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VOLUME 2 ISSUE 3

PHILIPPINE AMBULATORY PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION, INC

NEWSLETTER



RENEWING THE CALL
FOR RESPONSIVE PEDIATRIC CARE
THROUGH ADVOCACY



[HTTPS://PAPAINC.ORG/](https://papainc.org/)



PAPA @ 30

On this Issue:

As we celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Philippine Ambulatory Pediatric Association (PAPA), we are delighted to reflect on the insightful discussions in our recently concluded 29th annual PAPA Convention, "Renewing the Call for Responsive Pediatric Care Through Advocacy". Dr. Marge Alfonso's emphasis in her welcoming remarks on advocacy in pediatric care resonates deeply with our mission to continue to champion our various PAPA advocacies. Her reminder of the pivotal role pediatricians play in health promotions underscores the importance of our collective commitment.

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Dr. Alfonso's call to action invites us to reaffirm our dedication to responsive pediatric care and to actively engage in advocacy efforts. By fostering community engagement and connecting with families, educators, and policymakers, we can address broader issues affecting children's well-being and development. Moreover, our involvement in advocacy not only enhances our professional development but also provides opportunities to stay updated on the latest research advancements and best practices in child health. Let us continue to stand together in our advocacy endeavors, shaping a healthier future for our youngest patients.

Gratitude and Highlights: Recapping PAPA's 29th Annual Convention

by Dr. Mary Joan Millonado, Overall Convention Chair

As the Philippine Ambulatory Pediatric Association, Inc. celebrates its 30th Anniversary in 2024, we convened minds and hearts dedicated to enriching child and adolescent healthcare in our country at our 29th Annual Convention. The two-day virtual event, held last March 6 and 7, showcased our collective commitment to promoting a responsive and relevant ambulatory pediatric practice.

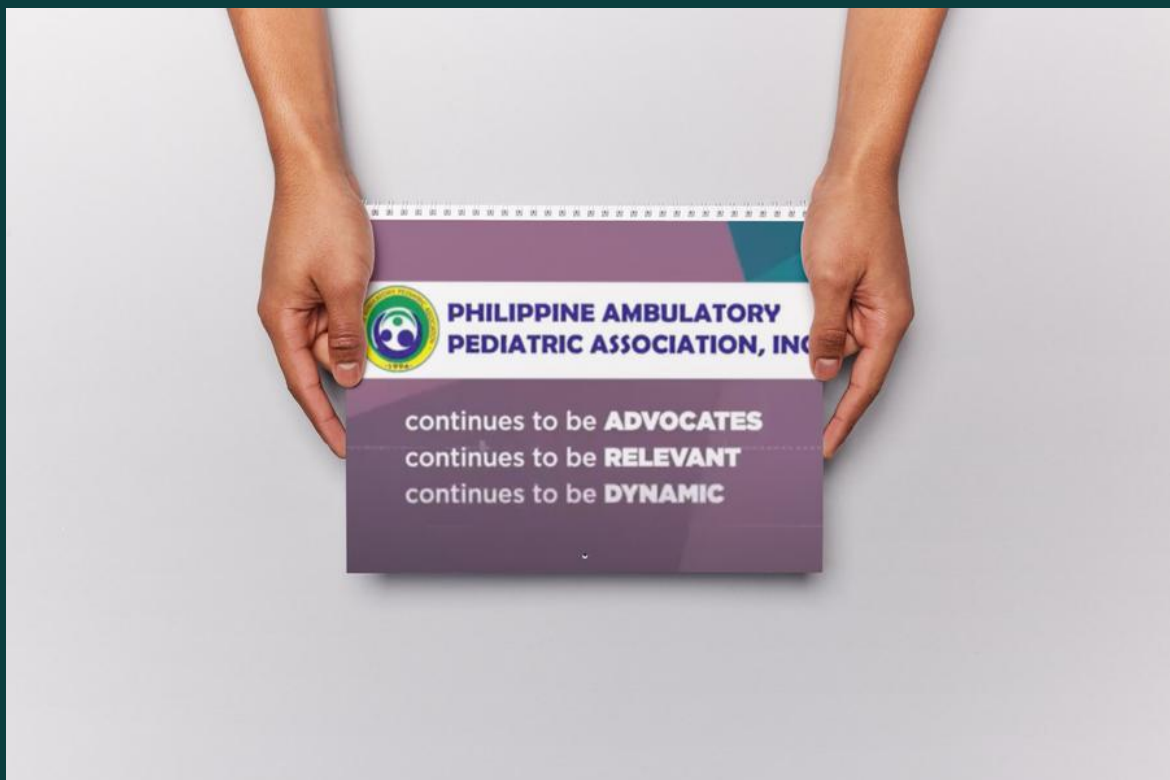
Our distinguished speakers delved into the principles and application of advocacy in pediatric practice, highlighting innovative approaches to optimizing child health. Topics ranged from comprehensive health supervision to mental health promotion, reflecting our evolving roles as healthcare providers in today's landscape. The convention also explored innovative strategies such as hybrid pediatric practice and community-based care, aligning with the goals of Universal Health Care.

With over 1,600 registrants, our convention was met with enthusiasm and appreciation. Attendees praised the practical and insightful scientific program, as well as the accessibility provided by the virtual platform. We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our speakers, panelists, moderators, and attendees for contributing to the vibrant and intellectually stimulating atmosphere of the event.



On behalf of the Board of Trustees and the 29th Annual Convention Organizing Committee of the Philippine Ambulatory Pediatric Association Inc., we also extend our sincere appreciation to our partners for their invaluable support, both for our continuing medical education activities and our advocacy projects. Special acknowledgment goes to the hardworking organizing committee for their dedication in creating a program that fostered knowledge exchange and meaningful advocacy.

As we reflect on the knowledge shared, discussions held, and collaborations formed, we invite you to join us in our renewed call for responsive pediatric care through advocacy. Together, we can make a lasting impact on the health and well-being of children across the Philippines and beyond.

