



Review of Research Proposals

The Ethics Review Committee (ERC) and the Research and Development Committee (RDC) conducted series of joint reviews on the pre-screened capsule proposals by the consortium's Executive Management Committee which were acquired during the Call for Proposals last August to September 2012. There were six (6) proposals reviewed:

1. Phytochemical and Toxicological Screening, In-vitro and In-vivo testing of formulated ointment from Eskwater Plant extract against methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*;
2. In Vitro study of the Potential Anti-microbial properties of "Moti-Moti";
3. Adequacy of Philhealth Insurance case rate coverage for medicines in pediatric patients with pneumonia admitted in a government hospital;
4. Spatio-temporal Occurrence and Distribution of dengue virus cases relative to the Meteorological factors and population density in Southern Mindanao;
5. The safety and efficacy of 595-nm Pulsed dye laser with Tazarotene 0.05% gel versus tazarotene 0.05% gel alone in the treatment of nail Psoriasis among Filipino patients in SPMC: A randomized, single-blind, inpatient, left-to-right study;
6. Knowledge and attitude of Primigravida mothers and the role of social support on maternal self-efficacy on Childbirth experience: an assessment



Members of the Ethics Review Committee and Research and Development Committee during the joint review of proposals.

The first proposal which was on Eskwater plant extract of the University of the Immaculate Conception was endorsed to the office of the Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD) for possible national funding. Proposals two to five were all approved and will be funded thru the Regional Research Fund of RHRDC XI. On the other hand, the sixth proposal is still subject for 2nd review by the two committees.

Apart from the aforementioned proposals, three proposals were also endorsed by the Executive Management Committee to PCHRD for possible national funding support:

1. Health Information Exchange Project
2. Phytochemical screening, safety and efficacy studies of Pure Citroformella microcarpa (kalamansi) fruit extract/oil/fiber
3. A Database of the Antioxidant of Potential of Local Fruits, Vegetables, Spices and Edible Medicinal Plants

The first proposal was disapproved while the other two are still subject for deliberation by PCHRD.

Monitoring of Research Projects

The study of Hydrology for the Environment, Life and Policy- Davao Network (HELP-Davao Network), headed by Dr. Anthony C. Sales (Regional Director of DOST XI) entitled *“Assessment of the extent of implementation of standards and procedures for water safety in the Philippines”* was approved for funding thru the Health Systems Research Management of the Department of Health Program. The study commenced last April 2013 and will run until the first quarter of 2014. Its objective is to assess the level of implementation of systems and procedures on water safety of drinking water providers in the Philippines, come up with evidence-based recommendation to improve capacity and compliance of water service providers with standards.

The status of implementation of the aforementioned study was presented last August 28 by Dr. Sales during the presentation of DOH-funded projects at the DOH Office, Manila.

Table 1. List of Proposals reviewed by the Research and Development Committee and Ethics Review Committee.

NO.	TITLE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	PROJECT LEADER/ AFFILIATION	AMOUNT	STATUS
1	Phytochemical and Toxicological Screening, In-vitro and In-vivo testing of formulated ointment from Eskwater Plant extract against methicillin-resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	to determine the phytochemical constituents specifically present in the extract from stems and leaves of eskwater plant	University of Immaculate Conception (J. Nogodula)	P 600,000.00	Endorsed for National Funding (Pending)
2	In Vitro study of the Potential Anti-microbial properties of "Moti-Moti"	to determine the potential antimicrobial property of "Moti-Moti" in vitro against the common organisms isolated from diabetic wounds	San Pedro College (J. Pasia)	P 244,400.00	Approved
3	Adequacy of Philhealth Insurance case rate coverage for medicines in pediatric patients with pneumonia admitted in a government hospital	to determine the percentage of children under 5 y.o. Admitted for pneumonia to government hospital with Philhealth coverage; to determine adequacy rate of Philhealth case rate coverage for pneumonia in covering medicine expenses	San Pedro College(J. Tay)	P 160,600.00	Approved
4	Spatio-temporal Occurrence and Distribution of dengue virus cases relative to the Meteorological factors and population density in Southern Mindanao	to estimate the spatio-temporal occurrence and distribution of dengue virus cases relative to the meteorological factors and population density in Southern Mindanao	Davao Medical School Foundation, Inc. (M. Sepe)	P 244,600.00	Approved
5	The safety and efficacy of 595-nm Pulsed dye laser with Tazarotene 0.05% gel versus tazarotene 0.05% gel alone in the treatment of nail Psoriasis among Filipino patients in SPMC: A randomized, single-blind, intrapatient, left-to-right study	to evaluate the safety and efficacy of 595-nm pulsed dye laser with tazarotene 0.05% gel vs. tazarotene 0.05% gel alone in the treatment of nail psoriasis	Southern Philippines Medical Center (J. Abragan)	P 227,580.00	Approved
6	Knowledge and attitude of Primigravida mothers and the role of social support on maternal self-efficacy on Childbirth experience: an assessment	To investigate knowledge, attitude and social support to maternal and childbirth self-efficacy and to test a hypothesized model of relationship among these variables	University of Immaculate Conception (C. San Gaspar)		For 2nd review: 1st quarter of Jan 2014

