

THE HYGELAN

**PPhA: ONE for Sustainability
in Healthcare**



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

Volume 11 Issue 3



*Pharmacists for Better Health
Outcomes*



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PPHA's Steadfast Commitment to Continuing Professional Development

The PPhA CPD Seminar Kick-off, sponsored by Unilab, Inc., was held on July 12, 2024, at the MK Tan Hall, Bayanihan Unilab Center, Pasig City. The event was led by Dr. Aleth Dacanay, President of PPhA, Inc., and Mr. Mark Ryan D. Langit, PPhA Education Section Representative. It was co-hosted by the PPhA South Metro Chapter (President: Mr. Mark Anthony Ellana) and the Manila Pharmacists Society (Representative: Ms. Mary Antonette Hernando).

The first presentation, **"PPhA Current Dispensing Guidelines for Pharmacists"**, authored by the PPhA GDP Technical Working Group led by Ms. Hazel Faye Docuyan and Dr. Yolanda Robles, was delivered by Ms. Vina Rose Dahilig-Talan. This was followed by a Panel Discussion on the PPhA Dispensing Guidelines for Pharmacists: Meeting Today's Health Care Needs, with expert panelists Dr. Yolanda Robles and Ms. Hazel Faye Docuyan.

A session on Professional Membership and Development: Tools of Today's Pharmacists was presented by Mr. Dennis Casares (PPhA VP for Luzon) and Ms. Melissa Dela Cruz-Mirto (PPhA VP for Visayas).

Lecture 2, titled **"Immunity: The Foundation of Overall Health,"** was delivered by Dr. Jan Paolo Dipasupil, MD, MBA, DipIBLM from the Philippine College of Lifestyle Medicine.

Lecture 3 featured updates from industry representatives who shared relevant drug information on various products. Updates from the two sponsoring chapters were also provided by their respective representatives.

The program concluded with closing remarks from Ms. Mary Antonette Hernando of the Manila Pharmacists Society. Participants went home with valuable learning insights from this CPD event.

For 2024, PPhA successfully conducted a total of 49 onsite CPD runs.

2024 SCHED	CHAPTER GROUPING	HOST CHAPTER	VENUE
12 July, Fri	2024 PPhA National Convention	Host: PPhA & PPhA Iloilo-Guimaras	MK Tan Hall, Bayanihan Hall, Unilab Center, Pasig City
12 July, Fri	2024 National CPD Launch and Kick-off	Host: Manila Pharmacists Society & South Metro Chapter (MuntiParLas, Taguig, Pasay, Makati)	MK Tan Hall, Bayanihan Hall, Unilab Center, Pasig City
20 Jul, Sat	General Santos	Gen San Pharmacists Association	Venue 88, General Santos City
27 July, Sat	Surigao del Norte, Surigao del Sur	Surigao del Norte Pharmacists Association	Paper Country Inn, Bislig City, Surigao Del Norte
28 July, Sun	Cotabato (North), Kidapawan	North Cotabato Association (Kidapawan)	Brookside Hotel, Kidapawan City
3 Aug, Sat	Agusan del Norte, Agusan del Sur	Agusan del Norte Pharmacists Association	Almont Inland Resort, Butuan City, Agusan Del Norte
3 Aug, Sat	Albay, Catanduanes, Sorsogon, Masbate	Albay Pharmacists Association	La Piazza Hotel and Convention Center, Legazpi City
4 Aug, Sun	Palawan	Palawan Pharmacists Association	Asturias Hotel, Puerto Princesa City
4 Aug, Sun	Camarines Norte, Camarines Sur	Camarines Sur Pharmacists Association	Avenue Convention Center, Avenue Square, Naga City



PPhA Backs Formation of Local Government Pharmacists Association of the Philippines

August 9, 2024, Manila — True to its theme #OnePPhA, the Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA) took another step toward unifying the profession with the formation of the Local Government Pharmacists Association of the Philippines (LGPAP). A courtesy meeting marking this milestone was held at the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Santo Tomas Main Building.

The LGPAP aims to recognize pharmacists serving in Local Government Units (LGUs) and to strengthen their roles in delivering quality healthcare within the community setting.