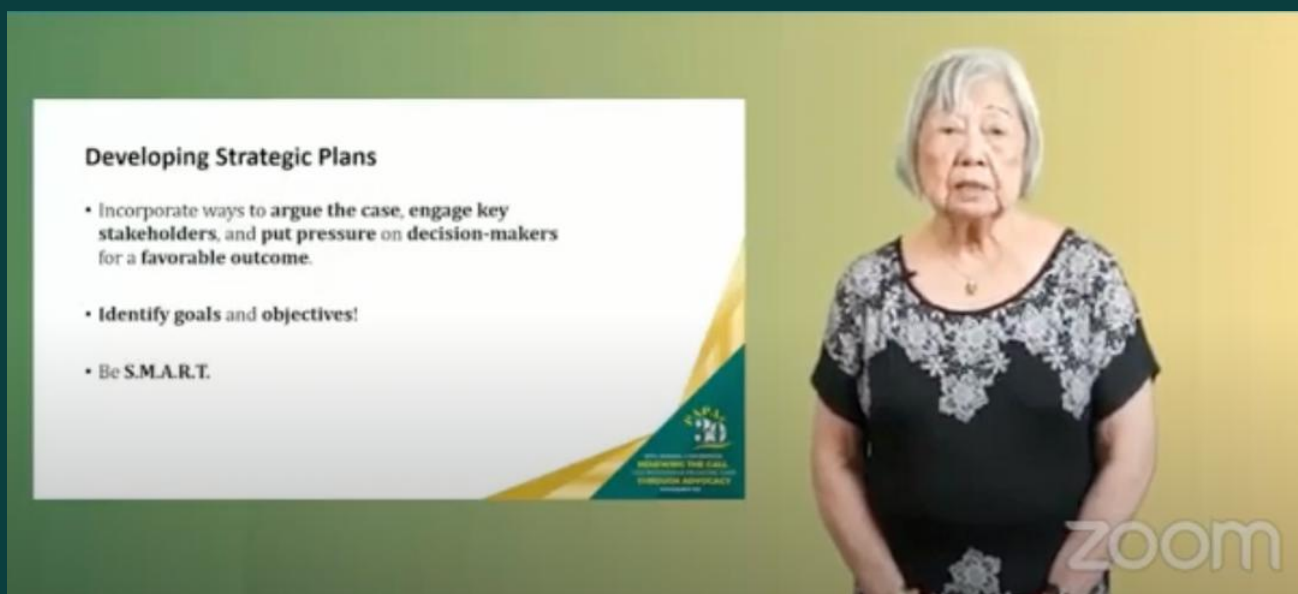


Walk the Talk: Enriching Pediatric Health Care Through Meaningful Advocacy

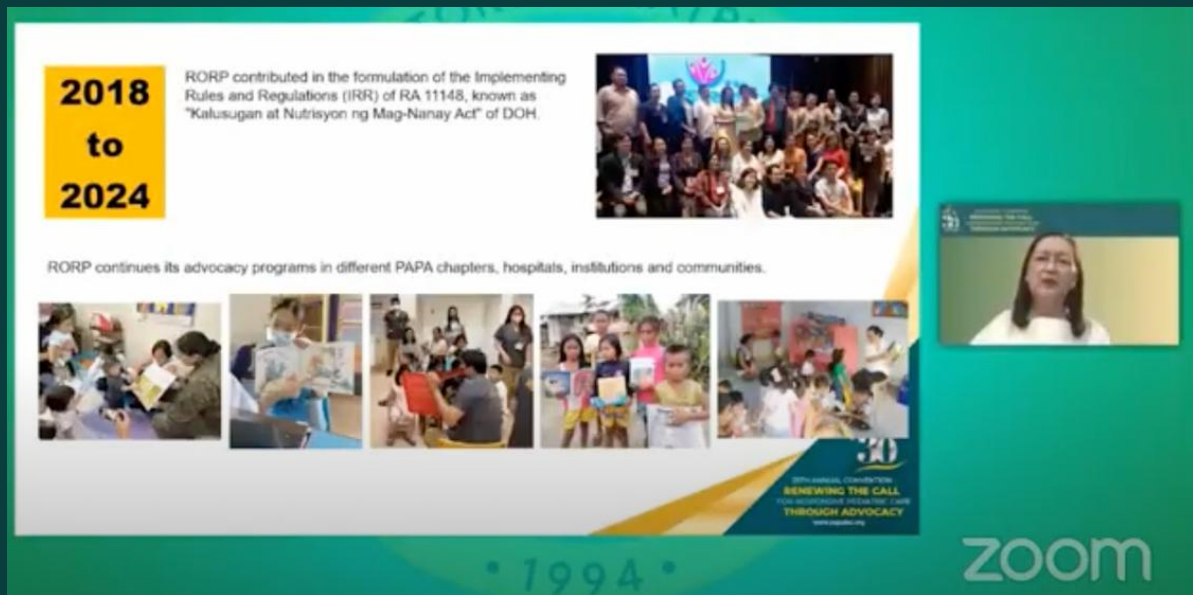
Presented by Dr. Mutya San Agustin and Dr. Rosalia Buzon

In the keynote presentation: "Walk the Talk: Enriching Pediatric Healthcare Through Meaningful Advocacy," Dr. San Agustin and Dr. Buzon shed light on the transformative power of advocacy in pediatric care. Dr. San Agustin began by defining advocacy as a strategic action that blends science, ethics, and politics to improve systems and policies that shape patients' health outcomes. She stressed the importance of framing advocacy to influence perceptions effectively and highlighted the need to select issues strategically based on contextual factors.

Dr. San Agustin also emphasized understanding the political context and engaging key stakeholders to catalyze positive social change. She outlined a comprehensive framework for system-level health advocacy, including steps such as building an evidence base, communicating messages effectively, and seizing opportunities for advocacy. Dr. Buzon, in turn, showcased the remarkable advocacy journey of the Philippine Ambulatory Pediatric Association (PAPA), which has been championing child health policy and advocacy for the past 30 years.



Developing Strategic Plans
Screenshot from Dr. San Agustin's lecture



Reach Out and Read Program
 Screenshot from Dr. Buzon's lecture

Established in 1994, PAPA has grown into a dynamic organization with over 400 dedicated members nationwide. Dr. Buzon highlighted PAPA's advocacy initiatives, including community-based tuberculosis control, health supervision guidelines for children, and the Reach Out and Read (ROR) program promoting early childhood literacy. PAPA's advocacy efforts have garnered international recognition and have contributed significantly to the formulation of public policies enhancing child welfare.

