



**Philippine Society of  
General Surgeons**

# GAZETTE

**Celebrating the  
25th anniversary of the  
Philippine Society  
of General Surgeons**





## 25 @ 25: Milestones and Highlights

A 25th Anniversary Gala Night was held last May 22, 2024 at The Manila Hotel to celebrate the Philippine Society of General Surgeons 25th Founding Anniversary. The occasion was graced by the attendance of luminaries from our society and the Philippine College of Surgeons, and friends from other subspecialty organizations. With a deep sense of achievement and pride, the Board of Directors led by Dr. Leonardo O. Ona III, presented these milestones and highlights as the PSGS strives to be relevant and proactive.

### 1. The PSGS was Born – Dr Ray B. Malilay

The Philippine Society of General Surgeons is an organization founded by a group of passionate and dedicated surgeons to maintain ethical and professional standards of the highest level in the practice of general surgery.

In the late 1980s with the build-up and emergence of subspecialty societies, there was a clamor to create an organization for the General Surgeons.

Talks and plans went on, and in the early parts of the 1990's, a group of Cebu surgeons started the Cebu Society of General Surgeons which later paved the way for the leadership of the PCS to pursue the formation of a General Surgery organization on a national level. With continued perseverance, the Board of Incorporators was formed and final touches on the constitution and by-laws ensued.

And, during the PCS Midyear Convention of 1999, the Philippine Society of General Surgeons was finally born!

### 2. GS Accreditation – Dr William O. Olalia

General surgery training in the Philippines developed from the invaluable and progressive efforts of our predecessors who have had the vision of an excellent and world class society of practicing surgeons. An accrediting body, therefore, was created to ensure the delivery of the highest quality of surgical care through a structured residency program with a standard curriculum.

The joint PCS Specialties Accreditation Committee was formed in 1976. In 1977, eight hospitals received full accreditation and 26 had partial accreditation. In 1995, the surgical curriculum for General Surgery was converted into competency-based education curriculum.

In 1999, the moratorium for the residency training programs applying for accreditation was lifted. It was also at this time that the Philippine Society of General Surgeons was established. PCS then gradually handed over its task of accrediting General Surgery training programs to PSGS until 2002 when full devolution was made at the signing of a Memorandum of Agreement.

Presently, there are 104 accredited training programs including those under the interim scheme. And with the revised and updated Guidelines For Accreditation of Residency Training Programs in General Surgery, the PSGS Accreditation Committee continues its work of assessing the quality of Residency Training in the Philippines with the goal of producing graduates who are globally competitive in the field of general surgery.

### 3. Standardized GS Training Curriculum – Dr Andrew Jay G. Pusung

The first 2 editions of the standardized curriculum for General Surgery Residency Training were spearheaded by the Philippine College of Surgeons Committee on Surgical Training in 1995 and 2000. Then, upon the inception of the PSGS 25 years ago, the third edition was developed after the PCS passed the torch to the PSGS Committee on Surgical Training. The PSGS, since then has been responsible for the curriculum's implementation and

supervision.

The standardization of the surgical curriculum aims to set the quality for attainment of surgical competencies expected of each trainee corresponding to their year levels. It aims to evaluate key learning outcomes in all three domains of surgical learning, which are cognitive, skills and attitudinal. The standardization likewise aims to facilitate an effective model for evaluation of the surgical trainee, assessing their knowledge and skills as they make their transition from a student of surgery to an excellent surgical specialist.

Through the years, and with all the novel and innovative teaching strategies introduced to us serendipitously during the pandemic, the Surgical Curriculum has thus far seen six revisions. Most notably, the recent shift from competency-based to outcome-based learning has greatly impacted how the residents, training staff and the PSGS itself apply the study of Surgery to its best clinical practice, elevating Surgery as an art and as a science.

### 4. The Surgical Forum – Dr Jesus V. Valencia

It was in the year 2003 that the PSGS developed and held its first annual

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convention, and it was given the name The Surgical Forum. Tapping the vast pool of homegrown experts as speakers and panelists, the all-Filipino convention was held at Edsa Shangri-la Manila. Now on its 22nd edition, The Surgical Forum has grown and evolved in scope and character, having the participation of foreign speakers and attendance from regional surgical organizations, incorporating various workshops and research presentations.

The Surgical Forum plays a vital role in advancing the distinct specialty of general surgery by providing opportunities for professional development, networking, research dissemination, continuing education, technological innovation, collaboration, and the promotion of best practices and guidelines.

**5. Car Raffle – Dr Neil C. Mendoza**

The PSGS embarked on a milestone project with the launch of the Annual Car Raffle. This initiative, fueled by the dedication of our esteemed Fellows, has not only delighted patrons with premium brands like Mercedes Benz but has also been a cornerstone in supporting the Fellows Assistance Program. As we celebrate our 25th founding anniversary, we reflect with a sense of accomplishment on the contribution of this program, which continues to make a meaningful impact to this day.

**6. EBCPGs – Dr. Nilo C. Delos Santos**

Evidence-based clinical practice guidelines or EBCPGs play a crucial role in healthcare for several reasons. There will be standardization of care, which will lead to risk reduction and improved patient outcomes. CPGs can help optimize resource utilization by recommending interventions and treatments that are proven to be effective. They facilitate shared decision-making between healthcare providers and patients by providing clear, evidence-based information about treatment options, risks, and benefits. They serve as a valuable resource for healthcare professionals, guiding them in staying up-to-date with the latest evidence and best practices in their field. The PSGS has initiated, collaborated and participated in numerous EBCPGs with its Fellows acting as members of technical working groups or as expert panelists, all for the benefit of the Filipino people.

**7. Refresher Course – Dr Robert B. Bandolon**

The program for the PSGS refresher course was drafted in 2004 and was implemented the following year. It was intended for Diplomate candidates who have failed the PBS written exam for three times. These examinees will be required to take the refresher course before they are allowed to retake the Part 1 exam. But it was also made available to recent graduates of accredited

general surgery residency training programs planning to successfully navigate the PBS diplomate exams. The impetus behind the creation of this course likely stemmed from the recognition of a crucial need within the surgical community. While surgical residency programs equip graduates with a wealth of knowledge and practical skills, the process of preparing for board exams presents its own unique challenges. These exams demand a comprehensive understanding of surgical theory, clinical practice, and critical thinking skills, all under the pressure of examination conditions. By offering a structured and supportive environment for exam preparation, the PSGS refresher course aimed to increase the likelihood of success for participants, thereby contributing to the overall quality and competency of surgical practitioners in the Philippines.

**8. Surgical Missions – Dr Ramon S. Inso**

Deliver world-class, safe, compassionate and holistic service to the community – one of the missions of the PSGS which continues to be in the heart and soul of every PSGS Fellow. The Society continues to initiate and support surgical missions all over the country. With more than 1,400 Fellows distributed in every province of the country, quality surgical care can reach the less fortunate of our brothers through these outreach activities. Aside from surgical missions, the PSGS is also involved in calamity relief operations and other humanitarian activities. In times of disasters, natural or otherwise, PSGS Fellows spring into action and are at the forefront of these life-saving efforts.