PPhA President Dr. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay presided over the meeting, joined by PPhA General Counsel Atty. Enrico Aguinaldo. Representing LGPAP were President-elect Rashida A. Unda, RPh; Secretary-elect Hilda R. Ricafranca, RPh; and Training and Education Committee Head Maridel S. Alvero, RPh.

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PPhA's Position on House Bill No. 10680

"Dispensing Physicians"

On August 14, 2024, the Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA), represented by its President Dean Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, Ms. Leonila M. Ocampo, and Atty. Enrico Joseph C. Aguinaldo, RPh, General Counsel, actively participated as resource persons during the hearing of the House Committee on Health, chaired by Hon. Ciriaco B. Gato, Jr. Also present at the committee hearing were representatives from the Department of Health (DOH), Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), the Professional Regulatory Boards of Medicine and Pharmacy, the Philippine Medical Association (PMA), and the Drugstores Association of the Philippines, Inc.

The discussion centered on House Bill No. 10680, "An Act Authorizing Licensed Physicians to Directly Dispense Medicines to Patients and for Other Purposes." In line with its commitment to safeguarding the integrity of the pharmacy profession and ensuring the safe use of medications, the PPhA representatives formally submitted the Association's position paper opposing the proposed legislation.



Subject: PPhA's Position on House Bill No. 10680 – "Dispensing Physicians"

An Act Authorizing Licensed Physicians to Directly Dispense Medicines to Patients and for Other Purposes (Authored by Hon. Robert Raymond M. Estrella, ABONO Party-list)

Prefatory Statement:

First do no harm. But how can we avoid harm and conflict of interests, when the physicians who will prescribe the medications are also the ones to sell them?

The Philippine Pharmacists Association, Inc. ("PPhA") expresses serious concerns regarding the above mentioned bill wherein it seeks to allow physicians to directly dispense medications to patients.

PPhA most respectfully and vehemently opposes the aforementioned proposed legislation.

This proposal contradicts the Philippine Pharmacy Act (R.A. No. 10918) which mandates that only licensed pharmacists are authorized to dispense medications. The efforts of the Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") and the Philippine Regulatory Board of Pharmacy ("PRBOP") have always been geared towards the strict implementation of the Philippine Pharmacy Act (R.A. No. 10918).

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PPhA Joins the “White Coat Rally” in Support of UHC

August 19, 2024, Manila — In a decisive show of solidarity, the Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA) stood alongside over 65 health-sector organizations to oppose the planned transfer of ₱89.9 billion in unused PhilHealth funds to the National Treasury.



Organized by the Healthcare Professionals Alliance Against COVID-19 (HPAAC), the White Coat Rally unfolded at the Guazon Hall of the Philippine General Hospital. The coalition, including former Department of Health secretaries and representatives from medical societies, allied medical professional organizations, and civil society groups, delivered a collective plea to Finance Secretary Ralph Recto to halt the second tranche of ₱10 billion scheduled on August 21, 2024, while calling for systemic reform of PhilHealth and enhanced benefits for contributors.

Representing PPhA is its President, Dr. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay was among those who read the unified appeal. The medical community emphasized that redirecting healthcare funds, notably in defiance of the Universal Health Care Act's stipulations, would undermine access to vital services, especially in a system where Filipinos still shoulder 44% of health expenses out-of-pocket.



PPhA Engages Community Pharmacy Leaders

In line with One Voice, One Heart, #OnePPHA, leaders from the community pharmacy sector met with the Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA) on August 20, 2024 at its National Office in Manila.

Present were PPhA President Dr. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, former PPhA President and Council of Advisers member Leonila M. Ocampo, and PPhA Section Representative for Pharmacy Practice Jingle G. Diola. The meeting tackled strategies to strengthen community pharmacists' roles, raise professional standards, and innovate services to meet the evolving healthcare needs of the public.



The inaugural Professional Healthcare Summit for a Healthy and Digital Philippines, held at the AIM Conference Center in Makati City last September 23, 2024, convened healthcare leaders and stakeholders to discuss critical collaborations for improving healthcare delivery across the country. Hosted by the Council of Professional Health Associations (CoPHA), the event featured a plenary session moderated by the Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA) Pharmacy Practice Representative Jingle Garcia Diola, RPh, MBA.