As we celebrate PAPA's 30th anniversary, it serves as a testament to the collective impact pediatricians can have in advocating for the well-being of children. Dr. San Agustin and Dr. Buzon's insights underscore the importance of pediatricians' role as advocates for change, both individually in clinical practice and collectively through organizations like PAPA. Their presentation inspires pediatricians to continue their advocacy efforts, shaping a brighter future for generations to come.

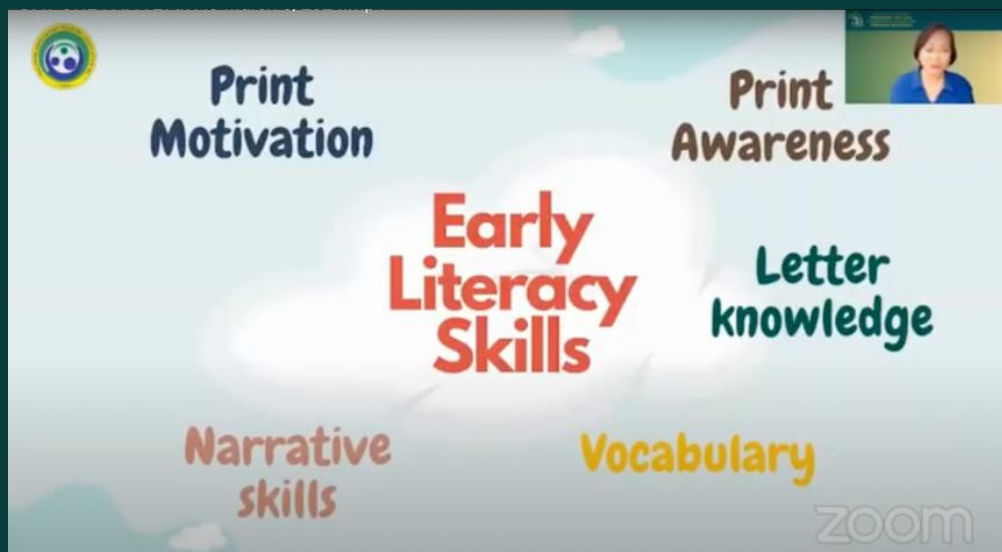
First ABCs: Promoting Literacy

Presented by Dr. Ma. Jocelyn N. Quidlat

Written by Dr. Kristine V. Arranz

Literacy is a dynamic and continuous process that includes listening, speaking, reading and writing. Although often associated with school-aged children, literacy acquisition begins much earlier, in infancy and toddlerhood, as this critical period is marked by rapid brain development and remarkable receptivity to language and communication. Thus, early literacy development lays the groundwork for a child's lifelong journey of learning.

In the lecture of Dr. Maria Jocelyn Quidlat on First ABCs and Practical Tips in Promoting Child Literacy, she mentioned that early literacy skills include print motivation and awareness, letter knowledge, phonological awareness and narrative skills. In the first few years of life, there is a crucial window of opportunity for laying the foundation of literacy skills. During this period, infants and toddlers are actively absorbing information from their surroundings, forming neural connections at an astounding rate. Language acquisition begins from birth, with infants instinctively attuned to the rhythms and sounds of speech. As they grow, toddlers start to grasp the nuances of language, gradually expanding their vocabulary and understanding of communication.



Early Literacy Skills
Screenshot from Dr. Quidlat's lecture

These early literacy skills, nurtured from infancy and toddlerhood, offer a myriad of benefits that extend far beyond the early years. Aside from faster brain development, it also strengthens the brain connections and links to future learning and intellectual abilities. Thus serving as building blocks for academic success, cognitive development, social-emotional well-being, and lifelong learning. Several strategies for teaching literacy were discussed, including tips on how to appropriately talk to infants and toddlers, encouraging them to have interests on reading developmentally appropriate books, and even singing nursery rhymes and action songs with them. When communicating to infants and toddlers, it's important to ensure eye contact and move to the child's level. Using big gestures and appropriate body language was suggested when having conversations with them as well. When reading a book at this stage, the focus should be on learning new words, and making it a fun and interactive experience.

According to Dr. Quidlat, in 2007, the Reach Out and Read (ROR) Philippines was launched with the mission to provide support, training and guidance to develop ROR programs in our most at-risk communities, to teach the parents the importance of early childhood literacy, and to put books into the hands and homes of disadvantaged young Filipino children. To date, there are several sites established in different hospitals and communities across the country.

Based on some local studies mentioned in the lecture, Reach Out and Read programs have made a significant impact on children's improved literacy outcomes, enhanced parent-child interactions, and community engagement efforts, which help create a network of support for children and their families.

In summary, ROR Programs have been associated with positive physical and mental health outcomes for children, as early as infancy and toddlerhood. By continuously integrating literacy promotion in primary pediatric care settings, it will definitely have a long term impact on the overall well-being of every child and their families. As stated by Dr. Quidlat, "Early literacy has the power to balance inequalities and provide opportunities to every generation to come".



First Puff is the Sweetest (or NOT): Tobacco Cessation

Presented by Dr. Edilberto B. Garcia, Jr.

Dr. Edilberto Garcia, is a prominent pediatrician and advocate for tobacco cessation. During the convention, he delivered a compelling talk entitled "The First Puff is the Sweetest... or Not: Advocating for Tobacco Cessation in Children." He urged the audience to expand their focus beyond traditional developmental markers and prioritize early intervention to prevent the long-term health consequences associated with tobacco use.

Drawing on data from the Global Youth Tobacco Survey, Dr. Garcia outlined concerning trends in smoking initiation among youth, including the increasing prevalence of electronic cigarette use. He emphasized the need for evidence-based interventions and policy changes to address these challenges effectively. Of particular concern were recent legislative changes potentially facilitating access to vaping products among minors, highlighting the urgent need for comprehensive tobacco control measures.

Central to Dr. Garcia's message was the pivotal role of pediatricians in tobacco control advocacy. He underscored the importance of equipping healthcare providers with intervention skills and empowering them to advocate for policy changes at the national level. Dr. Garcia shared insights from PAPA's Tobacco Control Committee, which has been actively involved in initiatives aimed at promoting smoking cessation among adolescents and advocating for smoke-free environments.