The surgical missions are an integral part of the accredited general surgery residency programs of the PSGS as institutions are encouraged to organize and participate in these activities. Trainees gain another avenue of properly supervised learning through the missions. Furthermore, the spirits of volunteerism and charity are inculcated during the formative years of a surgeon's career ensuring the continuity of the surgical missions and the molding of not only highly skilled operators but holistic and compassionate surgeons.

**9. CERES – Dr Alberto P. Paulino, Jr.**

Conceptualized in 2005, the Comprehensive External Residency Evaluation System or CERES aims to establish a systematic and standardized evaluation system on the performance of the residents in general surgery all over the country. It augments the internal evaluation being given by the different training programs as prescribed by the PSGS surgical curriculum.

The CERES Skills Evaluation was initially established but due to logistics and manpower issues, it was temporarily put on hold. It is our hope it can be revisited and reimplemented soon.

In 2013, the PSGS board of directors have put into effect the CERES Written Examination with the creation of a

subcommittee aimed to foster its fulfillment. The scope and test blueprint developed by the subcommittee is in conformity with the minimum cognitive knowledge the residents must have as necessary competencies for specific year levels according to the PSGS Surgical Curriculum. From having the exams being given simultaneously in 10 different locations during the last quarter of the year, to having it in 4 pre-determined venues on the 2nd quarter of the year in 2016, the CERES exam has now transitioned to being given online via our Learning Management System making its implementation easier for both the Subcommittee and examinees.

**10. The Pink Run – Dr Alfred Q. Lasala II**

The Pink Run D'Feeting Breast Cancer is an advocacy sports event aimed at increasing awareness for breast cancer, emphasizing early detection and treatment.

The Philippine Society of General Surgeons Metro Manila Chapter started this event in October of 2010, in line with Breast Cancer awareness month, at the time when fun runs were starting to be a big hit with the sports community of the country. The program also includes a lay forum about breast cancer and free breast screening and consultations.

After that first staging, the PSGS eventually adopted The Pink Run and elevated it to the national stage. Several Chapters conducted their own versions of The Pink Run all held within the month of October of every year.

The pandemic did not stop this worthwhile activity as we improvised by doing it via the virtual platform. The participants would join by running their distance category and recording the run with their GPS-tracking apps. Indoor runs can also be recorded on their treadmills. These are then uploaded to our online platform partner. The year 2021 even reached a one time high of almost 3000 registrants. Last year with the lifting of the pandemic restrictions, the actual fun run was held at the Filinvest grounds in Alabang.

Proceeds of the run, in terms of registration and donations, is used to benefit the indigent breast cancer patients of our training institution. As the PSGS continues to promote this advocacy, we invite all of you to participate in The Pink Run in October. We invite you to join this fight in D'feeting Breast Cancer!

**11. Surgical Strokes – Dr Domingo S. Bongala, Jr.**

In 2012, PSGS-Metro Manila Chapter Board of Trustees introduced standardized skills modules that were deemed appropriate and necessary for a resident's level of training. The Surgical Strokes, an acronym for Surgical Skills TRaining Of KEy Staff, is a program with training modules conceptualized to help residents gain the technical proficiency necessary to perform

# Going Beyond the Label

Leonardo O. Ona, III, MD, FPCS, FPSGS

PSGS President, 2023-2024

Whenever I get a chance to give advise to people starting on a new life, be it newlyweds, or new graduates starting their new career, I always share them of the story of the big rocks and the small rocks. Some of you may already be familiar with it.

A philosophy professor once stood before his class with a large empty jar. He filled the jar with large rocks and asked his students if the jar was full.

The students said that yes, the jar was full.

He then added small pebbles to the jar and asked again, "Is the jar full now?"

The students agreed that the jar was indeed full.

The professor then poured sand into the jar and asked again.

The students then agreed that the jar was finally full.

The professor went on to explain that the jar signifies one's life.

The rocks are equivalent to the most important things in your life, such as family, health, and relationships. And if the pebbles and the sand were lost, the jar would still be full and your life would still have a meaning.

The pebbles represent the other things that matter in your life, such as your work, school, and house. These things often come and go, and are not permanent or essential to your overall well-being.

And finally, the sand represents the remaining small stuff and material possessions in your life. These things don't mean much to your life as a whole and are likely only done to waste time or get small tasks accomplished.

For the past 25 years, the PSGS was just filling its jar with its big rocks. Sometimes they do take time. As you have witnessed looking back at the highlights that were presented, we have realized that PSGS has come a long way.

25 years ago, it was question of relevance. Why should we have a PSGS?

Then it was a question of membership. Why should I become a PSGS fellow?

Later on it became a question of purpose.

Why should PSGS take charge of training?

And here we are right now. After 25 years, look at how we evolved.

For the next part of our organizations life, we are now focusing on inclusivity. PSGS refuses to be an old boys club, reserved only to a select few. The mandate of our organization to train the surgeons of the land goes beyond producing board certified surgeons.

In the era when universal health care is just beyond the horizon, the bigger vision of serving our true stakeholders come into view, and they are our patients, our community. They are the end users of our craft, our expertise, the product of our trainees. They are the reason we exist.



Using our big rocks, PSGS will engage with our community by helping in capacity building. We have started small steps through the community health program by allowing training programs to collaborate with community hospitals providing and teaching safe surgery to the underserved. (And the undertrained).

Soon our by-laws will undergo updates through a plebiscite allowing associate members to participate in our activities. Even surgeons who are not yet board certified need to be updated themselves. Alienating them is not the answer. The title Fellow of PSGS is not just a label, it is a responsibility. A responsibility to teach others the right path to safe surgery.

They say there are many ways to skin a cat. We are just starting, as PSGS will continue to seek ways in helping communities get the quality of surgery they deserve.

The world is forever changing and we will be ready to adapt to the demands it will require.

To end, let me share you a quote from the song called Leaves by the group Ben&Ben:

"Leaves will soon grow from the bareness of trees

And all will be alright in time".

We started as a leaf which grew and now will be ready to branch.

I would like to greet everyone a happy 25th anniversary. And we look forward to our next 25.

Mabuhay tayong lahat. Mabuhay ang PSGS.

## Information and Publication Committee

Chairman - Anthony Dofitas, MD

Director In Charge - Christian Raymond Magbojos, MD

Members - Ida Marie Lim, MD  
Joy Jerusalem, MD  
Alex Resurreccion, MD  
Jose Paolo Porciuncula, MD

their level-appropriate surgical procedures before being promoted to the next year level. The modules initially focused on suturing and surgical knot tying for the junior level residents, bowel anastomosis techniques for the intermediate level, and basic laparoscopic skills for senior level residents. But the vision was really to create additional skills modules that will eventually be useful for general surgery practitioners. Subsequently in 2014, together with the PCS-Metro Manila Chapter, new modules such as vascular anastomosis techniques were added.