Table 2. List of Projects endorsed for National Funding.

NO.	TITLE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	PROJECT LEADER/ AFFILIATION	AMOUNT	STATUS
1	Phytochemical screening, safety and efficacy studies of pure <i>Citronella microcarpa</i> (Kalamansi) Fruit Extract/Oil/Fiber	to determine the phytochemical constituents, toxicity, haematological effects and anti-microbial activity of Kalamansi extract/oil/fiber	Soyuz Foods International, Inc./ University of the Immaculate Conception	P 852,400.00	Pending
2	Health Information Exchange	to address the need for a paperless claims reimbursement system	Segworks Technologies Corporation	P 8,077,035.00 (2,000,000.00 - requested budget from PCHRD)	Disapproved
3	A Database of the Antioxidant of Potential of Local Fruits, Vegetable, Spices and Edible Medicinal Plants	To provide a readily accessible database of food antioxidant sources from locally available food materials (online and in print form).	University of the Philippines Mindanao	P 8,050,000.00 (P 2,468,133.00- requested budget from PCHRD)	Recommended to collaborate with FNRI

Table 3. On-going Projects Monitored.

NO.	TITLE	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	PROJECT LEADER/ AFFILIATION	AMOUNT	STATUS
1	Assessment of the Extent of Standards and Procedures for Water Safety in the Philippines	to assess the level of implementation of systems and procedures on water safety of drinking water providers in the Philippines; come up with evidence-based recommendation to improve capacity and compliance of water service providers with standards.	HELP Davao Network; DOST XI	P 1,493,612.00	On-going implementation

Seminar/Workshop/Forum Conducted

The Regional Health Research and Development Consortium XI, backed up by the consortium's four sub-committees namely Ethics Review Committee, Human Resource and Development Committee, Research and Development Committee and the Research Information and Utilization Committee, continued to conduct series of activities that would help depict its mission and vision. Listed are the major activities conducted and implemented by the consortium.

Strategic Planning Workshop (February 12-13, 2013)



Participants during the small group discussions during the Strategic Planning.

In February 2013, a two-day workshop was conducted at the DMSFI-MTRC Waling Waling Hall, DMSF Drive, Bajada, Davao City attended by 29 participants coming from each member-institutions of RHRDC XI. Apart from the expected output which is to draft the three-year strategic plan of the consortium, this activity aims to unite the member-institutions in assessing the needs of the consortium and the interplay of various stakeholders in improving the quality of life of the people in the health aspect.

During the activity, the consortium was guided and facilitated by Ms. Elenita San Juan, President and Managing Director of the Transformation Optimizer Professionals, Inc.

Training on Standard Operating Procedures for ERC (April 15-16, 2013)

As an offshoot to the SOP training which was conducted in 2012, the RHRDC XI-ERC spearheaded the conduct of the training dubbed as "Training on Standard Operating Procedures for ERC". This was held at the DMSFI-MTRC Waling Waling Hall, DMSF Drive, Bajada, Davao City and was attended by 43 participants coming from the public and private sectors, including the RHRDC XI member-institutions. To help in the fulfillment of this event, the consortium invited two speakers namely Dr. Marita V.T. Reyes, co-chair of the Philippine

Health Research Ethics Board (PHREB), and Dr. Milagros M. Viacrucis, member of the DOH XI Cluster Ethics Committee.