Key topics included PhilHealth Engagement and Payment Claim Reconciliation, as presented by PhilHealth Vice President Walter Bacareza. He addressed ongoing challenges in claims processing and outlined initiatives aimed at streamlining procedures to reduce administrative burdens on healthcare providers, thereby enhancing their ability to deliver uninterrupted care.



PPhA Engages in Landmark Healthcare Summit:

Digital Transformation and Workforce Welfare



A keynote session also focused on the Magna Carta for Public Health Professionals, discussed by Atty. Dr. Leo Olarte, FPCS, FPOA, Professor of Legal Medicine and Past President of the Philippine Medical Association. Dr. Olarte emphasized the necessity of safeguarding healthcare workers' rights, advocating for fair compensation, improved working conditions, and sufficient support to sustain a motivated, resilient workforce.

PPhA was represented in attendance by its Trustee and Immediate Past President, Ma. Gilda Saljay and Assistant Treasurer Malou Garganera. This reaffirms PPhA's continuing commitment to collaborative efforts that advance the nation's health and digital transformation goals.

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PPhA Engages Community Pharmacy Leaders

The discussion centered on collaborative efforts to promote professional development, establish standards of practice, and enhance the contribution of LGU pharmacists to public health. The initiative marks another significant stride toward a stronger, more cohesive pharmacy profession nationwide.





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Philippine Pharmacists Association at 104
Celebrating a Legacy of Excellence

Philippine Pharmacists Association Celebrates 104 Years of Excellence and Global Empowerment

The Philippine Pharmacists Association, Inc. (PPHA), in partnership with the Philippine Women's University – School of Pharmacy, successfully celebrated the 2024 World Pharmacists Day and the 104th Founding Anniversary of the Association last September 25, 2024, at Conrado Benitez Hall, PWU, Taft Avenue, Manila.

The program began with a solemn doxology, the Philippine National Anthem, and the Philippine Pharmacy Hymn. Prof. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, PPhA President, warmly welcomed participants with her opening remarks, followed by an inspiring message from Mr. Mark Harvey B. Adamson, Program Chair of PWU School of Pharmacy.

Ms. Rosalynn Pangan, PPhA Assistant Secretary,



introduced the keynote speaker, Ms. Alicia P. Catabay, 2024 PRC Outstanding Professional of the Year in Pharmacy. Her keynote lecture highlighted the importance of advancing the pharmacy profession to meet global health challenges while uplifting pharmacy practice in the Philippines.

The Bayanihan Dance Company provided an inspiring intermission, followed by video greetings from Filipino pharmacists worldwide and the International Pharmaceutical Federation (FIP). The event also featured a presentation on PPhA's history and vision, along with engaging icebreaker activities.

Closing remarks were given by Ms. Ma. Gilda Sebu-Saljay, reaffirming PPhA's commitment to professional excellence. The celebration concluded with a Eucharistic Thanksgiving and fellowship lunch.

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2024 SCHED	CHAPTER GROUPING	HOST CHAPTER	VENUE
10 Aug, Sat	Oriental Mindoro	Oriental Mindoro Pharmacists Association	Garden of Elizabeth, KM12, Calapan City
10 Aug, Sat	Pangasinan	Pangasinan Pharmacists Association	City Deluxe Restaurant, Dagupan City
11 Aug, Sun	La Union	La Union Pharmacists Association	La Union Cultural Center, San Fernando City, La Union
17 Aug, Sat	Baguio, Benguet, Mt. Province	Baguio-Benguet Pharmacists Association	Hotel Supreme Convention Plaza, Magsaysay Ave., Baguio City
18 Aug, Sun	Nueva Vizcaya, Ifugao	Nueva Vizcaya Pharmacists Association	Amungan Hall, Capitol, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya
24 Aug, Sat	Cagayan Valley, Kalinga, Apayao,	PPhA Cagayan North Chapter	Crown Pavilion Hotel, Tuguegarao City
25 Aug, Sun	Isabela, Quirino	PPhA Isabela Chapter	Pizza Ziracelli, Gamu, Isabela
31 Aug, Sat	Misamis Oriental, Iligan City- Lanao del Norte, Lanao del Sur	Misamis Oriental Pharmacists Association	Pearlmount Hotel, Cagayan De Oro City
31 Aug, Sat	Bukidnon	Bukidnon Pharmacists Association	Regidor Country Homes, Bukidnon
31 Aug, Sat	Bulacan, and CaMaNaVa	Bulacan Pharmacists Association	Helix Auditorium, Manila Central University, Caloocan City
07 Sep, Sat	Tarlac	Tarlac Pharmacists Association	Qi Hotpot Restaurant, Tarlac City
08 Sep, Sun	Nueva Ecija	Nueva Ecija Pharmacists Association	Luzviminda Events Place, Cabanatuan City, Nueva Ecija
08 Sep, Sun	Negros Oriental, Siquijor	Negros Oriental Pharmacists Association	Bethel Guest House, Dumaguete City
14 Sep, Sat	BARMM, Cotabato City	Cotabato City	SouthSeas Mall, Cotabato City