To complement the skills modules, a friendly competition which came to be known as the Surgical Strokes Challenge was also introduced in 2012. This was intended to inspire resident's to diligently hone their skills and thereafter define their level of proficiency in comparison to other residents of the same year level.

After the skills modules and the Surgical Strokes Challenge were successfully held for four consecutive years by the Metro Manila Chapter, it was deemed ready to be shared with the other PSGS Chapters. In 2016, the PSGS National Board of Directors, with the able supervision of the Committee on Surgical Training, started implementation of the three Surgical Strokes skills modules which was conducted in all chapters nationwide. After a series of regional elimination rounds involving all PSGS-accredited General Surgery Residency Training Programs, the first National Surgical Strokes Challenge was successfully conducted during the PSGS Surgical Forum at the Sofitel Philippine Plaza on August 2016. The Surgical Strokes Challenge has since been held annually and is one of the most anticipated events for both the residents and consultant staff alike, bringing high-level friendly competition and warm camaraderie.

**12. PAGSR – Dr Dale C. Avellanosa**

In 2014, the PSGS created advocacies for Fellows, the public and the future surgeons, the residents. To allow the General Surgery Residents to be more involved with the Society's activities and advocacies, the Philippine Association of General Surgery Residents was formed.

The first set of officers for the newly created Residents Organization was inducted during the 13th Annual Surgical Forum. The PAGSR serves as a training ground for our surgical residents to develop their leadership and managerial qualities, enhance professional growth and networking, as well as cultivate meaningful camaraderie within their ranks.

**13. MIS HOL – Dr Miguel C. Mendoza**

The PSGS implemented in 2018 an innovative form of education in minimally invasive surgery known as the MIS Hybrid Online Learning or MIS-HOL. Its aim is to standardize content and strategy in learning the fundamental concepts and skills in laparoscopic surgery. The Hybrid Online

Learning is a blended learning solution that results in a more streamlined, effective and measurable teaching-learning process, which also enhances the skills development of the surgical residents. It essentially has two parts.

The first part is the online component which consists of 13 lecture modules in video format. The main advantage of this format is that the residents will be able to go through each lecture modules at their own time, at their own pace. This allows the residents to complete the course without interfering in their residents' duties and responsibilities in each of their respective hospitals. Upon completion, they will be eligible to participate in the face-to-face component on a predetermined scheduled date in their Chapter locality. The residents will perform laparoscopic drills and practice laparoscopic intracorporeal and extracorporeal laparoscopic suturing with mentor feedback. This program has allowed residents faster acquisition of correct laparoscopic skills. Recently, it is mandatory for all GS residents to undergo the MIS-HOL and is a requirement for eligibility to take the board certifying exams in general surgery.

**14. Shift of Fiscal Year – Dr Rex A. Madrigal**

In 2016, the PSGS conducted a referendum aimed at adjusting the fiscal year and to synchronize the election with the yearly business meeting scheduled in August. Following a decisive majority of YES votes, the 2017 PSGS Board enacted the modification, resulting in an extension of the 2017 board of directors' term until August 31, 2018. Subsequently, elections were held during the Annual Convention in August, with the calendar year spanning from September 1 to August 31 of the following year. Additionally, as stipulated in the PSGS manual, the business meetings were also held during the annual convention.

**15. PSGS Website – Dr. Jose Rhoel C. De Leon**

As early as 2006, the PSGS endeavored to create novel ways to make information about the Society more accessible not just for the Fellows, but also to the public, by developing the PSGS website. Accessed at [www.psgs.org.ph](http://www.psgs.org.ph), the site features a members-only section and the Virtual Forum, where Fellows can exchange ideas and benefit from the collective experience and wisdom of its membership. This is in addition to it being a primary platform to showcase the society, to raise awareness about the society's mission, achievements, and contributions to the field of surgery, a medium of communication and networking with other members, and a hub for educational resources. With its many updates and versions, the website reflects the PSGS's commitment to innovation and serving the community.

**16. The Study Groups – Dr Jaime B. Lagunilla**

In 2009, the PSGS started to create the Study Groups, committees based on organ pathologies and surgical concerns. This includes the Head and Neck Study Group, Breast,

Hepatobiliary, Colorectal, Hernia, Trauma & Acute Care, and Surgical Nutrition. The Study Groups were intended to gather information on the common medical and surgical problems affecting the system, to gather data on how problems are being managed in the Philippines, to have a registry for organ disease in the country, to create programs and activities related to the specific study group, and create or update clinical practice guidelines in collaboration with the committee on research.

**17. Interim Training Programs – Dr Jose Ravelo T. Bartolome**

Being the dynamic Society as it is, the PSGS and its fellows continually sought improvement in skill and knowledge.

There was a growing concern among institutions who applied for residency program accreditation and failed.

To respond to the clamor of these hospitals and a move to make the PSGS a more inclusive Society, an Interim Accreditation procedure was implemented to provide newly established training programs with opportunities to achieve full accreditation with a yearly evaluation. Advantages of this procedure would include allowing a realistic accomplishment of accreditation requirements with stepwise residency promotion. Should a training program falter in its course, residents will be able to apply to other accredited programs with no wasted years.

This amendment with its definitions and general guiding principles was approved by the PSGS Board of Directors on November 17, 2018 and was adopted and implemented by the PSGS Committee on Accreditation in 2019.

**18. PSGS-PBS Memorandum of Agreement – Dr Andrea Joanne A. Torre**

Founded in 1969, the Philippine Board of Surgery or PBS has been conducting written and oral examinations for certification of eligible surgeons as Diplomates of General Surgery. In 2019, the PSGS and the PBS entered into a memorandum of agreement to validate and strengthen their relations. The PBS was reaffirmed as the PSGS's examining arm, to administer the written and oral examinations to graduates of PSGS accredited general surgery training programs. The process of determining eligibility to take the exams was delegated to the PSGS. Those who pass these examinations will be conferred the title Diplomates in General Surgery by the PBS. The PBS will in turn provide the PSGS with statistics, data, feedback and information

that would allow it to further improve the standards of training of its Accredited Training Programs. Both the PSGS and PBS move to continually improve the Training and Certification of the Specialty of General Surgery for mutual gains and as a whole, for the betterment of health care delivery in the country.

**19. Residents' Portfolio –  
Dr Joy Grace G. Jerusalem**

The inclusion of the residents' portfolio system was first introduced in the 2017 version of the Standardized Curriculum when we transitioned from a competency-based to an outcome-based curriculum. The resident's portfolio aims for an authentic evaluation of its residents, ensuring that evidence exists to demonstrate the resident's journey through identified milestones of each program outcome.

The portfolio serves as a dynamic tool for tracking growth and development essential to both training staff and trainees alike. It aims to showcase exceptional performance and progress in both formative and summative assessments, not only celebrating their successes but also motivating them to strive for excellence in their ongoing education and training thereby giving them ownership of their learning journey. By documenting and reflecting on their experiences, residents are empowered to chart their own paths to success and excellence in surgical training.

**20. Pandemic Guidelines –  
Dr Jose A. Solomon**

In 2020, the world was rocked by an unprecedented infection caused by the SARS-Cov2 virus. The pandemic caused so much havoc on the health system, including the training programs of residents.

