Celebration held last September 21, 2023 at the Manila Grand Opera Hotel, Manila; and the 2023 celebration was held with the theme, "Kalusugan ay Palakasin, Generics Ating Tangkilikin". PPhA contributed their expertise as PPhA Executive Vice President Hazel Faye R. Docuyan discussed "Institutionalizing Anti-Counterfeit Measures and Good Pharmacy Practice", reflecting PPhA's ongoing commitment to advancing healthcare and making quality medicines accessible. Ms. Jingle Garcia Diola also represented the PPhA Pharmacy Practice Section during the activity.



PPhA Representatives during the exploratory meeting on the Requirement of Special Requirement of Prescription Form for Dangerous Drugs last September 22, 2023

4. Exploratory Meeting on the Special Requirement of Prescription Form for Dangerous Drugs held last September 22, 2023 at the NFA Building, Quezon City. Represented by: Helen Maita Reyes, PPhA Auditor, Ms. Jingle Garcia Diola, Representative - Pharmacy Practice Section and Ms. Jennifer Flores, PPhA Executive Director. ■



## “Forging Forward: PPhA PPS-PSC Commitment to Empowering Filipino Pharmacists”

By: Jingle Garcia Diola, RPh, MBA Pharmacy Practice Section Representative

The Pharmacy Practice Sector – Professional Specialization Committee (PPS-PSC) of the Philippine Pharmacists Association, Inc. (PPhA) has been tirelessly dedicated to elevating the standards of Pharmacy across its diverse areas of practice. With a steadfast commitment to excellence and servant-leadership, the following key priority areas of focus were identified: (1) pharmacy workforce, (2) interprofessional collaboration, (3) research and innovation, and (4) strategic partnerships.

### PPhA Key Priority Agenda ... (PPS-PSC)



Aligned with the overarching aim of #OnePPhA, PPhA PPS-PSC meticulously crafted a 3-Year Roadmap to serve as a blueprint to guide future strategic actions.

The inaugural PPhA General Assembly held on September 16, 2023, stands as a testament to the PPhA PPS-PSC's commitment to collaboration and collective action. This landmark event facilitated dynamic exchange of ideas, fostering a culture of mutual support and engagement among our affiliates and sectoral member organizations.

In this Assembly, the PPhA have also welcomed 2 new Sector Members – the **Community Pharmacists of DSAP (CPhAD)** and the **Pharmacy Preceptors Guild of the Philippines (PPGP)**. Through active engagement in the development of health-related legislations, guidelines and position papers, PPhA PPS-PSC ensures that the voices of the pharmacists will be heard and respected.

PPhA PPS-PSC advocacy efforts have addressed crucial issues on e-Pharmacy House Bills, amendment of the Counterfeit Law, implementation of the Cheaper Medicines Bill, and the gray areas of the Pharmacy law among others. The Committee has also actively initiated discussions at target LGUs for the full recognition of Pharmacists and the crucial role we hold in the entire UHC spectrum.

### THREE YEAR ROADMAP



The PPhA Pharmacy Practice Sector—Professional Specialization Committee Key Priority Agenda and Three Year Roadmap (2023-2026)

With strategic representations with key stakeholders including the Department of Health (DoH), the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the Anti-Red Tape Authority (ARTA), House of Representatives, the upper chamber of the Congress – the Senate, Bureau of Investments (BoI) and Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), along with various professional organizations, PPhA is now poised to play pivotal role in shaping the practice to its full potential.

We have also been intentionally reaching out to the various PPhA Chapters for collaboration and presentation of the Practice Roadmap.

As we continue along this journey, there is much more in store for every PPhA Member Pharmacists. Concurrently with the review of Pharmacy Practice Guidelines, we are looking very much forward to develop specialized programs to enhance our competencies and be equipped to tackle the challenges head-on. While the journey may present obstacles, the PPhA PPS-PSC stands steadfast in our commitment to support and uplift our fellow Pharmacists.

Let's continue to be united in our pursuit of #OnePPhA, working collaboratively towards a future where Pharmacists are fully recognized as indispensable medication experts and contributors to the nation's healthcare landscape. ■

Ms. Jingle Garcia Diola, RPh, MBA is currently the Lead of the Integrated Philippine Pharmaceutical Roadmap, Philippine Chamber of the Pharmaceutical Industry, Inc. (PCPI) and the Pharmacy Practice Section Representative of the PPhA.





## Embracing the Digital Age: Pharmacists' Transformative Roles In the Fifth Industrial Revolution

By: Maria Fay Nenette M. Cariaga, PhD-EM, PPhA Public Relations Officer



As we stand on the cusp of the Fifth Industrial Revolution, pharmacists find themselves at the forefront of a profound healthcare transformation. In this era of unprecedented innovation, the roles of pharmacists in harnessing the power of digital age and artificial intelligence (AI) have never been more pivotal. As we navigate the digital age and harness the power of artificial intelligence (AI), we renew our commitment to the reissue of The Hygeian as a beacon guiding pharmacists into a future where interprofessional collaboration, universal healthcare, career progression, and patient care converge.

In an era dominated by digitalization, the role of pharmacists has long transcended the roles of dispensing medications. They now serve as pivotal players in the realm of healthcare technology, leveraging AI-driven tools to optimize medication management, enhance patient safety, and personalize treatment regimens. Through the use of technology, pharmacists can embrace these digital advancements, harnessing data-driven insights to deliver more efficient, effective and individualized patient care.