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On October 1, 2024, as we marked over a century of dedicated service to the nation and the profession, the Philippine Pharmacists Association, Inc. proudly unveiled its new website, designed to provide an enhanced experience for our members and partners. This signals an even stronger commitment to advancing the nobility of the pharmacy profession, ensuring its integrity and relevance to all pharmacists and the society. To get to know more about our legacy of excellence that has shaped the field for 104 remarkable years, and stay connected with the latest updates, resources, and innovations, please visit: www.philippinepharmacists.org.



Our PPhA Website is back ONLINE!

<https://philippinepharmacists.org>



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PPhA President Speaks about Integrity and the Community Pharmacists' Roles in B2B events

On September 29 and 30, 2024, Dr. Aleth Dacanay, President of the Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA), delivered powerful addresses on the importance of Integrity in Pharmacy and the Vital Role of Community Pharmacists at two significant events: the Rose Pharmacy National Pharmacists Summit 2024 and the Watsons' Power Up, Health & Beauty Convention 2024.

Dr. Dacanay's keynote lecture on September 29, 2024, focused on the theme of "Integrity in Pharmacy: Upholding Ethical Standards" during the Rose Pharmacy National Pharmacists Summit 2024 held at the IC3 Convention Center, Cebu City. She emphasized integrity as a cornerstone of professional ethics, highlighting its essential role in fostering trust between pharmacists, patients, and the public. Dr. Dacanay shared compelling case studies illustrating the impact of integrity on patient

outcomes, urging pharmacists to prioritize transparency and honesty in their interactions.

The following day, September 30, 2024, Dr. Dacanay took the stage at the Watsons' Power Up, Health & Beauty Convention 2024 held at SMX Convention Center, Pasay City. She reiterated the importance of community pharmacists in promoting health, beauty, and wellness. Resonating with the audience, Dr. Dacanay explored what "POWER UP" means to community pharmacists and how vital community pharmacies are to the success of the Universal Healthcare program in the Philippines. Dr. Dacanay also took the opportunity to provide a sneak peek at the series of projects and programs that PPhA has been initiating to shape the community pharmacy landscape, including the Immunizing Pharmacist Certification Program (IPCP) and the creation of the Federation of Community Pharmacy

Retailers in the Philippines (FCRP). PPhA extends its heartfelt gratitude to the organizers of these events and for giving us the avenue to connect with our community pharmacists!

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PPhA's Position on House Bill No. 10680

"Dispensing Physicians"

The Philippine Pharmacists Association remains steadfast in its mission to uphold patient safety and ensure the availability of safe and efficacious medications. PPhA is committed to preserving the integrity of the pharmacy profession, actively supporting interprofessional collaboration, and advocating for the proper implementation of existing healthcare laws. The Association is likewise highly engaged in initiatives that aim to improve access to medicines in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas (GIDAs) in support of the goals of Universal Health Care.



<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=891870209632098&set=a.621045173381271>

PPhA's POSITION on HOUSE BILL No. 10680
- 'Dispensing Physicians'

PPhA at the Singapore Pharmacy Congress



Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA) President Dr. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay represented the Philippines at the 33rd Singapore Pharmacy Congress on October 5–6, 2024. She shared her expertise on global pharmacy workforce challenges from an ASEAN perspective, highlighting strategies to strengthen education and practice in the region.

