PHILIPPINE SOCIETY OF PEDIATRIC ONCOLOGY

4th Annual Pediatric Oncology Scientific Convention

“New Dimensions in Pediatric Oncology”

November 19, 2010
Balai Isabel, Talisay Batangas
In 1990, the Philippine Society of Medical Oncology (PSMO) held its annual convention at the Westin Philippine Plaza. One of the guest speakers was Dr. Jorge Ortega, a Pediatric Hematologist-Oncologist from the University of Southern California (USC)-Children’s Hospital of Los Angeles who spoke about State of the Art in the Treatment of Pediatric Sarcomas. Dr. Ortega ended his talk by challenging all the Pediatric Oncology members of PSMO to organize our own Pediatric Oncology specialty society.

Thus, on November 21, 2000, the PSPO was organized with Dr. Aproniano C. Tangco as President, Dr. Pacita Lopez as Vice President, Dr. Ma. Victoria M. Abesamis as Secretary and Dr. Amy Goleta-Dy as Treasurer. The Members of the Board were Dr. Julius A. Lecciones, Dr. Trinidad Tapia, Dr. Pelagio Iriarte, Dr. Eloisa Bernas and Dr. Rosalinda Roberto.

The Philippine Board of Pediatric Oncology (PBPO) was also organized with Dr. Amy Goleta-Dy as Chairman. The members of the PBPO are Dr. Aproniano C. Tangco, Dr. Pacita Lopez and Dr. Ma. Victoria M. Abesamis. The specialty board examinations for Diplomates in Pediatric Oncology were given every two (2) years.

There are two (2) accredited post-residency fellowship training programs by the PSPO in the Philippines, namely, the UP-Philippine General Hospital and the Philippine Children’s Medical Center (PCMC). Graduates of these 2 training programs locally and internationally provided they have at least two (2) years of Pediatric Oncology may qualify to take the written and oral examinations.

The 2nd President of PSPO was Dr. Pacita M. Lopez in 2002-2004. Dr. Ma. Victoria M. Abesamis was President of PSPO in 2004-2006. It was this time that the PSPO was recognized as an affiliate subspecialty society of the Philippine Pediatric Society (PPS). Dr. Amy Goleta-Dy was PSPO president in 2006-2008. In November 2007, we held the 1st Annual Convention at the Loyola Grand Villas Clubhouse in Quezon City. In November 2008, Dr. Cynthia Melicor organized the 2nd Annual Convention in Cebu City. Dr. Beatriz P. Gepte was elected as PSPO president in 2008-2010. Dr. Mae Dolendo organized the 3rd Annual Convention in Davao City in November 2009.

From a membership of 10 Pediatric Oncologists, the PSPO has grown to 32 as of November 19, 2010. The present PSPO officers are Dr. Beatriz P. Gepte as President, Dr. Cynthia Melicor as Vice president, Dr. Luz del Rosario as Secretary and Dr. Marielise Afable as Treasurer. The Members of the Board are Dr. Ma.Victoria M. Abesamis, Dr. Trinidad Tapia, Dr. Miriam Kimpo, Dr. Mae Dolendo, Dr. Fe Paclibar and Dr. Amy Goleta-Dy as immediate past President.

The 4th Annual Convention is organized by Dr. Mia Lesaca to be held at Balai Isabel, Talisay, Batangas on November 19, 2010.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>History of PSPO Revisited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Message</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>PSPO Board/ Organizing Committee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Convention Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Speaker Profiles/ Lecture Abstract</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Balai Isabel at a Glance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Acknowledgements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>PSPO Directory</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Philippine Pediatric Society, Inc. is one in expressing its heartfelt congratulations to the Organizing Committee of the 4th Annual Convention of the Philippine Society of Pediatric Oncology. Your tireless efforts to heighten awareness and teach invaluable information to all pediatricians and clinicians regarding both the “basics and state of the art” treatment approaches in oncologic diseases is both a source of admiration and emulation. This is again a living proof the genuine volunteerism and “pediatrician power” spirit of child healthcare advocates nationwide.

The PPS assures you that it will support all your endeavors geared towards equipping and empowering not only general pediatric medicine practitioners but sub-specialists as well in the extension of medical services at par with global standards and best clinical practices. This is the best time to galvanize and harmonize all our efforts to improve general health and survival in this century. This scientific gathering will fortify the steps you have already taken towards the right direction.

To all participants, enjoy this occasion to witness and learn from the meeting of minds, differing perspectives, merging concepts and collective efforts harvested for the best interest of our patients.