The Training on SOP for ERC is part of the next steps of the RHRDC XI-ERC which is to raise the bar of the region in terms of Ethical Review Mechanism by standardizing the systems and procedure for accepting, reviewing and approving research proposals. The output of the activity was a manual covering all procedures in Ethics Review. The draft version of the SOP Manual was sent to the attendees for implementation in their respective institutions.



Dr. Marita Reyes (left) and Dr. Milagros Viacrucis (right) facilitating the participants in writing the SOP.

Pilot Research Capacity Assessment (June 10-11, 2013)

The DOST-PCHRD, eyeing the need to evaluate provisions of support and implementation of strategies for capacity, developed an assessment tool that will be able to evaluate the present status of health researchers, research institutions and consortia in the country. Out of the 17 regional consortia in the country, RHRDC XI is one of the six regional consortia selected to utilize the new tool for validation. The first day was dedicated to Davao Medical School Foundation, Inc. (chosen institution in the Davao Region) while the second day was dedicated to RHRDC XI. The assessors include Ms. Lucila Roja, DOST-PCHRD Institutional Development Division and Dr. Graciela G. Gonzaga, UST Hospital and UST Faculty of Medicine and Surgery.

The results of the assessment are expected to be used to determine appropriate and relevant intervention efforts for the three components namely Researcher, Research Institutions and Consortia.



The Executive Committee of RHRDC XI together with Dr. Graciela Gonzaga during the Research Capacity Assessment.

PNHRS Law Public Consultation (June 25, 2013)

In lieu of the passage of the Republic Act 10530 or the Philippine National Health Research System Act of 2013, a public consultation for the crafting of the implementing rules and regulation of the aforementioned law was conducted. This was held last June 25, 2013 at the Monte Claire Ballroom, Grand Men Seng Hotel. The activity was spearheaded by the Philippine Council for Health Research and Development (PCHRD) and co-organized by the consortium. This was attended by 82 people coming from government agencies, hospitals, academe, media, private sectors and NGOs/civil organizations involved in health research. Through the conduct of the PNHRS Law Public Consultation, the audience was able to clarify major concerns regarding the RA 10530 including how the PNHRS Law could help in the dissemination of health researches and how it can protect the authors/ inventors (IPR).



PNHRS Law Public Consultation Panel.



Queries, Clarifications and Recommendations from (L to R): Dr. Anthony C. Sales, CESO III, Regional Director, DOST XI, Julia Jasmine M. Sta. Romana, Correspondent, GMA News Online and Dr. Milagros M. Viacrucis, Member, DOH XI Cluster Ethics Committee.

Writeshop on Maternal and Child Health (October 24-25, 2013)



Participants during the Writeshop on Maternal and Child Health.

In May 2012, the RHRDC XI thru the initiative of the Research and Development Committee spearheaded the conduct of the Agenda Setting on Maternal and Child Health (MCH). It generated 15 working titles focusing on the impact of mining activities to the health of children and mothers in the Davao region.

As a follow up activity, the consortium conducted a two-day Writeshop on MCH last October 24-25, 2013 at the DMSFI-MTRC Waling Waling Hall, DMSF Drive, Bajada, Davao City. Participants of the Agenda Setting were invited; this time to develop proposals out of the identified topics. The group, composed of 22 attendees, was facilitated by Dr. Ma. Elinore Alba- Concha, Director of the Southern Philippines Medical Center Health and Human Resources Development Office. Seven (7) proposals were produced in the activity covering all potential problems in the mining area. The output of the activity shall be included in the proposals to be screened this December 2013 for possible funding support. The committee plans to create an umbrella project out of the seven sub-proposals made and hope for its approval. Results of the mentioned proposals aim to help policy makers in the mining areas in developing and improving their local policies and regulations to provide better protection especially in the health of mother and children in mining communities.