Several hospitals were designated as COVID centers and elective procedures significantly decreased in number. The society had to rise to the occasion to help residents meet the required operations needed for eligibility and for programs to fulfill the minimum case load requirements. Hence, the Accreditation and Eligibility Provisions of 2020 was created, popularly known as the Pandemic Guidelines.

The guidelines stipulated an increase in the percentage of private cases to be credited to the program's case load requirement to 50% per main category of operations, to credit all cases done in surgical missions outside the base hospital, removal of the minimum percentage of service cases per category, and for existing outside rotations, surgical procedures performed by rotating residents that are not within the scope of the MOA shall be considered as case material of the rotating resident's training program accreditation requirements. Furthermore, residents were allowed to perform or assist surgical procedures in an interim training program as well as in a non-accredited training program provided a PSGS Fellow in good standing will supervise the resident and a MOA is drafted between the involved

hospitals, and to allow 5th year residents to rotate and perform procedures outside the base institutions under the supervision of the PSGS fellow in good standing.

**21. Online Continuing Surgical Education – Dr Jorge M. Concepcion**

The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the development and implementation of innovative approaches in surgical education and training. With the suspension of in-person scientific meetings, surgical education and training has shifted to the online platforms, offering new opportunities for surgeons to enhance their knowledge and skills. The PSGS and its Chapters focused their efforts in Open Online Courses, Virtual Conferences, and Live Webinars. By employing the presently available and accessible technology, the Society came up with ways to continue the educational endeavors while adhering to health and social restrictions. Other offerings fall under surgical training, especially those involving surgical skills and include synchronous and asynchronous learning. Didactic as well as surgical skills videos are recorded and uploaded to a Learning Management System or LMS. A synchronous, virtual meeting is then scheduled where facilitators demonstrate the surgical skills real-time. This is followed by the residents doing return-demos which are assessed and graded by the facilitators. These creative and innovative exercises allowed the Society to continue its mission to provide excellence through innovation in surgical training and education.

**22. Associate Members –  
Dr Jose Macario V. Faylona**

The PSGS has officially welcomed into its fold, the first batch of Associate Members during the induction ceremonies of the PSGS-PALES Joint Annual Convention. This new category of membership, the Associate Member, is defined as a distinguished graduate of accredited training institutions who, although possessing exemplary training and skills, have not yet passed the diplomate exams. This innovative addition to the membership structure is a testament to the PSGS's commitment to fostering inclusivity within the esteemed Society.

We extend a warm welcome to all eligible individuals to join us as Associate Members of the Philippine Society of General Surgeons, and to engage actively in our professional endeavors, share their knowledge, and collaborate with their peers

**23. Community Surgical Program –  
Dr Roberto A. Chacon, Jr.**

The recent pandemic highlighted the value of surgical training programs accredited by the PSGS in providing essential surgical care within local communities, addressing both national needs and training objectives. Responding to this, the PSGS initiated the Community Surgical Program or CSP to formalize pandemic guidelines into a sustainable initiative. This program fosters

voluntary partnerships between PSGS-accredited training programs and local government hospitals, aiming to enhance surgical care and training through community immersion. Through yearly renewable partnerships governed by memorandum of agreements, the CSP facilitates capacity building for LGU hospitals, improves healthcare delivery networks, and aligns with the Department of Health's goals, including the Medical Residency Rotation Strategy (MRRS) and Post Residency Deployment Program (PRDP). Additionally, the CSP supports the Universal Health Care mandate by capacitating primary care facilities and ensuring exposure of surgical trainees to a broad spectrum of cases, ultimately improving surgical care nationwide.

**24. PSGS-PALES Joint Convention –  
Dr Raymund Andrew G. Ong**

In the wake of unprecedented challenges posed by the pandemic, the PSGS and PALES forged an extraordinary partnership that culminated in the historic joint convention of 2023 at the Shangri-la Mactan Cebu. Driven by the collective determination of our officers and organizing committee members, this collaboration surpassed all expectations, delivering a scientific program that captured the participants' interest.

We take pride in this remarkable achievement as a testament to our resilience and commitment to advancing scientific advancement. Together, we have set a new standard of excellence, paving the way for similar collaborations in the years to come.

**25. PSGS as Best Specialty Society Awardee – Dr Ferdinand Y. Syfu**

The Philippine Society of General Surgeons formally started as a specialty society in 1999 and has valued the importance of maintaining a high standard for professionals in our field, and continues to hold activities related to training and updating the surgeons of the country.

The advocacies of the PSGS are patient's welfare, safe surgeries at all times, general surgeons who are ethical and competent, and standardized training and quality continuing surgical education.

The activities of the Society are not limited to scientific and training events. Several outreach and socio-civic activities are held throughout each year and all of these aim to achieve the vision of the PSGS in promoting the welfare of its members and providing quality surgical care to the community and country we serve.

With all these, the Philippine Society of General Surgeons has been recognized by the Philippine College of Surgeons and awarded the Most Outstanding Specialty Society in 2018, The PSGS garnered this prestigious recognition for 5 consecutive years until 2022. An honor well deserved by the hard-working people of the Society in the pursuit of molding and creating an ideal General surgeon. MABUHAY ang PSGS!

# PSGS-Cebu Eastern Visayas Chapter in action



## BREAST CANCER LAY FORUM @ SAMCH OCTOBER 6, 2023



## MIS HOL FACE-TO-FACE WORKSHOP CHONG HUA HOSPITAL MANDAUE NOVEMBER 26, 2023

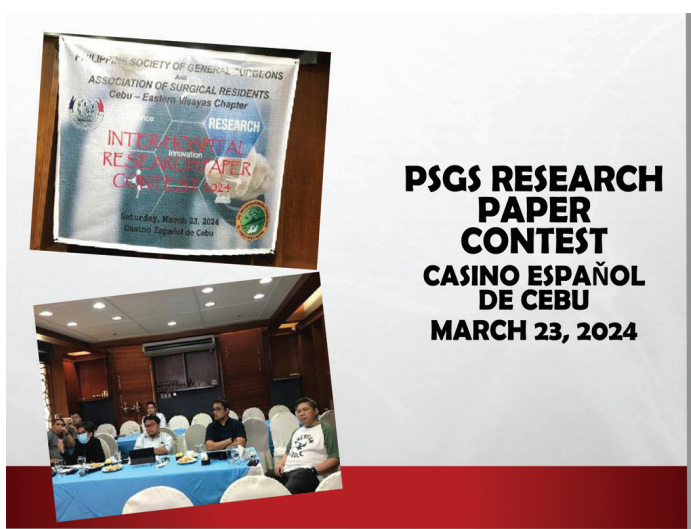




**RESIDENTS NIGHT: "SURGEONS GOT TALENT"**  
**DECEMBER 11, 2023**



**STROKES AND LAP WORKSHOP**  
**CHOHN HUA HOSPITAL MANDAUE**  
**CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**MARCH 9, 2024**