Genesis C. Rivera, MD, FPPS
President
Philippine Pediatric Society, Inc.
A society is defined as “any community of individuals who are united together by a common bond of nearness or intercourse and recognize each other as associates, friends, and acquaintances.” This is exactly how we are at the Philippine Society of Pediatric Oncology. For a society with only twenty-eight (28) members from all over the Philippines, we have a common goal which is to provide quality subspecialty care for children with cancer. Our task is not simple. The path towards achieving this goal is challenging but is not insurmountable. Nevertheless, we all remain hopeful and will always give our best and what is due to the Filipino children.

Join us as we hold our 4th Annual Convention and celebrate the meeting of minds, hearts and spirit. Congratulations to the organizing committee and many thanks to our sponsors.

Maria Beatriz P. Gepte, MD, MPH
President, PSPO
PSPO Organizational Structure

Board Officers

President Maria Beatriz P. Gepte, MD
Vice President Cynthia F. Melicor, MD
Treasurer Trinidad Tapia, MD
Secretary Marielise V. Afable, MD

Past Presidents
Amy G. Dy, MD (Immediate Past Pres., 2006-08)
Pacita Lopez, MD (2nd PSPO Pres. 2002-2004)
Aproniano C. Tangco, MD (1st PSPO Pres. 2000-02)

Board Members
Maria Luz U. del Rosario, MD
Mae Concepcion J. Dolendo, MD
Miriam Kimpo, MD
Ma. Lita Fe P. Paclibar, MD

Organizing Committee 4th Annual PSPO Convention

Convention Chair Ma. Ysabel L. Medina, MD
Scientific Com. Miriam Kimpo, MD
Registration Pamela Fajardo, MD
Physical Arrangement Ann Veronique C. Eguaras, MD
Ways and Means Marielise V. Afable, MD
Souvenir program Michelle F. Rodriguez, MD
Awards & Certificates Michelle F. Rodriguez, MD
Documentation Maria Luz U. del Rosario, MD
Socials Crispin L. Dalisay Jr., MD
Master of Ceremonies Cynthia F. Melicor, MD
Convention Program

7:30-8:30  Registration
8:30-8:45  Opening Ceremonies
          Dr. Cynthia F. Melicor (M.C.)

9:00-10:00  New Classifications of Brain Tumors
            Dr. Edwin L. Munoz

10:15-11:15  Handling terminally-ill Patients
            Redefining the Meaning of Hope
            Dr. Kathrina Isabel M. Epino

11:30-1:00  LUNCH
1:00-2:00  Stress and Debriefing
          Dr. Noel Pingoy

2:15-3:15  Updates on Lymphoma
          Dr. Ana Patricia Alcasabas

3:30-4:30  Gene Therapy for Solid Tumors
          Dr. Diosdado S. Bautista

4:45-5:30  Business Meeting
5:30-6:00  Closing Ceremonies
6:00-7:00  Break
7:00  Fellowship Night & Induction of New Members
      (Drs. Myla Bernales, Dr. Ma.Cecilia L. Cruz and Dr. Maileen M. Roa)
Edwin L. Múnoz, M.D.
Consultant, Histopathology and Neuropathology

Educational Background/ Training
Doctor of Medicine 1983-1987, University of the Philippines, Manila
Residency, Anatomic and Clinical Pathology 1989-1992, Philippine General Hospital
Fellowship, Neuropathology, University of Virginia Health Sciences Center, Charlottesville, Virginia USA
Transfusion service and clinical pathology rotation, University of Virginia Health Sciences Center, Charlottesville, Virginia USA

Academic/ Hospital Appointments
Chair, Department of Laboratory and Head of Blood Bank and Transfusion Service at Metropolitan Medical Center, Tondo

Consultant in Histopathology and Neuropathology and Consultant in Clinical Pathology at Cardinal Santos Medical Center, San Juan

Consultant Pathologist at Metropolitan Hospital-Biocare Immunohematology Reference Laboratory, Metropolitan Medical Center, Tondo

Consultant in Histopathology and Neuropathology and Consultant in Blood Bank and Transfusion Service at Asian Hospital and Medical Center, Alabang

Consultant in Neuropathology at Philippine Children's Medical Center, Quezon City

Consultant in Epilepsy Pathology and Neuromuscular Pathology
Saint Luke's Medical Center, Quezon City
Updates on the Classification of Pediatric Brain Tumors.