Research Utilization

3rd Health R&D Expo (July 29-30, 2013)

Now on its 3rd year, the Health R&D Expo, spearheaded by the Research Information and Utilization Committee, was conducted last July 29-30, 2013 at the Grand Pilipinas Ballroom, Grand Regal Hotel, Davao City. This activity was patterned from the national event of PCHRD which is the PNHRS Week Celebration. The Health R&D Expo continues to become a venue for researchers and institutions to share the researches they have conducted and also a source of viable knowledge for researchers and research-enthusiast alike. The event was attended by participating students, faculties and representatives of member-institutions. A total of 37 entries competed in four different categories: Undergraduate Oral Health Research Competition- Undergraduate Category, Poster Exhibit Competition- Undergraduate Category, Oral Health Research Competition- Graduate and Creative Research Category and Poster Exhibit Competition- Graduate and Creative Research Category. The first day was dedicated for the Undergraduate category participants while the second day was for the Graduate and Creative Research category participants.



Ribbon Cutting ceremony of 3rd Health R&D Expo

Apart from the aforementioned contest, the activity was also a venue for the consortium to further the information dissemination of the consortium's mission and vision in the region. Dr. Anthony C. Sales, Regional Director of DOST XI and Regional Coordinator of RHRDC XI presented and highlighted the activities, programs and services offered by the consortium during the expo. This was also followed by Dr. Warlito C. Vicente who made a short lecture on *"Research: from Conceptualization to Utilization"*. Also, the consortium promoted the scholarship offerings and qualification guidelines of the DOST-PCHRD thru the presentation of Ms. Mirasol G. Domingo, ARD-TSSD of DOST XI.



From L to R: Dr. Warlito C. Vicente on Research: from Conceptualization to Utilization, Dr. Anthony C. Sales on RHRDC XI Programs and Services and ARD Mirasol G. Domingo on Post-graduate scholarship offerings

The consortium also invited distinguished guests which includes Dr. Graciela G. Gonzaga, from the University of Santo Tomas Hospital and Dr. Lauro T. Gonzales, from the National Telehealth Center. The aforementioned guests highlighted topics on Phases of Drug Development and on SMARTER Health respectively. In addition, the Book Launching of the First Mindanao Conference on Existing and Emerging Issues on Food Safety also occurred simultaneously with the Oral Health Research Competition-Graduate and Creative Research Category. This is in partnership with the DOST XI- Davao Food Safety Team. The book is hoped to educate the general public of the role of each organization, whether government or private sector, in ensuring food safety.



Book Launching of the First Mindanao Conference on Existing and Emerging Issues on Food Safety

The RHRDC XI plans to showcase the winners of the Health R&D Expo 2013, including the winners of the Health R&D Expo in 2012 and 2011 by publishing a compendium which will be launched before the year ends. The RIUC is currently on the process of editing the abstracts of the studies that will be included in the compendium.



3rd Health R&D Expo audience during the conduct of lectures.



3rd Health R&D Expo participants of the Oral Health Research Paper Competition.



L to R: Students crowding the Poster Exhibit area and 3rd Health R&D Expo Poster Exhibit participants during the judges' critiquing.



3rd Health R&D Expo Awarding Ceremonies.

Table 4. List of Winners during the Health R&D Expo.

Oral Health Research Competition- Undergraduate Category	
1 st place	In vitro antiprotozoal activity of <i>Morinda citrifolia</i> (Apatot) crude extract against <i>Blastocystis hominis</i> (SPC)
2 nd place	Antioxidant activity of proanthocyanidin content of cacao (<i>Theobroma cacao</i> L.) at different stages of maturity (UP Min)
3 rd place	Isolation, screening and characterization of beneficial LAB for anti-microbial activity from Nipa (<i>Nypa fruticans</i>) inflorescence (UP Min)
Poster Exhibit Competition-Undergraduate Category	
1 st place	The blood sugar and cholesterol level lowering activity of the capsule formulation from the curcumin fraction of turmeric (<i>Curcuma longa</i>) rhizome extract (SPC)
2 nd place	Comparative study of malunggay (<i>Moringa oleifera</i>) and banana peel (<i>Musa acuminata</i>) as water purifier (SPC)
3 rd place	Development of bacterial growth medium using durian (<i>Durio zibethenus</i> L.) husk and seed extract and powder as sole nutrient source (UIC)
Oral Health Research Competition-Graduate and Creative Research Category	
1 st place	Preliminary acute toxicological analysis and profiling of a commercially available mangosteen (<i>Garcinia mangostana</i>) xanthone capsule (UIC)
2 nd place	Urine output increasing activity of formulated tea from black zapote (<i>Diospyros digyna</i> Jacq. Ebenaceae) leaves (UIC)
3 rd place	The sensitivity and specificity of rapid diagnostic test for malaria parasite in comparison to slide microscopy as gold standard (UIC)
Poster Exhibit Competition-Graduate and Creative Research Category	
1 st place	Effect of Gotukola on blood pressure, urine output and urine specific gravity on pre-hypertensive patients (DMSFI)
2 nd place	Development of <i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i> fermentation assay to determine sugar glycemic index (UIC)
3 rd place	Concepts and beliefs of infant and young child feeding practices among Matigsalug mothers at Sitio Upian, Marolog District, Davao City (SPC)
	Pulmonary function test results of first year medical students exposed to formaldehyde (DMSFI)