There is a need for a holistic approach to pediatric care, one that not only focuses on physical development but also empowers adolescents to make healthy choices regarding tobacco use. By joining forces in this crucial advocacy, pediatricians can amplify their impact, shape policy, and create supportive environments that foster healthier lifestyles for adolescents.



First Time I Fall: Focus on Safety and Injury Prevention

Presented by Dr. Soidemer Claire C. Grecia

Dr. Grecia, is a pediatrician and child protection specialist. She is also the chair of the PPS Council on Community Service and Child Advocacy Child Protection Committee. She delivered a compelling presentation, which focused on epidemiology, risk factors, and prevention strategies related to childhood injuries, underscoring the critical role of healthcare providers, particularly pediatricians, in safeguarding the well-being of children.

Epidemiological data presented by Dr. Grecia revealed alarming trends in injury-related morbidity and mortality among children, with road traffic injuries, drowning, falls, and assaults emerging as leading causes of death and disability. The distribution of injuries varied across age groups and regions, highlighting the need for targeted prevention efforts tailored to specific demographics and geographic areas.

Dr. Grecia emphasized the preventable nature of childhood injuries and outlined evidence-based strategies for injury prevention at the individual, community, and policy levels. These strategies included measures such as anticipatory guidance during pediatric visits, the promotion of safe behaviors, legislative interventions, and community education programs.

Lastly, the presentation also addressed the long-term impact of childhood injuries on physical and psychosocial well-being, highlighting the importance of comprehensive care and rehabilitation services for injured children and their families.

Dr. Grecia's passionate advocacy for child safety serves as a powerful reminder of the collective responsibility to protect and nurture the next generation. By working together, healthcare providers, policymakers, and communities can make significant strides towards reducing the burden of childhood injuries and creating safer environments for children to thrive.



To prevent injury in children, it's important to promote and practice safe behaviors across various environments and activities. Here are some examples:



Always use age-appropriate car seats, booster seats, and seat belts for children when traveling in a vehicle. Ensure that car seats are installed correctly according to the manufacturer's instructions.



Always supervise children closely when they are near or in water (pools, bathtubs, beaches, etc.) to prevent drowning. Even shallow water can be dangerous for young children.



For infants, ensure a safe sleeping environment by placing them on their backs to sleep, using a firm mattress, and keeping the crib free of soft bedding, pillows, and toys.



Childproof your home to prevent falls, poisoning, burns, and other injuries. This includes using safety gates, securing furniture and TVs to prevent tipping, covering electrical outlets, and storing hazardous substances out of reach.



Encourage the use of helmets when children are riding bicycles, scooters, skateboards, or rollerblading. Helmets should fit properly and be worn correctly.



Teach children about pedestrian safety, including looking both ways before crossing the street, using crosswalks, and understanding traffic signals.



Ensure that play areas are safe by checking for secure, well-maintained playground equipment and providing a soft surface to cushion falls.



Keep children away from hot surfaces, liquids, and fire. Use the back burners of the stove and turn pot handles inward. Test bath water temperature before use.



Store medicines, cleaning products, and other potentially toxic substances in locked cabinets or out of reach of children. Keep the poison control center's phone number accessible.



Install smoke alarms in your home and check them regularly. Plan and practice a fire escape plan with your children.



Ensure that children use appropriate protective gear for sports and recreational activities. Teach them the rules of the game and encourage fair play.



Apply sunscreen to children's skin when they are outdoors, and encourage wearing hats and protective clothing to prevent sunburn.

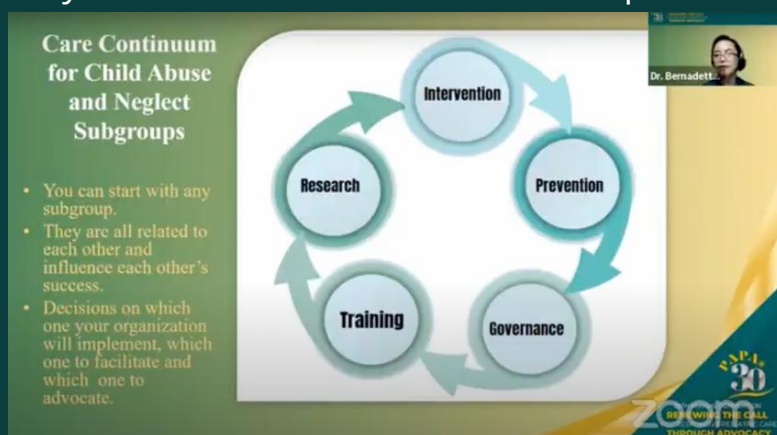
Child Protection 3.0: Focus on the CPU Framework and Impact in the Philippines

Presented by Dr. Bernadette J. Madrid

In a compelling keynote lecture, Dr. Madrid outlined a visionary path towards protecting Filipino children from abuse and neglect, emphasizing the need for collective action. Highlighting the staggering statistics revealing the prevalence of abuse among Filipino youth, Dr. Madrid presented a comprehensive framework—the Care Continuum for Child Abuse and Neglect—to guide interventions. With a focus on detection, prevention, governance, reporting, and response, this framework aims to address the multifaceted challenges of child protection.

Dr. Madrid underscored the pivotal role of Child Protection Units (CPUs) in providing multidisciplinary care, uniting professionals from various fields under one umbrella to ensure comprehensive support for abused children. Through strategic partnerships with governmental and non-governmental entities, Dr. Madrid's initiative has seen remarkable growth, scaling up from a single unit to 138 CPUs across the nation.

Crucially, Dr. Madrid emphasized the distinction between vertical and horizontal scale-up strategies, stressing the importance of both policy-level support and grassroots replication to achieve widespread impact. By embedding child protection efforts within the healthcare system and advocating for legislative support, Dr. Madrid's approach seeks to ensure the sustainability and institutionalization of child protection programs.



Care Continuum for Child Abuse
Screenshot from Dr. Madrid's lecture

The Care Continuum: INTERVENTION

Early Detection or Suspicion

- ☑ Detection strategies
- ☑ Mobilizing child care professionals
- ☑ Public awareness programs
- ☑ Awareness programs for children

- Training on recognition and reporting of abuse
- Child Helplines
- Role of Media
- Child abuse awareness programs in schools

Intervention for Child Abuse and Neglect
Screenshot from Dr. Madrid's lecture

Acknowledging the challenges of underreporting and the need for early detection, Dr. Madrid highlighted the importance of community engagement, training, and infrastructure development. Through initiatives like helplines, online training, and judicial reforms, efforts are underway to improve reporting mechanisms and ensure access to justice for victims.