**PSGS RESEARCH PAPER CONTEST**  
**CASINO ESPAÑOL DE CEBU**  
**MARCH 23, 2024**



**BASIC SKILLS DEVELOPMENT IN WOUND CLOSURE TECHNIQUES**  
**CEBU VELEZ GENERAL HOSPITAL MEDICAL ARTS CONFERENCE ROOM**  
**MAY 11, 2024**





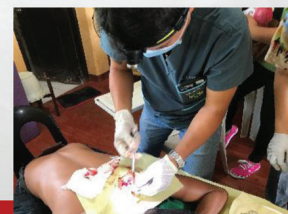
**PSGS CEBU EASTERN VISAYAS CHAPTER  
OPERATION TULI @ SIBONGA  
MAY 18, 2024**



**INTERMEDIATE SKILLS WORKSHOP  
CEBU VELEZ GENERAL HOSPITAL MEDICAL ARTS  
CONFERENCE ROOM  
MAY 25 2024**



**MEDICAL – SURGICAL MISSION  
ASTURIAS CENTRAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL  
JUNE 2, 2024**



# Another Busy Year For PSGS Northern Luzon Chapter

## I. Compliance with PSGS Initiated programs

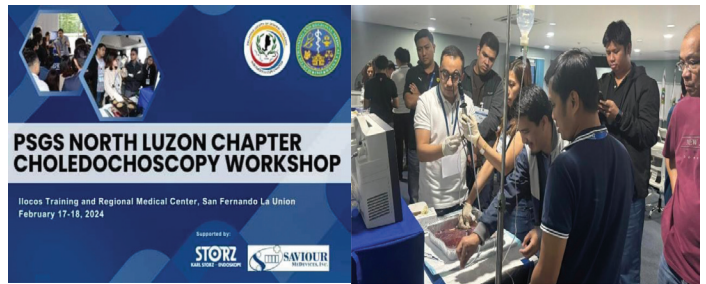
- A. Pink Run  
October 8, 2023: Color Run 2023: DeFEETing Breast Cancer, Dagupan City, Pangasinan
- B. Annual Dues
- C. Attendance to the Post Grad Courses/ Surgical Forum
- D. Patronize PSGS merchandizes



## II. Continuing Surgical/Medical Education Activities

- A. Chapter Organized and conducted Surgical Courses
  - 1. November 12, 2023: Hybrid Online Learning Face to face workshop Intermediate Module, Renaissance Hall, ITRMC, San Fernando, La Union
  - 2. February 17, 2024: Choledochoscopy Workshop, Renaissance Hall, ITRMC, San Fernando, La Union
  - 3. May 25, 2024: Surgical Innovation Workshop, Kusina Valentin, Paoay, Ilocos Norte
- B. Scientific Forum
  - 1. September 22-23, 2023: Hotel Ariana, Bauang, La Union, "Cancer Management Guidelines and Updates"
- C. Chapter Research Paper Contest
 

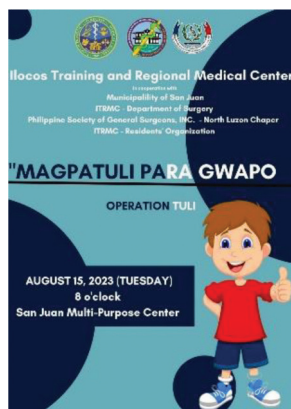
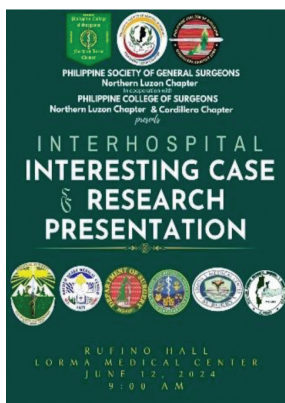
June 12, 2024 Rufino Hall, LORMA Medical Center, Carlatan, San Fernando, La Union



## III. Public Health Awareness Programs / Local Government Health and Socio-Civic Activities

- A. Surgical Missions
  - 1. August 15, 2023: Tuli Mission, San Juan Multipurpose Center
  - 2. October 14, 2023: AVF Creation, Ilocos Training and Regional Medical Center, Parian, San Fernando, La Union
  - 3. April 17-21, 2024: Bongabong Surgical Outreach Program. Bongabong and Roxas, Oriental Mindoro
  - 4. May 18, 2024: Simultaneous Surgery and Operation Tuli, (Dagupan Doctors Villaflor Memorial Hospital, Ilocos Training and Regional Medical Center, LORMA Medical Center, Karmelli Clinic and Hospital Corporation Laoag, Ilocos sur
  - 5. June 13 – 16, 2024: Kakarefin Surgical Caravan. Paracelis District Hospital, Paracelis, Mt. Province
- B. Outreach Programs
  - 1. September 27, 2023: Thyroid Cancer Awareness Week, Barangay Bato, San Fernando, La Union





2. December 11 and 14, 2023: "Why don't you give love on Christmas Day" ITRMC OPD, Parian, San Fernando, La Union
3. December 20, 2023: Movie Block Screening for Pediatric Cancer Patients. "Aquaman and the Lost Kingdom" Robinson's mall, San Fernando, La Union
4. May 4, 2024: Run for A Cause: Poro Point Baywalk, San Fernando, La Union

C. Lay- fora

1. August 25, 2023: "Kanser sa Atay" online via LORMA DocTalks
2. October 17, 2023: Breast Cancer Awareness Month Lay for a on Breast Cancer, Breast examination and Surgical Mission, La Union Medical Center, Agoo, La Union
3. October 25, 2023: Breast Cancer Awareness Month Lay fora on Breast Cancer, Barangay Sevilla, San Fernando, La Union
4. November 8, 2023: Colorectal Cancer: Ano ba ito?" online LORMA DocTalks
5. December 29, 2023: Firecracker Related Injuries" online LORMA DocTalks
6. January 27, 2024: Liver cancer and Viral Hepatitis Lay Forum: Hybrid, Renaissance Hall, ITRMC, Parian, San Fernando, La Union
7. March 10, 2024: "Kanser sa Bituka" Lay Forum: OPD, Ilocos Training and Regional Medical Center
8. May 7, 2024: Ekspertong Panayam, Ugnayan, Talakayan! The PSGS Lay Forum Series: Surgical Endoscopy, ITRMC