This lecture commences with the frequency of various pediatric brain tumors gathered from a pathology review of cases at the Philippine Children's Medical Center. The discussion elaborates on the 2007 World Health Organization classification of tumors of the central nervous system, including new entities and variants described along with updates on the various classification schemes. A simple review of the more common pediatric brain tumors, their pathologic differential diagnosis and the ancillary diagnostic tools essential in reaching a histopathologic diagnosis will be emphasized in this particular discussion that may aid every Pediatric Oncologist in the diagnosis and classification of various cases of Pediatric Brain Tumors encountered in the Philippines.
Kathrina Isabel M. Epino, M.D.
Cancer Pain Management Specialist

Educational Background/ Training
Doctor of Medicine 1998-2003   University of the City of Manila (PLM), Quezon City
Bachelor of Science in Psychology 1994-1998   University of the Philippines, Diliman, QC
Residency, Anesthesiology 2004-2006   Philippine General Hospital, Manila
Fellow, Pain Medicine and Palliative Care, 2008-2009 Childrens Hosp at Westmead, Sydney Australia, NSW

Academic/ Hospital Appointments

CLINICAL ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIA   UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES – PHILIPPINE GENERAL HOSPITAL

FACULTY
MASTER OF MEDICINE IN PAIN MANAGEMENT   UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS IN COLLABORATION WITH PAIN MANAGEMENT RESEARCH INSTITUTE (PMRI) UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY
MANILA, PHILIPPINES   SEPTEMBER 2009-PRESENT

CLINICAL ASSOCIATE LECTURER
DISCIPLINE OF PAEDIATRICS AND CHILD HEALTH
THE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AT WESTMEAD CLINICAL SCHOOL UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY - FACULTY OF MEDICINE
SYDNEY, NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA   JULY 2009-PRESENT

CONSULTANT, PAIN MANAGEMENT AND WELLNESS CENTER MANILA DOCTORS HOSPITAL
MANILA, PHILIPPINES 2009 TO PRESENT

CONSULTANT, PAIN MANAGEMENT CENTER, ST LUKE'S MEDICAL CENTER GLOBAL CITY
TAGUIG, PHILIPPINES 2010

ASSOCIATE ANESTHESIOLOGIST
MANILA DOCTORS HOSPITAL
MANILA, PHILIPPINES 2007-PRESENT

VISITING CONSULTANT, DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIA
OSPITAL NG MAYNILA MEDICAL CENTER
“REDEFINING THE MEANING OF HOPE”

Dealing with children with life limiting illnesses and their families remains to be challenging and yet potentially one of the most rewarding aspects in pediatric practice. Children are not expected to die. Therefore, the news that a child has a progressive and life threatening illness raises concerns and issues in the family and health care professionals.

Important issues at the end of life include symptom management, decision-making and communication. Decision-making and communication at the end of life are narrowed into.

In decision-making, respect for life, best interest, autonomy, competence and right to information and choice are among the guiding principles. A collaborative approach to decision-making is the safest model. It incorporates the observations, knowledge and insights of both the family and the health care professionals.

Communication however difficult remains to be important in quality of care. A study exploring aspects of physician communication perceived to be helpful or obstructive by children with life-limiting illnesses and their parents showed 5 beneficial communication domains. These include relationship building, demonstration of effort and competence, information exchange, availability and appropriate level of child and parent involvement.

Finally, an alternative concept of a re-defined hope is presented as a way of helping families set achievable goals, which makes healing at the end of life possible.
Ana Patricia Alcasabas, M.D.
Consultant, Pediatric Hematology-Oncology

Educational Background/ Training
Doctor of Medicine 1991-1994 Univ. of the Philippines, Manila, Philippines
Pediatric Residency 1996- 1998 Philippine General Hospital, Manila
Pediatric Residency, 2000- 2003 Children's Hospital in Michigan, Detroit, MI
Fellowship, Pediatric Hematology/Oncology, Children's Hospital in Michigan, Detroit, MI

Academic/ Hospital Appointments
Associate Clinical Professor in Pediatrics, 2007-2009 UP-PGH
Private medical practice in Pediatric Hematology /Oncology 2008-2009 UP-PGH
Research Assistant Professor I 2008-2009, University of the Philippines – National Institutes of Health
Consultant, Pediatric Hematology-Oncology 2009 to present, National University Hospital, Singapore

Specialty Certification
Diplomate, Philippine Society of Pediatric Oncology, 2008
Diplomate, Philippine Society of Hematology and Blood Transfusion, 2007
Diplomate, Philippine Pediatric Society, 2007
Diplomate, American Board of Pediatric Hematology-Oncology, 2006
Diplomate, American Board of Pediatrics, 2003
Institutional Medical License, State of Michigan, 2000-2006
Foreign Medical Graduates Examination in the Medical Sciences (ECFMG) 1999
Philippine Medical Licensure, October 1994
Lecture Abstract: “Updates on Lymphoma”
Dr. Ana Patricia Alcasabas

Based on the Metro Manila Rizal Cancer Registry, lymphoma is the number 4 cancer in Filipino children. Both Hodgkin and Non Hodgkin lymphoma are curable cancers in developed countries with event free survival (EFS) in the 90% and 70-80%, respectively. However, in our country, estimated cure for all pediatric cancers, in general, is at 10-20%.