Her participation reinforced the Philippines' commitment to global standards and fostered collaboration among ASEAN countries in pharmacy education, research, and service delivery. Dr. Dacanay's leadership continues to elevate the country's presence on the international pharmacy stage.

PPhA and Board of Pharmacy Honored with PRC Centennial Milestone Award

The Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA), together with the Professional Regulatory Board of Pharmacy (BOP), proudly accepted the prestigious PRC Centennial Milestone Award on behalf of all Filipino pharmacists from the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC). This honor recognizes the collective achievements and enduring impact of the profession, which has thrived for 121 years.

Presented during the 13th Philippine Professional Summit held at the Manila Hotel on October 15 and 16, 2024, the award highlights how PPhA and BOP helped shape the pharmacy profession's future, building on a century of excellence. It celebrates the dedication of Filipino pharmacists as caring medication experts committed to improving health outcomes and advancing community well-being.

In addition to this distinguished



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A Showcase of Filipino Excellence at the 30th FAPA Congress in Seoul



PPHA President Dr. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay led the Philippine delegation at the 30th Federation of Asian Pharmaceutical Associations (FAPA) Congress held October 29 to November 2, 2024, at COEX in Seoul, South Korea.

Dr. Dacanay attended the FAPA Closed Council Advisory Meeting and led the Philippine delegation of over 200 pharmacists during the congress' opening ceremony. She presented the proposed

roadmap for advanced pharmacy training, developed by the UP Manila Project Team led by Dr. Margarita Gutierrez in collaboration with CHED-TPPE and stakeholders of Philippine pharmacy practice, education, and regulation.

Former PPHA President Ms. Leonila M. Ocampo, RPh, MS, FFIP discussed pharmacy's evolving role in her talk, "Amidst and Post-Pandemic: The Changes in Pharmacy Practice Landscape", during the Plenary Forum 1 (The Future of Pharmacy: Innovative Roles in Shaping Tomorrow's Society). Meanwhile, PPHA signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the FAPA College of Pharmacy to promote regional collaboration and



harmonize professional specialties across Asia.

Several Filipino pharmacists were recognized for their outstanding contributions and achievements: Dr. Margarita M. Gutierrez received the prestigious FAPA Young Pharmacist Award, Mr. Jarvin Tan was recognized for Best Oral Presentation, and Ms. Frances Lois Ngo won Best Poster Presentation.



PPHA's active participation reflects the Philippines' continued commitment to advancing pharmacy practice and education in the region.



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On November 30, 2024, face to face consultation session for the proposed draft of the Philippine Practice Standards for Pharmacists (PhilPSP) 2.0 at Seda Hotel, Vertis North Quezon City. In this important event, pharmacy stakeholders convened at Quezon Room 1, Seda Vertis North Hotel, for a pivotal consultation on the Philippine Practice Standards for Pharmacists (PhilPSP) 2.0. This initiative strengthens the role of pharmacists in delivering accessible, equitable, and quality healthcare for all Filipinos. Together, we're making sustainable healthcare come into fruition.