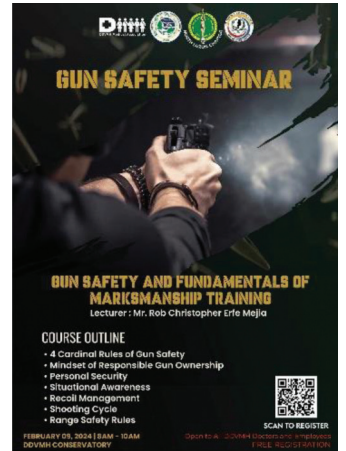
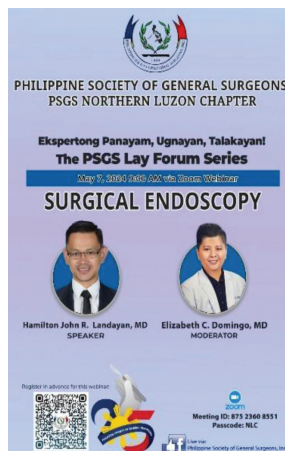
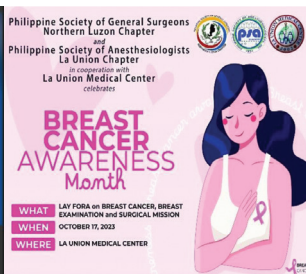
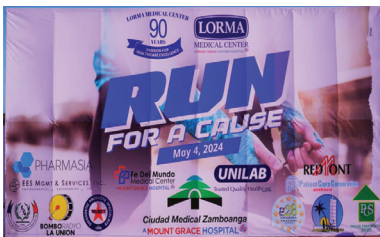
IV. INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS

- A. February 9, 2024: Gun Safety Seminar Dagupan Doctors' Villaflor Medical Center
- B. February 10, 2024: 1st Presidents' Cup: Shoot for a Cause: Don Pedro Balingit Road, Bonuan, Dagupan, Pangasinan
- C. Creation of the Official PSGS Northern Luzon Chapter Facebook Page
- D. PSGS Northern Luzon Chapter Logo Making Contest
- E. Car Emblem for Northern Luzon Fellows and Residents
- F. Production of PSGS NLC merchandise

I. Compliance with PSGS Initiated Program

- A. October 8, 2023: Color Run 2023: DeFEETing Breast Cancer, Dagupan city, Pangasinan

In celebration of "Breast Cancer Awareness Month", the Fellows and Residents of the Philippine Society of General Surgeons Northern Luzon Chapter joined the Color Run in Dagupan City, Pangasinan organized by Dagupan Doctors Villaflor Memorial Hospital.



IV. INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS

A. February 9, 2024: Gun Safety Seminar Dagupan Doctors Villaflor Medical Center

The primary objective of the gun safety seminar was to educate community members on the responsible handling, storage and use of firearms. The seminar aimed to reduce accidental injuries and fatalities by promoting best practices and raising awareness about gun safety.

The gun safety seminar organized by the chapter, in cooperation with Dagupan Doctors Villaflor Medical Center Medical Association, PCS Northern Luzon and PPSA Northern Luzon was held at the DDVMH Conservatory on February 9, 2024 with Mr. Rob Christopher Erfe Mejia as the lecturer.

B. February 10, 2024: 1st Presidents' Cup: Shoot for a Cause: Don Pedro Balingit Road, Bonuan, Dagupan, Pangasinan

The 1st ever Presidents' cup of the PCS, PSGS NLC in cooperation with Dagupan Doctors Villaflor Memorial Hospital was organized by our chapter. It was held on February 10, 2024 in Don Pedro Balingit Road, Bonuan, Dagupan, Pangasinan

The objective of this shoot fest aimed to promote shooting sports, enhance shooting skills and foster camaraderie among enthusiasts while ensuring safety and responsible firearm handling. There was a total of Eighty-Nine contestants who joined.

With the theme "Shoot for a Cause" proceeds from the event were used in the surgical missions, lay fora and other projects of the chapter.

The event was a huge success, achieving its goals promoting shooting sports, and ensuring a safe, competitive and enjoyable experience for all involved.

C. Creation of the Official PSGS Northern Luzon Chapter Facebook Page and official email address

With the aim of making our Chapter's services available to all. We created our official Facebook Page: " Philippine Society of General Surgeons NorthLuzon Chapter" <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61550044595319> and our official email address.

With this page, we were able to share the upcoming and recent activities of the chapter. This is also the platform we used in order to

reach more audience for our online lay forum. Several inquiries were also received thru our page and not only from Northern Luzon but from all over the country.

As of date we have a total of Four Hundred Sixty (460) likes and Five hundred Forty-Five Followers since its launch on August 10, 2023.

D. PSGS Northern Luzon Chapter Logo Making Contest

In line with the launching of our Facebook page, we thought that we should also have our own logo that will represent us in Northern Luzon. With this, we conducted a logo making contest open to all. We had a total of 8 entries from different areas of the country, wherein votes were casted by all fellows of the chapter.

From a logo patterned from the national logo to our unique logo. The colors of the ribbons represent the colors of the PSGS. The Map of Northern Luzon is situated in the middle representing the different provinces in our Chapter. A scalpel and a Laparoscope symbolize the Open and Laparoscopic surgeries being done by our fellows.

E. Car Emblem for Northern Luzon Fellows and Residents a fund-raising project

During this term, the Chapter's bank account was tagged as a Dormant Account because of the Pandemic. We started this year's term with no funds to utilize. In response to this, we opted to hold several fund- raising activities in order to fund our projects. When we had our own logo, we decided to sell Car Emblems for our fellows in the Chapter. This is our way of being recognized as a fellow of the chapter.

The proceeds of this activity fueled other fund- raising activities and were used in our different projects.

D. Production of PSGS NLC merchandise

After acquiring our revenue from the Car Emblem Project, we also started producing other merchandise like Polo Shirts and Coffee mugs. These were sold to fellows and residents and were displayed in the venue of our activities. We use our shirt if we have activities in our chapter as our uniform.

Because of this fund- raising activities, we were able to give cash prizes and trophies to the winners of our research contest, strokes challenge and tokens to our speakers and participants.



# Negros Occidental Chapter Off To a Good Start

- October 15, 2023 – PSGS-NOC celebrates Breast Cancer Awareness month, a PINK Run Activity was held and a total of 1,500+ participated.
- Residents from 3 training programs in Bacolod City and most numbers of General Surgery and MIS consultants attended the joint annual summit/convention of PSGS-PALES held at Shangrila Hotel in Mactan Cebu. Purchased raffle tickets to participate for the raffle during fellowship night, also patronized the PSGS Merchandise such as PSGS Shirts, Jackets and etc.
- As part of the Continuing Surgical and Medical Education, PSGS-NOC together with PCS-NIC, Canlaon Medical Society (PMA), POGS-NOC, POA Western Visayas and PSA hold a Post Graduate Course on “Updates in Perioperative Surgery” held last October 19, 2023 at Natures Village Hotel, in Talisay City. Round Table Discussion and Workshops on Surgical Stapling and Suturing was also held in Bacolod City last October 1, 2024. We are also invited by the Panay Chapter to participate an RTD on Wound care updates last September 28, 2023 in District 21 Hotel, Iloilo City. Last July 24, 2023, we invited Prof. Giulio Aniello Santoro, Director of Pelvic Floor and Incontinence Center of Treviso Regional Hospital, in Treviso Italy to discuss on the Topic “Dilemma Down Below” A Multispecialty Approach to Obstetrics and Pelvic Floor Disorder. Two (2) residents from BSRTC, participate on the electronic poster case presentation during the Annual Convention last July 2023 in Shangrila Hotel Mactan, Cebu.
- PSGS-NOC together with PCS-NIC participated and conduct lecture on “Stop the Bleed” and “Disaster Preparedness” participants are from Trauma Team, Rescue Team, BFP and EMS of Negros Occidental and Panay, during TRAUMA CONVENTION held last July 01, 2023 in Bacolod City. Tree Planting activity and Feeding program as well as Operation Tule was conducted all Sundays of June, July and August 2023, as well as Lectures and Screening to some remote areas and Barangays in Bacolod City was also conducted. A Layfora on “Breast Cancer Updates” was conducted last May 10, 2024 and was participated by employees of Riverside Medical Center, residents from 3 training programs such as AMC-B, BSRTC and CLMMRH, hosted the activity.
- During the 1st quarter of 2024, (January 27, 2024) PSGS-NOC holds an event called “SURGICAL STARS OF THE NIGHT” this is to give recognition to deserving Fellows who outstandingly contributed to surgical training and surgical practice in the province of Negros Occidental, and in recognition on the achievements contributed by the fellows in the national level.
- PSGS-NOC joins with PCS-NIC on the annual tripartite sports activity held in Cebu City last March 07 to 09 2024.