Moreover, Dr. Madrid stressed the significance of evidence-based interventions, citing programs like parenting education and safe schools initiatives as examples of successful approaches. By leveraging research, monitoring, and evaluation, Dr. Madrid aims to continuously refine strategies and adapt interventions to local contexts, maximizing effectiveness and impact.

In closing, Dr. Madrid called for a unified, multi-sectoral approach to child protection, urging collaboration across academia, government, civil society, and private sectors. Emphasizing that violence against children is preventable, Dr. Madrid's impassioned plea for collective action serves as a beacon of hope in the quest to build a safer, more nurturing environment for Filipino children. Through sustained commitment and concerted efforts, the vision of a nation where all children are protected from abuse and neglect can indeed become a reality.

The First Cough that Never Dies: Tales of Managing TB in the Community

Presented by Dr. Maria Ana R. Hassan

In her session, Dr. Hassan's call to action was made for clinicians to confront the persistent challenge of tuberculosis (TB) in communities worldwide. She provided a comprehensive overview of the historical context, global burden, current challenges, and potential solutions related to TB, with a specific focus on its impact on children.

Historical Context and Global Burden

We traced the history of TB, highlighting the pivotal discovery of mycobacterium tuberculosis by Dr. Robert Koch in 1882. Despite significant progress in understanding the disease since then, TB remains a formidable global health threat. With over 10 million incidents reported annually, including 1.3 million cases among children, TB ranks as the 13th leading cause of death worldwide.

Philippine Perspective

Of particular concern is the situation in the Philippines, which ranks as the fourth largest contributor to TB cases globally, accounting for 7% of all cases. The country faces a grave situation, with TB being the ninth leading cause of disease across all age groups. Alarming, an average of 70 Filipinos die from TB each day, underscoring the urgent need for action.

Global and Local Efforts and Challenges

Dr. Hassan outlined various global initiatives aimed at combating TB, such as the World Health Organization's (WHO) Tuberculosis Control Program and Stop TB Strategy. The Department of Health also implementing its eight-point action agenda and community-based programs to improve TB detection and treatment. Despite these efforts, progress has been hindered by challenges such as drug-resistant TB, HIV-associated TB, and the recent disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.



Impact on Children

A significant portion of the session was dedicated to highlighting the devastating impact of TB on children and adolescents. Through a moving video presentation, the audience was confronted with the harsh realities faced by young TB patients and their families. Children with TB often experience severe forms of the disease, including meningitis and disseminated tuberculosis, leading to long-term health complications and even death.

Road Ahead: A Call to Action

In response to these challenges, Dr. Hassan calls for coordinated efforts and increased funding to address the neglected issue of childhood TB. She emphasized the importance of early detection, prompt treatment, and community engagement in mitigating the burden of TB among children. Dr. Hassan highlighted recent developments, such as new child-friendly formulations of TB treatment, WHO's third edition roadmap to prevent and treat TB in children and adolescents, and even contributions of PAPA's initiatives in communities as promising steps forward. The audience was urged to play a central role in these efforts, advocating for increased investment, improved access to care, and community-based interventions to end the spread of TB once and for all. As Dr. Hassan aptly stated, "It takes a village to raise a child, and it takes a community to end tuberculosis."

Philippine Ambulatory Pediatric Association (PAPA) – Community Based TB project
“Finding Tuberculosis”

- Active Case Finding (Nov 30, 2023) in Brgy Bagong Ilog, Pasig City
- # of participants: 278
- Led by: Dr. Maria Ana Hassan
- PAPA President: Dr. Margarita Alfonso,
- PAPA Vice President: Dr. Millonado
- TB committee advisers:
 - Dr Mutya Shaw, Dr Rose Buzon, Dr Weslyn Salvador, Dr Benjamin Sablan & Dr Benjamin Cabrera

PAPA COMMUNITY BASED TUBERCULOSIS PROGRAM

FINDING TUBERCULOSIS
(AN ACTIVE CASE FINDING PROGRAM)
IN COLLABORATION WITH CULION FOUNDATION INC., LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF BAGONG ILOG PASIG & BAGONG ILOG HEALTH CENTER

Raffle prizes await the participants!

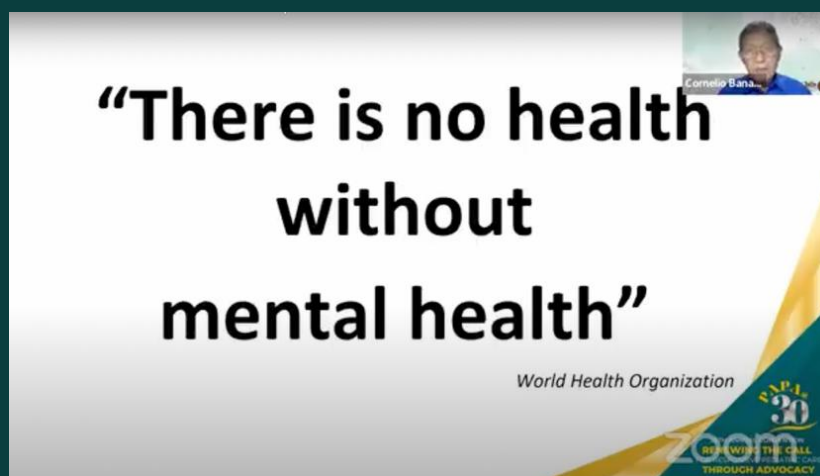
PAPA-Community Based TB Project
Screenshot from Dr. Hassan's lecture

The First Signs of Mental Health Illness: Directions for Prevention and Wellness Promotion in Pediatrics

Presented by Dr. Cornelio G. Banaag Jr. and Dr. Margarita Luisa A. Alfonso

In a world where the alarming increase in mental health issues among young people has reached crisis levels, Dr. Banaag's session sheds light on the gravity of the situation and the urgent need for collective action. Delivered with passion and expertise, Dr. Banaag emphasized the pivotal role of pediatricians as the frontline responders in identifying and intervening in mental health challenges among children and adolescents.