ILPSP 2.0

WELCOMING REMA



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2024 SCHED	CHAPTER GROUPING	HOST CHAPTER	VENUE
14 Sep, Sat	Cavite	Cavite Pharmacists Association	De La Salle Animo Center, Dasmariñas Cavite
15 Sep, Sun	Batangas, Romblon	Batangas Pharmacists Association	Angelito's Events Place, Batangas City
21 Sep, Sat	Bohol	Bohol Pharmacists Association	Reyna's Haven Garden, Tagbilaran City
22 Sep, Sun	Cebu	Cebu Pharmacists Association	Cebu Busines Hotel, Cebu City
28 Sep, Sat	Pampanga	Pampanga Pharmacists Association	Ephatha, Sacop, Maimpis, City of San Fernando, Pampanga
29 Sep, Sun	Bataan, Olongapo City-Zambales	Olongapo City-Zambales Pharmacists Association	Aurora Suites, SBMA
29 Sep, Sun	South Cotabato, Koronadal	PPHA South Cotabato Chapter	HABI Hotel, Koronadal
5 Oct, Sat	Quezon City East Metro, and Rizal	QCEM Chapter	World Citi Colleges Auditorium, Quezon City changed to Executive Lounge World Citi Medical Center/ World Citi Colleges Aurora Blvd, Quezon City
5 Oct, Sat	Lucena City- Quezon	Lucena Pharmacists Association	Queen Margarette Hotel Domoit, Lucena City
6 Oct, Sun	Laguna	Laguna Pharmacists Association	Univ. of Perpetual Help-Dr. Jose G. Tamayo Medical University, Binan, Laguna
12 Oct, Sat	Zamboanga del Sur- Pagadian City	Zamboanga del Sur Pagadian City	Mardale Hotel, Pagadian City
13 Oct, Sun	Zamboanga Sibugay	Zamboanga Sibugay Pharmacists Association	Casa Mea Hotel, Ipil, Zamboanga Sibugay
19 Oct, Sat	Misamis Occ., Oroquieta City, Ozamis City, Zamboanga del Norte	Misamis Occidental Pharmacists Association	Costa Del Sol Hotel, Oroquieta City
20 Oct, Sun	Zamboanga City, Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi	Zamboanga City Pharmacists Association	Grand Astoria Hotel, Zamboanga City

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2024 National Pharmacy Week Celebration



The Opening ceremonies of the 2024 National Pharmacy Week Celebration held at Co Po Ty Hall, Adamson University, Manila on December 9, 2025 highlighted the theme for the **PPhA National Convention 2025, "PHARMACISTS for UNIFIED and SUSTAINABLE HEALTHCARE"**. This theme embodies our unwavering commitment to building a healthcare system that is united, resilient, and sustainable – with pharmacists at the forefront of this transformative journey. The profession's week was successfully concluded on Dec 14, 2024 at the National University, Manila. PPhA also recognized and thanked the 2024 PPhA Bureau of Speakers and the partner schools/institutions for their selfless contribution and dedication to the PPhA CPD programs and Pharmacy week activities.

The event showcased the outstanding initiatives and activities of PPhA Chapters and Affiliates nationwide and concluded with fellowship and camaraderie during the Community Lunch. A special highlight of the event was the soft launching of the 2025 PPhA National Convention logo design along with its symbolic description, giving attendees a glimpse of what's to come in next year's event.

PPhA Holds 2024 Partner's Day Celebration

December 10, 2024, Manila — The Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA) gathered with its valued corporate partners for the 2024 Partners' Day Celebration, held at the University of Santo Tomas. The event highlighted the strong collaborations that continue to advance pharmacy practice in the country.



In her welcome remarks, PPhA President Dr. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay expressed gratitude for the partners' steadfast support. Pharmaceutical Practice Representative Jingle G. Diola presented an overview of the 2025 PPhA National Convention, while VP for Luzon Dennis Casares and Treasurer Mona Maracha extended invitations for partnership in the upcoming event.

The celebration honored the contributions of PPhA's corporate partners: Kenvue/Johnson & Johnson, Unilab, INova, Natrapharma, Reckitt Benckiser, Apotheca, Alchem Lab, Just Right Pharmaceuticals, Euromed, Multicare Pharma, Locomago, Viatris, Haleon, and MX3.

PPhA reaffirmed its commitment to innovation, professional growth, and unified efforts to elevate the pharmacy profession nationwide, made possible through enduring partnerships with industry leaders.

PPhA Joins the Nation in Welcoming Newly Registered Pharmacists

December 12, 2024, Pasay City — A new generation of Filipino pharmacists formally entered the profession as they took their oath before the Professional Regulatory Board of Pharmacy and the Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA) in a ceremony held at the Philippine International Convention Center (PICC).

Administered by PPhA President Dr. Aleth Therese L. Dacanay, the oath-taking signified the new registrants' commitment to uphold the highest standards of excellence, integrity, and compassion in pharmacy practice.



The event celebrated not only the achievement of passing the licensure examination but also the beginning of their professional journey as members of the country's unified national organization of pharmacists.

PPhA extended its warmest congratulations and encouraged the new members to embrace their role in safeguarding public health, advancing the profession, and serving communities nationwide.