However, amidst the technological revolution, the essence of interprofessional collaboration remains paramount. As advocates of the Universal Healthcare Law, pharmacists must forge partnerships with physicians, nurses, and other healthcare professionals to foster holistic patient care. By breaking down silos and embracing a multidisciplinary approach, we can maximize the impact of universal healthcare initiatives and ensure equitable access to quality services for all Filipinos.

The new Hygeian, which previously existed in print, will now serve as an e-platform for pharmacists to stay updated on PPhA activities, future plans and professional roadmaps, exchange knowledge, share best practices, and pursue continuous learning opportunities. ■

### The Hygeian 2024

#### Editorial Staff

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Jarmaine Z. David, RPh, PharmD

Justine Marie A. Ocampo, RPh,

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Rafael Jones Necio

#### Lay-out Design

Cristan C. Agaceta, RPh

#### Contributors

Dennis O. Casares, RPh

Jingle Garcia Diola, RPh, MS

Jennifer M. Flores, RPh, RREB, MBA, JD

Mellisa R. Dela Cruz-Mirto, RPh

Jevie Lyn P. Tan Nery, RPh

#### Advisers:

Maria Fay Nenette M. Cariaga, RPh,

MSPHarm, PhD-EM

*PPhA Public Relations Officer*

Yolanda R. Robles, RPh, MPharm, PhD

*Member, PPhA Council of Advisers*

## INSPIRING PHARMACIST IN FOCUS: THE 2023 PRC OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR AWARDEE (OPYA) IN PHARMACY



Dr. Gerard Lee L. See

The Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) recognized Dr. Gerard Lee L. See as the 2023 Outstanding Professional of the Year Awardee (OPYA) in Pharmacy. The award was presented last 10 December 2023 at the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel in part of PRC's celebration of its golden anniversary with the theme "PRC@50: Celebrating Milestones of Professional Excellence and Global Recognition."

The OPYA represents the highest honor granted by the commission to a professional who has demonstrated outstanding professionalism at the highest level and has conducted themselves with genuine authenticity in their professional endeavors, as attested by their peers' recommendations.

Dr. See has been previously awarded with the Young Researcher Award 2021 by the Monash University and The Outstanding Pharmacist in Research in 2020 by the Philippine Pharmacists Association, Inc. ■





## PHILIPPINE PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Pharmacists for Better Health Outcomes

### VISION

The PPhA Inc. is an organization of caring medication experts valued in the health system.

### CORE VALUES

Professionalism  
Passion for Excellence  
Honesty  
Altruism

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### CONTACT US

Philippine Pharmacists Association, Inc  
815 R. Icardo Papa Street, Sampaloc, Manila  
Telephone No.: (02) 87344820 and (02) 53100850  
Email: ppha1920@gmail.com





## Message from the PPhA President



It gives me great pleasure to announce the latest edition of Hygeian, our esteemed newsletter, now available in electronic format as e-Hygeian. It is a testament to our commitment to keeping our members informed and engaged through the latest happenings in our association, the PPhA. The newsletter has always been a valuable resource for our members, providing not only updates and articles but also a platform to foster knowledge sharing and community building.

As we have progressed through the years, our association has strengthened its relationship with members, thanks to the efforts of our team and the unwavering support of our members. Each edition of e-Hygeian reflects our collective dedication to our association's mission and our members' interests.

In these pages, you will find an array of information and insights from industry experts and thought leaders, covering a range of topics from the latest trends in healthcare to updates on our association's initiatives. We hope that this edition of e-Hygeian will continue to serve

as a valuable resource for our members and contribute to the growth and success of our association.

In today's world where the challenges to maintaining good health seem to be ever-present, we understand the importance of providing accurate and reliable information to our members. We are committed to our mission of empowering all pharmacists and communities towards a healthier nation, and through our publication, e-Hygeian, we strive to achieve this goal.

E-Hygeian serves as a platform for sharing stories of triumph, knowledge, and inspiration, providing valuable insights and perspectives to our readers. Our aim is to create a community of like-minded individuals who are dedicated to promoting better health outcomes, and through the pages of e-Hygeian, we reaffirm this shared mission. We are proud to be a trusted source of information for our members, and we will continue to work towards our goal of building a healthier and more informed society.

The current edition of our association's publication is a true representation of our steadfast commitment to the principles of pharmaceutical care. Our esteemed members have contributed insightful articles that cover a wide range of topics related to healthcare, making this edition a valuable resource for anyone in the field. Additionally, the latest advancements in healthcare are highlighted, providing readers with an up-to-date overview of the industry. Every page of this publication showcases the incredi-

ble work being done by our association and its members, and serves as a reminder of the importance of commitment and collaboration.

I would like to express my heartfelt appreciation to all the individuals who have contributed their time, expertise, and resources to make e-Hygeian a thriving platform. It is because of your unwavering commitment and passion for improving the world's health and well-being that our association has achieved such great success.

I am truly grateful to our editors who have dedicated countless hours to ensuring that our content is of the highest quality. Their attention to detail and unwavering commitment to excellence have enabled us to maintain our reputation as a trusted source of health information.

Finally, I would like to thank our readers for their continued support and engagement. Your feedback and comments will help us refine our content and better serve your needs in the future.

Together, we are making a positive impact on the healthcare system, and I am honored to be a part of this community of like-minded individuals who share a common goal of creating a healthier nation through health information.

Thank you for your unwavering support, and here's to another edition of e-Hygeian that inspires, informs, and empowers us all.

We hail Pharmacy! ■

**Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, RPh, MS, PhD**  
**PPhA President 2023-2026**