Dr. Banaag shared the global nature of the mental health crisis affecting children and adolescents, transcending geographical boundaries. He reiterated the World Health Organization's assertion that there is no health without mental health, underscoring the significance of mental well-being in enabling children to realize their full potential across various developmental stages.



Screenshot from Dr. Banaag's lecture

Highlighting the multifaceted approach required to address mental health issues among youth, Dr. Banaag emphasized the importance of collaboration among various stakeholders, including parents, educators, healthcare professionals, religious institutions, and communities. However, he particularly emphasized the crucial role of pediatricians as the primary point of contact for young individuals seeking medical assistance, including psychiatric support.

Drawing upon pre-pandemic data from the World Health Organization, Dr. Banaag painted a stark picture of the prevalence of mental health disorders among children and adolescents, with estimates indicating that 10 to 20% of this demographic suffer from various forms of mental illnesses. Moreover, he underscored the alarming statistic that most mental disorders in adults originate during adolescence, with the highest risk of suicide occurring between the ages of 15 to 24.

He went on to attribute the exacerbation of mental health issues among youth partly to the advent of smartphones and the pervasive influence of social media. Dr. Banaag described how the misuse of technology, particularly smartphones, has led to decreased social interaction, increased insecurity, and a decline in religious affiliations among young people. Furthermore, he highlighted the concerning correlation between excessive internet usage and heightened feelings of loneliness, depression, and suicidal tendencies among youth.

Central to Dr. Banaag's presentation was the identification of early warning signs of mental health issues, such as depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation. He urged pediatricians and caregivers to remain vigilant in recognizing these signs, which may manifest as changes in behavior, mood, or academic performance.

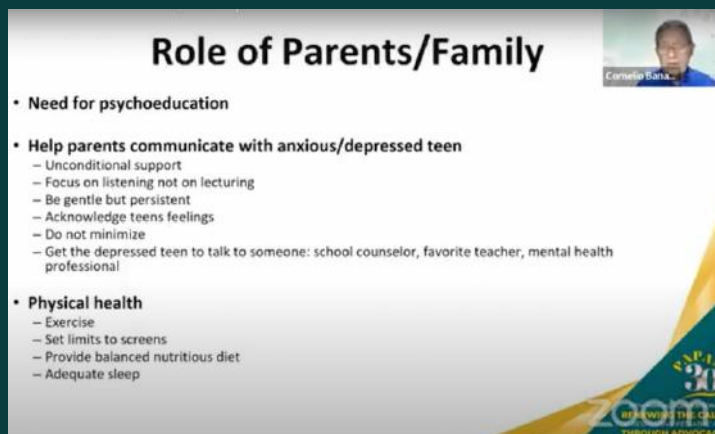
NOTICE THE WARNING SIGNS

- Feeling very sad or withdrawn for more than two weeks
- Seriously trying to harm oneself, or making plans to do so
- Sudden overwhelming fear for no reason, sometimes with a racing heart or fast breathing
- Intense worries or fears that get in the way of daily activities
- Involvement in many fights or desire to badly hurt others
- Severe out-of-control behavior that can hurt oneself or others

Warning Signs of mental health crisis
Screenshot from Dr. Banaag's lecture

Moreover, Dr. Banaag emphasized the critical role of families in providing unconditional support and fostering open communication with their children. He advised that parents need to prioritize listening over lecturing and to approach discussions about mental health with empathy and understanding. Additionally, he underscored the importance of setting boundaries on screen time and promoting healthy lifestyle habits, including regular exercise, balanced nutrition, and adequate sleep.

Throughout the talk, Dr. Banaag emphasizes the importance of early intervention, timely recognition and support to prevent the escalation of mental health challenges into more complex issues. He concluded by advocating for a holistic approach to promoting positive mental health, encompassing physical activity, social connection, spirituality, and access to professional support when needed.



Role of Parents/Family in the care of the child’s mental health
Screenshot from Dr. Banaag’s lecture

Dr. Banaag’s talk ends with a call to action to our pediatricians. As the frontline defenders of children's health, pediatricians play a pivotal role in shaping a brighter, mentally healthier future for the next generation.

After the insightful presentation, Dr. Alfonso provided her reaction to Dr. Banaag’s talk and shares her own insights on the same topic with inputs from PAPA’s efforts in support of mental health in youth. She highlights the importance of communication, especially in the context of supporting mental health in youth.



She discusses the role of effective communication in supporting children's social development and academic success, mentioning various forms such as verbal and non-verbal communication. Dr. Alfonso also touched upon the importance of listening, stating that communication is a two-way street and requires active listening to understand the child's needs.

Furthermore, she addresses the challenges children may face in learning and the importance of recognizing and addressing developmental and behavioral concerns. Dr. Alfonso highlights the need for parental education on child development and parenting practices, as well as effective communication between parents and teachers to support children's learning needs.



ASKING FOR HELP IS OK



From Awareness to Action: PAPA ARUGA's Role in Mental Health Advocacy

Presented by Dr. Margarita Luisa A. Alfonso

Dr. Alfonso then provided insights into the PAPA ARUGA mental health project, which aims to recognize, understand, and provide assistance to families of children with learning, developmental, and behavioral concerns.

The PAPA ARUGA Mental Health Project has these primary objectives:

1

Increase awareness and understanding among teachers regarding various learning problems, disabilities, and developmental and behavioral issues in children.

2

Equip teachers with effective strategies and school-based interventions to support children with such concerns.

3

Strengthen collaboration between teachers and families to address the needs of children with learning, developmental, and behavioral challenges.

Dr. Alfonso outlined the comprehensive approach taken by the project, beginning with a needs assessment conducted in 2022. This assessment involved engaging with teachers and parents to identify their concerns, which formed the basis for developing the project's modules.

The project team developed six modules covering essential topics related to child development, learning difficulties, and behavioral issues. These modules are being delivered via synchronous video lectures and face-to-face discussions, allowing for interactive learning and group participation.

During face-to-face encounters, small group discussions focused on case studies, problem-solving techniques, communication skills, and positive parenting strategies. Facilitators, trained professionals in the field, guided these discussions to ensure that participants gained practical insights and skills applicable to real-life situations.