Mabuhay ang mga bagong Filipino Pharmacists!

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PPhA and Board of Pharmacy Honored with PRC Centennial Milestone Award

PPhA earned third place in Category B for having one of the highest total participation, both onsite and virtual, at the said summit. This reflects the association's strong commitment to lifelong learning and steadfast support of the Professional Regulation Commission's mission.

As PPhA shares this honor with the entire pharmacy community, it renews its pledge to serve with integrity and excellence for the glory of God and the betterment of Filipino lives.





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PPhA2025 NATIONAL CONVENTION

PPhA Set to Hold 2025 National Convention in Baguio City

The Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA) has announced that its 2025 National Convention will be held from April 24 to 26, 2025, in Baguio City. With the theme "Pharmacists: For Unified and Sustainable Healthcare," the event is expected to gather pharmacy professionals from across the country for discussions on innovation, sustainability, and collaboration in healthcare.

The event aims to bring together pharmacy professionals from across the country to explore innovative practices and reaffirm their role in advancing sustainable healthcare. Participants can look forward to thought-provoking discussions,

collaborative activities, and the unique camaraderie that defines the Filipino pharmacy community.

PPhA also unveiled the official convention logo, which integrates symbols of the profession and Baguio's cultural identity.

Our National Convention logo beautifully captures the essence of the pharmacy profession—dedicated to healing, innovation, and unity—while embracing the vibrant culture and natural beauty of Baguio City.

The logo is a vibrant and symbolic representation of the pharmacy profession, seamlessly intertwined with the cultural and natural identity of Baguio City. At its center is the Bowl of Hygeia, featuring a purple

serpent coiled around a chalice, symbolizing healing and the pharmacy profession's dedication to health and well-being. Rising from the bowl are green pine trees, representing Baguio's iconic pine forests and emphasizing the importance of sustainability in pharmacy practice—fostering a balance between innovation and environmental stewardship.

Encircling the central elements are petals inspired by Baguio's everlasting flower, rendered in radiant orange and yellow hues. These petals symbolize resilience, continuity, and the enduring vitality of the pharmacy profession. Integrated into the petal design are subtle human figures, representing the unity, collaboration, and shared purpose of pharmacists working together to enhance healthcare outcomes.

The overall design reflects the harmony among professional identity, sustainable practices, and the vibrant culture of Baguio City, embodying the collective commitment to a healthier and more sustainable future.

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2024 SCHED	CHAPTER GROUPING	HOST CHAPTER	VENUE
9 Nov Sat	Occidental Mindoro	Occidental Mindoro Pharmacists Association	Seasons Hotel and Convention Center, San Roque Occidental Mindoro
16 Nov Sat	Sultan Kudarat	Sultan Kudarat Pharmacists Association	Binoe's Event Place, Tacurong City, Sultan Kudarat
17 Nov Sun	Region 8 (Tacloban), Eastern Samar, Leyte-Biliran, Maasin, Southern Leyte	Region 8 Pharmacists Association, Inc.	Ocho Seafood Grill and Restaurant, Tacloban City
23 Nov Sat	Ilocos Sur, Ilocos Norte, Abra	Ilocos Sur Pharmacists Association	Provincial Farmers Livelihood Development Center, Vigan City, Ilocos Sur
23 Nov Sat	Davao Oriental, Davao del Norte, Davao De Oro	Davao Del Norte (Tagum City) Pharmacists Association	Big 8 Corporate Hotel, Tagum City
23 Nov Sat	PPHA Davao City Chapter	PPHA Davao City Chapter	Brokenshire Colleges, Davao City
24 Nov Sun	Davao Del Sur	Davao Del Sur Pharmacists Association	House of Fabians, Digos City
24 Nov Sun	Aklan, Capiz	Aklan Pharmacists Association	Gov. Corazon Cabagnot Training Center, Old Buswang, Kalibo, Aklan
30 Nov Sat	Negros Occidental (Bacolod)	Negros Occidental Pharmacists Association	O Hotel, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental
30 Nov Sat	Iloilo, Antique	Iloilo-Guimaras Pharmacists Association	Days Hotel by Wyndham, Iloilo City
15 Dec Sun	Marinduque	Marinduque Pharmacists Association	Hotel Marinduque, Boac, Marinduque
28 Dec Sat	Samar Island	Samar Island Pharmacists Association	Tandaya Hall, Catbalogan City, West Samar

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Dear Colleagues,

Fervent greetings!