Website Updating

RHRDC XI was once again recognized as the top regional consortium in terms of website updating for the year 2013. The consortium utilizes the website as a mode for disseminating/posting upcoming activities, trainings/seminars conducted by the consortium and other downloadable information. RHRDC XI was awarded 1st place in website updating since 2011. Because of the consistent performance of Region XI, PCHRD updated the RHRDC XI website first prior to the other 16 regional consortia.

Awards and Recognitions

7th Philippine National Health Research System (PNHRS) Week Celebration (August 07-09, 2013)

RHRDC XI participated in the 7th Philippine National Health Research System Week Celebration last August 07-09, 2013 held at Plaza del Norte Hotel and Convention Center, Laoag City with the theme “*People at the Center of Health and Health Research.*” The delegates of the consortium bagged most of the major awards during the event. Listed below are the winners:

Table 5. List of Winners during the 7th PNHRS.

DOST-PCHRD-Gruppo Medica Award for Undergraduate Thesis in Herbal Medicine

Award	Title of the Study	Proponents	School/ Institution
1 st place	Neurotonic Effect of the Alkaloid Extract Capsule of Kangkong (<i>Ipomoea aquatic FORSK</i>) in the Treatment of Alzheimer’s Disease	<i>Justin Shinn L. Ng, Donna Rose K.T. Acosta, Marisol M. Albarracin, Kathryn Earl P. Tancontian, Enrica Erlind P. Fernandez, Christine S. Misoles, Maria Fe P. Salaysay and Fritzie Gay Z. Gloria</i>	San Pedro College
2 nd place	Antibacterial, Toxicological and Mutagenic Evaluations of the Formulated Ointment of Knobweed (<i>Hyptiscapitata</i> Jacq., Lamiaceae) Leaf Extract against Methicillin-Resistant <i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	Rose Ann Mancenido, Ivana Lee Miranda, Darlene Quiñon and Judee Nogodula	University of the Immaculate Conception

Poster Exhibit Category-Undergraduate Category

2 nd place	Development of culture medium using banana <i>Musa acuminata balbisiana</i> fruit peel and pulp as nutrient source	Lhinny Pearl Ago, Gharen Bano, Christine Baquiran, Iris Insoy and Mary Jane Barluado	University of the Immaculate Conception
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Poster Exhibit Category-Professional Category

1 st place	Anti-glycation effects of <i>Asparagus officinalis</i> as an adjunct treatment for metformin-treated individuals with non-insulin dependent diabetes mellitus	R. Pizarro, B. Samanodi, M. Samson, A. Santamaria, M. Solidum, J. Superioridad, J. Tan, X. Tocado, C. Ubaldo, M. Tagle, MD, H. Nartatez, MD, G. Tupas, MD and M.E. San Juan	Davao Medical School Foundation, Inc.
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Regional Research Paper Presentation-Professional Category

1 st place	Natural Lovastatin from Red Yeast Rice (Angkak): A Possible Alternative for Statin Drugs	Dr. Dulce Flores, Abby Jan Aguilos, Carla Monte and Mitchell Rey Toleco	University of the Philippines Mindanao
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Apart from these academic recognitions, Region XI together with the other Mindanao consortia was awarded the Best Cluster Presentation and Best Regional Costume during the Fellowship Night held at Teatro Ilocandia. The Mindanao cluster performed a song and dance number presenting their cultural dances, songs and a Mindanaoan's way of life.