The treatment for Hodgkin lymphoma evolved from radiation to multi-modality therapy of non-cross resistant chemotherapy followed by extended field radiation. However as the cure rates approach 100%, more late treatment effects are being noted in survivors such as secondary malignancies and infertility. The current approach for Hodgkin lymphoma is risk adapted therapy. Recent trials have defined patients who can be treated without alkylating agents, anthracyclines or radiation. New agents such as Rituximab are also being explored as well as limiting radiation to involved nodal field.

For Non Hodgkin lymphoma, treatment is stratified according to biologic subtypes. In the pediatric age group, B cell and T cell each make up half of the NHL and this can further divided into subtypes, Burkitt lymphoma, large cell and lymphoblastic lymphoma. European and American protocols have treated these subtypes similarly. Burkitt lymphoma and large B cell lymphoma are treated with short duration of intense pulse chemotherapy while lymphoblastic lymphoma is treated with a prolonged multi-agent chemotherapy and central nervous system prophylaxis. For anaplastic large cell lymphoma (ALCL), pulse type therapy (B-NHL like) is effective. ALCL relapses can also be more readily salvaged compared to other subtypes even with single agent Vinblastine. All of these therapies are associated with considerable toxicity, particularly tumor lysis syndrome. New trials are evaluating the role of targeted therapy with Rituximab for B cell lymphoma and the value of PET scans in measuring response to therapy.

In developing countries such as Central America, Berlin-Frankfurt-Munster (BFM 90) and Societe Francaise d'Oncologie Pediatrique (LMB89) protocols was used for Burkitt and large B cell lymphoma including advanced stages, with an overall survival of approximately 70%. In Malawi, modified LMB89 protocol with reduced drug dosages yielded EFS of approximately 40%.
Diosdado S. Bautista, PhD.
President and CEO, MODECS Genetics Inc. (Toronto, Ontario, Canada)

Educational Background/ Training
Doctor of Philosophy (McMaster University, 1989)
Department of Immunology, 1989-1992, University of Toronto
London Regional Cancer Centre, 1992-1995, Department of Experimental Oncology, Ontario Cancer Treatment and Research

Academic Appointments
Teaching Assistant (McMaster Univ., 1982-88) Cell Biology, Histology, Human Physiology, Immunology, Virology
Research Associate and Lecturer, Department of Biological Sciences, Brock University (1996-1999), with Dr. Yousef Haj-Ahmad, Ph.D.
Vice-President of R&D (1999-2005) Norgen Biotek Corp. (St. Catherines, Ontario, Canada)
President and CEO, Co-Founder 2010, MODECS GENETICS, INC (Toronto, Ontario, Canada).

Awards and Areas of Interest
Victoria Hospital Fellowship Endowment Award (1992-1995)
National Cancer Institute (Canada) Studentship (1984-88)
Harry Lyman Hooker Graduate Scholarship (1984-88)
McMaster University Scholarship (1983-84)
Ontario Graduate Scholarship (1983-84)

* Development of improved adenovirus-based vectors for gene therapy and vaccine use in humans and other animals.
* Gene therapy as a new treatment modality for cancer and other genetic diseases
* The role of miRNA and p53 in tongue cancer, recurrence and metastasis to lymphatic glands
* Cancer gene therapy with recombinant adenovirus-p53 in combination with immunotherapy with NK and dendritic cells
* Vaccine development against common viral diseases
Germline mutation of the tumour suppressor TP53 gene is highly characteristic of many paediatric tumours and is intensively examined to correlate with tumour progression, disease prognosis and targeted therapy. Early onset breast carcinomas, various sarcomas, brain tumours, adrenal cortical carcinomas, among others, constitute the highest proportion of specific tumour types in patients with germline TP53 mutations. These specific tumour types are also the most common in familial clustering of early onset tumours characteristic of the Li-Fraumeni syndrome in which TP53 germline mutations are the underlying cause. In contrast, childhood malignancies such as neuroblastomas and acute lymphoblastic leukemias are rarely associated with mutated TP53, yet evidence suggests that other mechanisms are involved in the inactivation of the p53 pathway, which ultimately leads to poor prognosis and resistance to conventional therapy in these malignancies. Gene replacement therapy in the form of the adenoviral mediated p53 therapeutic (Gendicine®, SiBiono Genetech, Shenzhen, P.R. China) is a new treatment modality that has been shown effective in management of various solid tumours resulting in clinical regression of tumour mass, restoration of susceptibility of tumours to anticancer drugs and radiotherapy, or reversion to non-malignant types. While applications of this approach remain limited in paediatric cancers, a number of pre-clinical and clinical studies indicate that restoration of wild-type p53 functions via the adenoviral vector approach has proven effective such as in sensitizing soft-tissue sarcomas to drugs like cisplatin and doxorubicin. The relevance of TP53 mutations as prognostic and predictive biomarkers in paediatric tumours, as well as wt p53 gene replacement therapy and other novel approaches for targeting the defective p53 pathways in tumours will be discussed.
Balai Isabel Resort at a Glance