This issue of Hygeian is filled with stories that highlight the strength and heart of the pharmacy profession. From nationwide CPD runs to defending our scope of practice in Congress, and from standing alongside other health professionals at the White Coat Rally to engaging community pharmacy leaders – pharmacists have shown once again that we rise to the occasion when it matters most.

We also had plenty to celebrate: our 104th founding anniversary and World Pharmacists Day, recognition from the

Professional Regulation Commission and on the international stage, and of course, the oath-taking of our newly minted pharmacists. Each event and milestone tell the same story, that, despite challenges, our profession continues to move forward with unity and determination.

As your PRO and Editor-in-Chief, we are grateful to share these moments with you. Behind every headline and photo are pharmacists who gave their time, talent, energy, and passion to make things happen. This is what should inspire us the most – seeing how much we can achieve when we focus on the work at hand and do it together, in the true spirit of selfless service.

As we look forward to another prosperous year ahead and our National Convention in Baguio City, let's carry this momentum with us. Let's continue showing what Filipino pharmacists can do with Professionalism, Passion for excellence, Honesty, and Altruism (PPHA core values).

Cheers to all of you, and thank you for making the story of PPhA one worth telling.

Sincerely,

Maria Fay Nenette M. Cariaga

Public Relations Officer,

Philippine Pharmacists Association

Message from the PPhA President

We are pleased to share with you another enriching issue of Hygeian, the official newsletter of the Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA). This publication continues to serve as a valuable platform for showcasing our collective milestones, initiatives, and the inspiring contributions of Filipino pharmacists across the country.

As we reflect on the milestones of the second half of 2024, I am filled with pride and gratitude for the unwavering commitment and collective spirit shown by our PPhA members across the country. Our community of Filipino pharmacists has continued to demonstrate resilience, innovation, and unity in advancing the practice of pharmacy both locally and globally.

We witnessed robust representation at the 30th FAPA Congress in Seoul, where over 200 Filipino pharmacists showcased our commitment to education and international collaboration. Our active participation in the 33rd Singapore Pharmacy Congress reaffirmed our dedication to addressing global workforce challenges from an ASEAN perspective. Locally, we successfully commemorated PPhA's 104th Anniversary, celebrated World Pharmacists Day and National Pharmacy Week with a renewed call to empower the next generation of Filipino pharmacists.

We are also involved in different advisory councils with DOH and coordination meetings with PRC and FDA. I am especially proud of our continued progress in legislative advocacy, the revitalization of membership through the PPhA Integrated Database System, the successful implementation of our 2024 National CPD programs hosted by our local chapters, and the valuable partnerships that continue to elevate our profession. These milestones clearly demonstrate the strength and unity of our community, embodying the spirit of #OnePPhA.

In response to the devastating impact of the recent typhoons that have struck our region over the past few months, the Philippine Pharmacists Association (PPhA) National Office has extended support to our valued members who have been adversely affected by these natural disasters through Tulong kaPPhAmilya: Calamity Assistance due to the Typhoons

As we look ahead, our attention now shifts to Baguio City, the vibrant setting for the eagerly awaited 2025 PPhA National Convention. Surrounded by the majestic Cordillera mountains and inspired by the spirit of BINNADANG which means community unity and cooperation, we anticipate a convention that will not only honor our past achievements but also pave the way for a bold and transformative future for pharmacy in the Philippines.



To the Hygeian Editorial Board, thank you for your outstanding work in crafting thoughtful content that informs, inspires, and strengthens our profession. Your dedication helps amplify the voices of our members and keeps the spirit of #OnePPhA alive in every page. Together, let us continue to lead with purpose, compassion, and excellence—for the advancement of our profession and the health of the Filipino people.

Maraming Salamat po.

We Hail Pharmacy!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aleth Dacanay'.

PROF. ALETH THERESE L. DACANAY, PhD
PRESIDENT
Philippine Pharmacists Association, Inc.



*Pharmacists for Better
Health Outcomes*