Left to Right: RHRDC XI delegates during the fellowship night and Winners of the DOST-PCHR D Grupo Medica Award from SPC and UIC.

Expansion of RHRDC XI Membership

For this year, two (2) institutions were added as institutional members to the growing family of RHRDC XI namely: Mindanao Kokusai Daigaku and Assumption College of Nabunturan. The two institutions signified their intent to join the consortium late last year and were approved during the Executive Management Committee Meeting held last May 07, 2013.

Other Activities

Tuklas Lunas Visit (April 10, 2013)

The Tuklas Lunas Development Center is the primary research laboratory on natural substances aimed to discover potential drug sources. The centers would generate cooperation among nearby universities and research institutions in doing collaborative researchers by unifying each institution's strengths and capacities. An Institutional R&D Landscape Survey Form was sent to 75 universities in the Philippines for completion. Only nine universities were shortlisted; one of which is the University of the Immaculate Conception of Region XI. Dr. Irene Villasenor of UP Diliman, member of the selection committee with PCHR Staff conducted the ocular inspection/validation last April 10, 2013.



During the Tukals Lunas Visit at UIC.

WHO Collaboration (May 07, 2013)

Last May 07, 2013, the Executive Management Committee together with Ms. Lucille Nievera of the World Health Organization (WHO) convened to discuss on possible collaborations between the abovementioned organization and the consortium. It was brought out that even though the WHO has set up their national plans, they are having some drawbacks in translating it to the regional level. Hence, they are tapping the regional health consortia to assist them in their endeavor on improving the use of research as evidence for policy and decision-making. Eyeing this opportunity as one of the means in attaining the consortium's mission, the RHRDC XI welcomes this effort from the WHO. The consortium is currently waiting for the WHO's Terms of Reference; and from there, the consortium will plan their next course of action for this undertaking.



WHO Representative Ms. Lucille Nievera presented a proposal on possible areas for collaboration.

Health Information System Forum (May 08-10, 2013)

Members of different government offices and representatives from private sectors all over Mindanao were gathered during the Health Information System Forum held last May 08-10, 2013 at Garden Oases Hotel and Convention Center, Davao City.

The activity became an avenue for discussion on possible strategies that will address current problems in the country's health situation such as widening inequity in health, high out-of-pocket payment, low health expenditure by the government and lastly, putting emphasis on the poor quality of data and information. The consortium was represented by the RHRDC XI Chairperson, Dr. Warlito C. Viicente and the consortium's project staff, Ms. Leslie Pearl M. Cancio.



L to R: HIS Forum Participants and Group discussion of the Davao group during the 1st day.

Regional Training Workshop on Research Performance Evaluation (August 14-15, 2013)

This activity, which was held last August 14-15, 2013 at the Pinnacle Hotel, Davao City, was spearheaded by the National Academy for Science and Technology, Philippines (NAST PHL) and the Department of Science and Technology Region XI (DOST XI). The activity aimed to increase the capability of researchers and R&D practitioners in producing a more quality research output and also increase the potential of local researches to be published in internationally indexed journals. The activity was participated by an estimate of 104 participants, 57 of which coming from the RHRDC XI member-institutions. A Speaker's Bureau was also conducted where relevant health topics such as Biosafety and Biohazard was presented by Dr. Nina G. Gloriani, of the Philippine Biosafety and Biosecurity Association.



RHRDC XI members during the series of group discussions before their output presentation.

Regional Coordinators' and Project Staff Meeting and Orientation (August 07, 2013)

During the 7th PNHRS Week Celebration held at Plaza del Norte Hotel and Convention Center, Laoag City, one of the side events was the Regional Coordinators' and Project Staff Meeting and Orientation. Aside from the orientation to new project staffs, the activity also became a venue for sharing best practices of all regional consortia. RHRDC XI best practices include the annual Health R&D Expo and the submission of capsule proposals (only a 2-3 page encompassing the gist of the proposal) during the consortium's Call for Proposals.