Dr. Alfonso also shared insights into the demographics of the project participants, highlighting the diverse backgrounds and experiences represented. The majority of participants were young to middle-aged individuals, primarily millennials and Gen X, with a few from other generations. Among them were teachers, parents, and caregivers, all eager to enhance their knowledge and skills in supporting children with special needs.

The project's impact was assessed through pre-test and post-test evaluations, along with feedback from participants. Initial feedback indicated that participants found the topics easy to understand and appreciated the accessibility of the video lectures. Moreover, the facilitators' support was instrumental in facilitating their learning journey.

Looking ahead, Dr. Alfonso emphasized the project's ongoing refinement and expansion. Plans included further module development, additional small group discussions, and collaboration with occupational therapists, speech pathologists, and counselors to provide holistic support for children with special needs and their families.



Parents' and Teachers' Training
Screenshot from Dr. Alfonso's lecture

The First Medical Home: Translating Childhood Advocacies into Effective Community Practice

Presented by Dr. Marthony P. Basco

Dr. Ato Basco, is a prominent pediatrician, closed our convention with his insights on the concept of medical homes and the importance of partnerships in pediatric care. He highlighted the significance of a medical home not merely as a physical location but as an approach to comprehensive primary care.

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics, a medical home is characterized by accessibility, continuity, comprehensiveness, family-centeredness, coordination, compassion, and cultural effectiveness. Dr. Basco posed a thought-provoking question: Do such medical homes exist in the Philippines? This question served as a launching point for a discussion on the pivotal role of pediatricians in establishing and fostering medical homes for their patients.

What happens in your Clinic?	
Patient	Parent
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anthropometrics (actual)• Physical examination• Observed vs Expected Behaviors• Social skills• Language	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diet for age• Pattern of Growth• Diseases, illness• Sleeping• Vaccination status• Parenting• Activities as home

Typical Pediatric Clinical Encounter
Screenshot from Dr. Basco's lecture

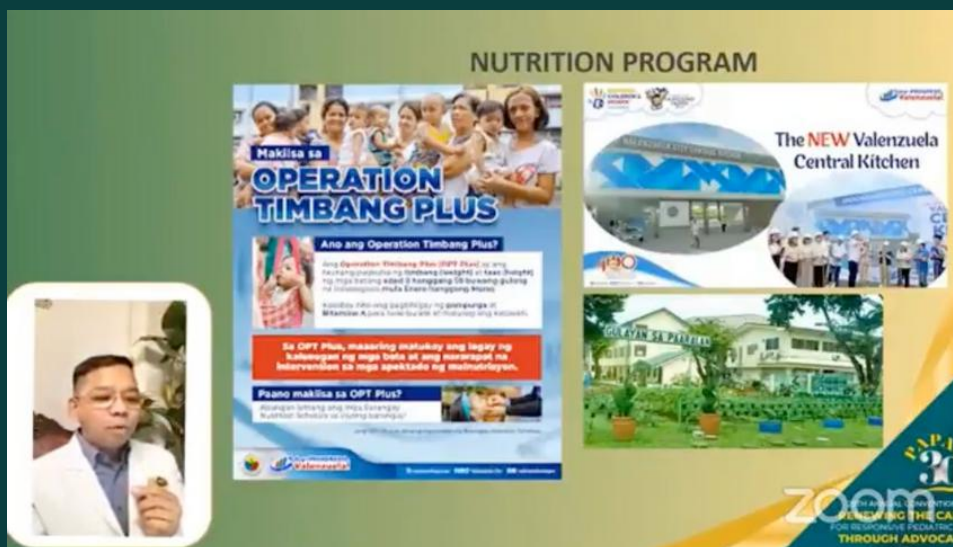
During the session, Dr. Basco guided pediatricians through the typical clinical encounter and underscored the importance of post-visit care. He emphasized the need for ongoing communication and support beyond the confines of the clinic. He engaged the audience with interactive questions where participants explored various approaches to maintaining continuity of care and addressing patients' needs holistically.

One notable aspect of Dr. Basco's talk was his focus on community partnerships and public health initiatives. He highlighted government programs such as the National Tuberculosis Program, Operation Timbang Plus for malnutrition, and the National Immunization Program. By engaging with these initiatives, pediatricians can extend their reach beyond individual clinic settings and contribute to broader public health goals.



Public or Private Community Partnerships?
Screenshot from Dr. Basco's lecture

However, Dr. Basco also addressed the challenges and concerns associated with government healthcare programs. Issues such as medication quality, standard of care, queuing systems, staff attitudes, continuity of care, and data management were raised. By acknowledging these challenges, Dr. Basco encouraged pediatricians to advocate for improvements and actively participate in shaping healthcare policies and practices.



Government Nutrition Programs
Screenshot from Dr. Basco's lecture

In closing, Dr. Basco urged pediatricians to embrace the concept of medical homes and recognize the power of partnerships in promoting child health. He emphasized the importance of collaboration, communication, and community engagement in providing comprehensive care to children and families. Through collective effort and a shared commitment to child well-being, pediatricians can truly make a difference in their communities.

Highlighting the famous quote, "It takes a village to raise a child.", Dr. Basco reminds pediatricians to work together and create a supportive environment where every child has the opportunity to thrive.