The fastest-growing resort south of Metro Manila sits right on the shores of the world-famous Taal Lake. Just across from its volcano is a place where you can relax, connect and be with nature at Balai, Isabel Resort, Talisay Batangas. For years, Tagaytay has been made famous by its view of Taal Lake and its volcano. However, the lakeside towns never became tourist destinations due to the lack of resort facilities. Manila-based developer Techno-Asia changed that two years ago when it planned to create a residential resort community called Club Balai Isabel. Today, Techno-Asia’s vision has grown from a four-hectare private subdivision to a nine-hectare resort.

Club Balai Isabel is built along an ecological wonder, the famous Taal Lake and Volcano: the smallest volcano in the world is surrounded by a lake teeming with unique varieties of fish such as tawilis and maliputo. It is likewise surrounded by lush greenery that welcomes guests as soon as they enter Club Balai Isabel. It was built around a century-old coconut and mango plantation, a lot of which are still standing in the premises. Within the resort are six varieties of mangoes, over a dozen varieties of bamboo, hardwood trees, several varieties of macopa, as well as cacao, mabolo, tiesa, chico, caimito, santol, duhat, pomelo.

The resort remains a favorite tourist and family destination as there is always something for everyone in Club Balai Isabel. Those craving a sedate and secluded reprieve may find it under the trees and the spacious grounds where one can find a quite space to call their own. Those who would like to have an exciting adventure can take part in our water sports activities such as wakeboarding and kayaking or trek to the volcano.

In the future, Club Balai Isabel not only hopes to preserve this natural haven and to share this beauty with others but more importantly serve as a strong example of how to best care for our environment.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Ambica Oncology

Fresenius

Hi- Esai

Macropharma

Qualimed Pharma
Caring to improve your patient’s Quality of Life

✓ Cost Effective
✓ Premium Quality Medicines
✓ WHO Certified
✓ Wide Range of Medicines
PSPO Directory

A

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   Tel. No. 928-06-11 loc 263; 922-63-70
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Hospital Affiliations: East Avenue Medical Center, Philippine Children's Medical Center, St. Luke's Medical Center, QC, National Kidney & Transplant Institute, Philippine Heart Center, Capitol Medical Center, Dr. Jesus Delgado Memorial Hospital & AFP Medical Center

B-D

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K-M
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Medina cont’d
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Q-S

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1. Rm 226 2nd flr, North Annex, Bethany Hospital, San Fernando, La Union
   Tel. No. (072) 2420804 loc 222
   Schedule: Monday to Friday 12-2 pm; Saturday 9-12nn
2. La Union Medical Diagnostic Center, San - Fernando, La Union
   Schedule: Thursday 2-4 pm by appointment

Hospital Affiliations: Ilocos Training and Regional Medical Center, Bethany Hospital, Lorma Medical Center, La Union Medical Diagnostic Center (all located in San Fernando, La Union)

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Clinic:
1. Philippine Children’s Medical Center (PCMC) Private Clinic Room 14
   Quezon Avenue, Quezon City
   Tel. No. 9246601 loc 281
   Schedule: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 5-7 pm
2. Asian Hospital and Medical Center (AHMC) MAB Room 615
   Filinvest Corporate City, Alabang
   Tel. No. 7719345
   Schedule: Tuesday and Thursday 1-3 pm, Saturday 10-12
3. University of Perpetual Help Medical Center (UPHMC), MAB1 Room 307
   Binan, Laguna
   Cell No. 09227510083
   Schedule: Tuesdays and Thursdays 9-10:30

4. Alabang Medical Clinic (Main Branch) Alabang, Muntinlupa City
   Schedule: Monday 10-12 room 6 and Saturday 1-4 room 3
   Hospital Affiliations: Southern Luzon Hospital and Medical Center, New Sinai MDI Hospital, Paranaque Doctor's Hospital and Makati Medical Center

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