# Surgical Stars of The Night

Christian Raymond S. Magbojos, MD, FPSGS

The Philippine Society of General Surgeons Negros Occidental Chapter (PSGS NOC) gave recognition to deserving Fellows who outstandingly contributed to surgical training and advancement of surgical practice in the province of Negros Occidental. This auspicious event was held last January 27, 2024 at the Sugarland Hotel in Bacolod City. The occasion was graced by senior Fellows, among them was Dr. Arnulfo D. Seares, Jr., one of the original incorporators of the PSGS. The consultant staff and residents of the three training programs, namely, the Bacolod Surgical Residency Training Consortium (BSRTC) of Dr. Pablo O. Torre Memorial Hospital and The Doctors' Hospital, Adventist Medical Center-Bacolod, and Corazon Locsin Montelibano Memorial Regional Hospital, were also in attendance.

The honorees were given awards in different categories:

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Lifetime Achievement Award for Exemplary Public Service                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Dr. Galileo J. Pabalinas<br>Dr. Arnulfo D. Seares, Jr.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 2. Surgical Education Excellence Awardee                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Dr. Carlitos E. Magno                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 3. Award of Excellence<br>MIS Pioneer Award<br>Neurosurgery Pioneer Award<br>Pediatric Surgery Pioneer Award<br>Urology Pioneer Award<br>Hepatopancreaticobiliary Surgery Pioneer Award<br>Colorectal Surgery Pioneer Award<br>Surgical Oncology Pioneer Award<br>Thoracic Surgery Pioneer Award<br>Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery Pioneer Award | Dr. Rafael L. Jocson<br>Dr. Carmelo C. Canto<br>Dr. Reginald V. Hao<br>Dr. Romeo B. Reyes<br>Dr. Sherwin Lowe B. Rodrigo<br>Dr. Vimelyn S. Pahilanga<br>Dr. Aaron J. Jacildo<br>Dr. Samuel U. Bacuteng<br>Dr. Jesus Rey E. Paltriguera |
| 4. Literary Luminary Award                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Dr. Christian Raymond S. Magbojos                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| 5. Kadughan Foundation Visionary Award                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Dr. Hector G. Gayares                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 6. Leadership Award                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Dr. Andrea Joanne A. Torre                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 7. Sage of the Scalpel Award                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Dr. Antonio G. Vasquez, Jr.                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

In response to the awards, each of the honorees gave inspirational messages intended for the young generation of surgeons. Respect, humility, integrity, patience, resilience, selfless service and dedication to the surgical arts were among the core values highlighted in the responses given. The awarding ceremony was concluded by the presentation of the Golden Scalpel to Dr. Antonio G. Vasquez.

This is the first time the local chapter organized such an event. It was truly a night celebrating surgical excellence. And the timing was perfect as we usher in the 25th Foundation Anniversary of the PSGS.



Seated (L-R): Drs. Christian R. S. Magbojos, Andrea Joanne A. Torre, Antonio G. Vasquez, Rafael L. Jocson, Vimelyn S. Pahilanga  
Standing (L-R): Drs. Aaron J. Jacildo, Sherwin Lowe B. Rodrigo, Jesus Rey E. Paltriguera



**PHILIPPINE SOCIETY OF GENERAL SURGEONS**  
Negros Occidental Chapter

# Metro Manila Chapter: Back On The Road

Miguel C.Mendoza, MD, FPCS, FPSGS, FPALES

Since the beginning of our term on September 1, 2023, we have hit the ground running guided with the thought of “Dream big, start small, and move fast” and “Teamwork makes the dream work.” With this mindset, it was quite seamless to get everyone to cooperate and work harmoniously in achieving our goals. We have focused on four aspects in the delivery of our services to the community with numerous activities catering to the following: 1. Compliance to PSGS-initiated activities in line with the PSGS’s mission and vision, 2. Continuing surgical education and research activities, 3. Public health awareness programs and socio civic activities as part of our organization’s social responsibility to the communities we serve, and 4. Innovative programs as part of the organization’s growth in tune with the changing times.

Allow me to present to you, in a chronological order beginning September 2023, the sequence of activities which the PSGSMMC Officers and the Board of Trustees embarked on in collaboration with the various working committees composed of PSGSMMC Fellows, the Philippine Association of General Surgery Residents of Metro Manila (PAGSRMMC), the Philippine College of Surgeons, Metro Manila Chapter (PCSMCC), the All Women Surgeons of the Philippines (AWSP), the World Surgical Foundation Philippines (WSFP), and our industry partners.

On September 29, 2023, the PSGSMMC through the Committee on Surgical Training (CST) headed by our Board of Trustee Dr. Ida Lim joined the celebration of the 8th Thyroid Cancer Awareness Summit hosted by the Philippine Thyroid Association and Philippine Society of Endocrinology Diabetes and Metabolism at the UNILAB Bayanihan Hall. During the event, several lectures on prevention, early detection and management of thyroid cancer were given. In addition free neck palpation for the lay attendees were also implemented with proper instruction to increase thyroid disease prevention and early intervention awareness. This activity is in line and in support of the National Thyroid Cancer Awareness Week which is celebrated every 4th week of September of every year as declared by the Republic Act No. 10786, known as the National Thyroid Cancer Awareness Week. This week is dedicated to inform the public of the symptoms and early actions to prevent and even manage early thyroid cancer disease. In line with this, this activity also supports the provisions of the NICCA law with regard to comprehensive care for the cancer patient and dissemination of practice guidelines to improve and standardize care. The presence of the PSGSMMC during this event was truly palpable.



On October 7 and 14, 2023, the PSGSMMC through the Committee on External Affairs, spearheaded by Trustee-in-Charge, Dr. Carlos E. Ejercito Jr., participated in a lay forum on breast cancer awareness entitled “Madibdibang Usapan Ukol Sa Mga Sakit sa Suso - Part I and Part 2” respectively. These 2 activities were done in collaboration with various other organizations namely, the PCSMMC and the All Women Surgeons of the Philippines (AWSP).” There were 119 Zoom registrants, 60 Actual attendees, and 39 FB views. With these numbers, breast cancer awareness is still much of a concern among the communities we serve. Through this activity, we hope to continue raising the awareness on breast cancer through early detection and management among women.