Regional Project Staffs and Coordinators with Dr. Jaime Montoya (DOST-PCHRD) Executive Director

Utilization Forum on the Implementation of the Davao Regional Development Research Agenda (DRDRA) (August 29-30, 2013)

The DRDRA is an activity of the Regional Development Council (RDC) XI which aimed to gather all research institutions to align and identify gaps in DRDRA utilization and derive recommendations to appropriately respond to the region's research needs. The activity was held last August 29-30, 2013 at the NEDA-RDC XI Center, Bangkal, Davao City and was participated by RHRDC XI member-institutions. Dr. Warlito C. Vicente, chairperson of RHRDC XI, also presented his breakthrough study entitled "Tamanu oil in the care of wounds and skin infections" during the mentioned event.

14th National Health Research Forum for Action (NHRFA) (October 16-17, 2013)

The NHRFA is an activity of the Department of Health (DOH) held last October 16-17, 2013 at the Diamond Hotel, Manila Philippines. RHRDC XI was represented by Dr. Warlito C. Vicente during the said event. The activity endeavored to showcase the accomplishments, progress and best practices for the Kalusugan Pangkalahatan of the Aquino Administration.

RHRDC XI Governance/Management

Outstanding Health Research Award

The consortium also assisted in the dissemination of guidelines and call for nominations for 2012 Outstanding Health Research Award (OHRA). Guidelines were distributed to schools and hospitals and were published in newspapers and website. Two projects were endorsed by the consortium last December 13, 2013:

Table 6. List of projects endorsed by the consortium for the Outstanding Health Research Award.

PROPONENT	RESEARCH PROGRAM/PROJECT TITLE
Dr. Elizabeth Malonzo (Brokenshire College)	STI, HIV and AIDS Prevention and Control Program
Dr. Hannah Jinky Calubiran-Abragan (Southern Philippines Medical Center)	The safety and efficacy of 595-nm Pulsed dye laser with Tazarotene 0.05% gel versus tazarotene 0.05% gel alone in the treatment of nail Psoriasis among Filipino patients in SPMC: A randomized, single-blind, inpatient, left-to-right study

Operational Planning

In preparation for 2014, all sub-committees of the RHRDC XI conducted their planning this December 2013. Listed below was the schedule of the planning of each sub-committee:

December 06, 2013- Research and Development Committee

December 09, 2013- Human Resource and Development Committee

December 10, 2013- Research Information and Utilization Committee

December 11, 2013- Ethics Review Committee

Output of the series of planning conducted are summarized in the RHRDC XI Narrative Plan.

RHRDC XI General Assembly

The General Assembly is an annual event of the consortium which aims to enjoin all members to discuss and evaluate the accomplishments of the consortium through its various committees. This year, the General Assembly was conducted last December 13, 2013 at the DMSF-MTRC Waling Waling Hall, DMSF Drive, Bajada, Davao City. During the activity, the members and member-institutions were updated with the various resolutions passed in the

year 2013. Apart from that, the new members of the RHRDC XI namely Mindanao Kokusai Daigaku and Assumption College of Nabunturan were formally welcomed by the members.

Screening of Capsule Proposals

The RHRDC XI, as purveyors of health researches in the Davao region, announced a Call for Health R&D Proposals last October 2013. Priority areas include Traditional Medicine, Maternal and Child Health, Infectious Disease, Environment and Climate Change and Information Technology in Health. Interested researchers/faculty members/doctors were invited to submit a capsule proposal on or before December 10, 2013.

Submitted proposals were then screened by the Executive Management Committee together with Ms. Lucila Roja and Ms. Annie Catameo from PCHRD, Institutional Development Division last December 16, 2013 at the Mateo Function Room, Villa Margarita Hotel, Davao City. A total of twenty-eight (28) proposals were screened and evaluated.

Prepared by:

LESLIE PEARL M. CANCIO
RHRDC XI Project Staff

Noted by:

ANTHONY C. SALES, PhD, CESO III
RHRDC XI Regional Coordinator
DOST XI Regional Director

Approved by:

WARLITO C. VICENTE, MD, FPCS
RHRDC XI Chairperson