“It takes a village to raise a child” -African proverb





29th Annual Convention

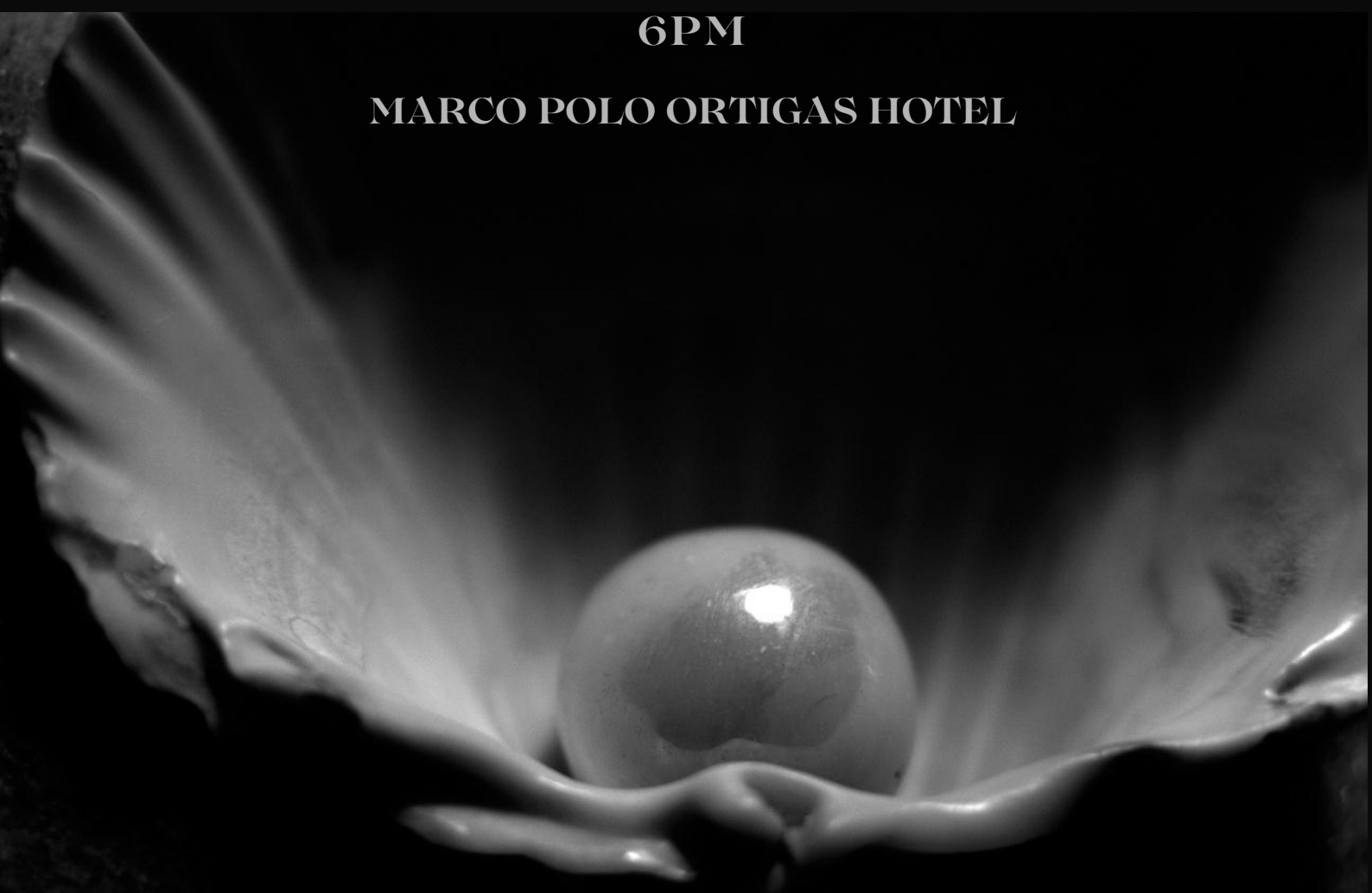
Hybrid Fellowship Night
*Pearl Anniversary Gala
Night in Havana*

MARCH 5, 2024

TUESDAY

6PM

MARCO POLO ORTIGAS HOTEL





Dr. Mary Joan Millonado for the Welcome Remarks



Dr. Mutya San Agustin for some inspiring words





Dr Jeisela Gaerlan
President of PAPA La Union
Chapter



Dr Efraim Culminas
President of PAPA
Zamboanga del Sur Chapter



Dr Vivina Chiu
President of PAPA Cebu Chapter
Chair, Committee on Ways and Means



Dr Jasmine Castillo
Co-Chair, Committee on
Socials/Fellowship



Dr Cynthia Gomez
Chair, Committee on International
Affiliate - Philippines



Dr Sarah Mendoza
Secretary
Chair, Committee on Membership



Dr Mary Joan Millonado
Vice President
Chair, Committee on CME Affairs/Media
and Public Relations and Socials



Dr Margarita Luisa Alfonso
President
Chair, Committee on Mental Health in Children
Chair, Committee on Research and Publication





OTHER ACTIVITIES



With Dr. Hector Santos Jr. PMA Vice President



PMA 1 TB Summit with PMA President Dr. Maria Minerva Calimag & PPS President Dr. Florentino Ty



PAPA member and MSD Country Medical Lead, Dr. Mary Anne Galang-Escalona giving the opening remarks in the HPV Academy



With Mr Andreas Riedel, MSD President and Managing Director

PAPA-ARUGA



PAPA-ARUGA



PAPA Aruga Module 3 Participants(teachers)- Samal Bataan- Feb 19, 2024 with Sped Consultant and module 3 developer Teacher Mayumi Gonzales(center, in navy blue blouse) and PAPA affiliate member Teacher Aida, UAE retired teacher(in light blue blouse)



PAPA Aruga Module 4 Participants(parents) - Samal Bataan, Feb 19, 2024

PAPA-ARUGA



Dr Brence introducing the team members to do a role play



Dr Cynthia Gomez with participants



Dr Mutya San Agustin with participants



Dr Marge Alfonso with participants

Parents watching the videolecture of Dr Pauline Marquez- module developer - Module 4





PHILIPPINE AMBULATORY
PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.

PRESENTS



BAHAGHARI SUMMIT 2024

Eat. Sleep. Move.
Giving Children a Healthy Start

MAY 9, 2024
THURSDAY | 4:30PM
CONRAD MANILA

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



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GROWTH





PHILIPPINE AMBULATORY PEDIATRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
A non-specialty affiliate society of the Philippine Medical Association

in partnership with



invites you to a scientific discussion

"Boosting Adolescent Immunization"

Starting Young: HPV Vaccination Among Early Adolescents



Speaker:
**Dr. Imelda
Asetre-Luna**
Pediatric Infectious
Diseases

Techniques to Boost Adolescent Immunization



Speaker:
Dr. Emma Llanto
Adolescent Medicine

Moderator:

Dr Eileen Alikpala-Cuajunco

Bahaghari Booklet Launch

Dr. Ruby Punongbayan-Tan
Chair, Bahaghari Committee, PAPA, Inc.



Monday
June 3, 2024



06:00 - 09:00 PM



**Marco Polo
Hotel Ortigas**



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