On October 15, 2023, in compliance with one of the PSGS initiated activities and in celebration of the Global Handwashing Day, the PSGSMMC conducted through its Committee on External Affairs, the “Handwashing Day Program.” Through this activity, the PSGSMMC, has reaffirmed its commitment in promoting hand hygiene as an advocacy to prevent the spread of infection. This activity has brought everyone together in creating an awareness of the value of regular hand washing as a proven effective way of preventing the spread of infectious diseases. It is the hope that through yearly participation in this program, more people become more conscious that how one acts may affect not only one’s life but the lives of others as well.



Also simultaneously on October 15, 2023, the PSGSMMC through its Committee on Socials and Sports, headed by Trustee-in-Charge, Dr. Neil Mendoza, together with our Vice-President Dr. Ferfie Syfu and Treasurer Dr. Dale Avellanosa conducted the annual Pink Run Activity, entitled “PINK RUN D’FEETING BREAST CANCER.” This is a PSGS-Initiated activity, held every October of every year as part of the Breast Cancer Awareness advocacy program. This activity was held at the Festival Mall Grounds of the Filinvest Corporate City, in Alabang, Muntinlupa City. It was indeed a momentous occasion where around 822 people gathered for a fun-run, raising awareness against breast cancer, and uplifting the spirits of those afflicted with the disease. PSGSMMC provided free consultations



and breast examinations for all willing patients. Examination booths providing a quiet and private session with surgeon volunteers were provided as well. Prizes for each category were awarded and raffle prizes were at stake for all participants. The route was challenging but safe and the weather was perfect for the outdoor activity. We also coordinated for ambulance presence which was ready for emergency situations. Overall, it was a fleeting fun day for the PSGS National and the PSGMMC, for all participant-runners, and for our patients as well.

On November 10, 2024, the PSGSMMC through its Committee on Surgical Education (CSE) headed by Trustees-in-Charge Dr. Joy Jerusalem and Dr. Joyce Santacruz, hosted the 21st Surgical Updates through the zoom webinar platform. This virtual webinar highlighted two very important updates in the surgical field namely the latest advancements in breast oncoplastic surgery through a lecture given by Dr. Jennifer Ann de Castro-Mercado and also a lecture on utilization of Indocyanine Green (ICG) in colorectal surgery given by Dr. Michael Geoffrey L. Lim. This is an annual activity of the chapter and its purpose is to provide the participants with the latest updates from recent international surgical conferences to make everyone at par with International surgeons with the knowledge of the latest surgical technique from other countries. Ultimately it is the goal of this activity to elevate the level of surgical care of our surgeons in providing the best outcome for the patients they serve. This was indeed another successful continuing surgical education activity which everyone enjoyed. There were more than 140 surgeons across all social media platforms who participated.



was solidified through a MOA to ensure sustainability of the needed manpower for continuing surgical outreach missions in the country. In the true sense of the word, this is truly “reaching out” and collaborating with another organization who share the same passion in promoting social responsibility to care for various communities by an organization as an advocacy.

On December 9, 2023, the PSGSMMC, through the efforts of Dr. Neil Mendoza of the Committee on Socials and Sports held a “Thanksgiving Evening and Christmas Celebration.” at the very elegant and beautiful Rise Tower of the Our Lady of Fatima University Medical Center in Valenzuela City. This joyous activity was a celebration of the season of Christmas and the expression of gratitude for the collaboration among the partners of PSGSMMC namely the PCSMMC



Immediately after the Christmas Season was over, the PSGSMMC buckled up and braced themselves for another series of simultaneous activities for 2024.

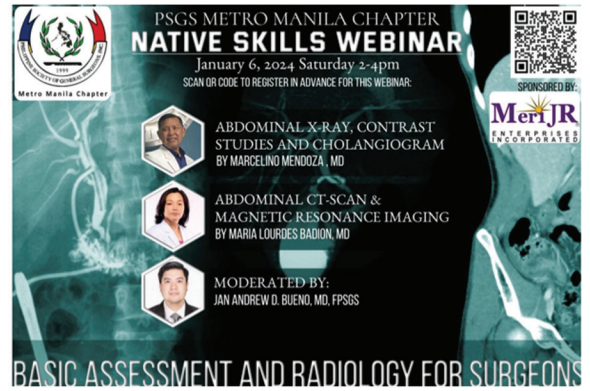


On December 4, 2023, during the PCS Annual Convention at the EDSA Shangri-la Hotel, the PSGSMMC signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the World Surgical Foundation Philippines (WSFP) to strengthen and solidify the commitment and dedication to support the various surgical outreach missions of the WSFP as part of the chapter’s thrust to promote social responsibility. The chapter will provide the manpower through its fellows and residents as WSFP embarks on their scheduled monthly surgical missions for the years to come. The main purpose of this noble collaboration is to ensure the sustainability of providing the needed surgical services in the underserved regions of the country in the spirit of volunteerism and in making a favorable impact on the lives of the people in our underserved communities. The MOA signing was attended by the Officers and Board of Trustees of PSGSMMC and the leadership of the WSF Philippines represented by Ms. Arlene C. Keh, Chairwoman; Dr. Marcus Lester R. Suntay, President; Dr. Rhoderick C. De Leon, Vice President; and Ms. Kristelle D. Pascual, Executive Director. This is a milestone event in the history of the PSGSMMC where a commitment

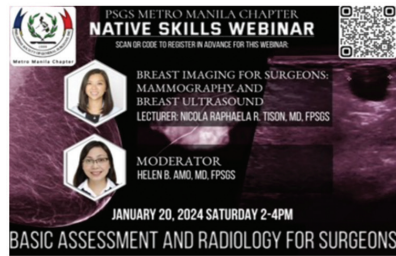


represented by their President Dr. Ferdie Syfu, the PALES represented by their President Dr. Mon Ong and Secretary Dr. Noel Evangelista, and our various industry partners represented by their officers and other key people in their companies. This activity was also graced by the presence the PCS President, Dr. Juvie Villafior who gave his Christmas message and a delivered a truly inspirational talk for everyone. These partners of PSGSMMC have supported our various activities through the years. This is an annual event that highlights the appreciation of each contribution that cascades down for the benefit not only of the fellows and the surgical residents of PSGSMMC under the care of the chapter in and out of Metro Manila. Those in attendance were the BODs, BOTs, Cluster heads, PAGSRMMC, and Pharma representatives. Besides, appreciation for the blessings we have and showing gratitude to those who have supported us is part of the true essence in the celebration Christmas.

On January 6, 2024, the PSGSMMC, through the Committee on Surgical Training (CST), spearheaded by Trustee-in-Charge Dr. Ida Lim, continued the series of surgical training programs called the “Native Skills for Surgeons” The Native Skills Series’ purpose is to reinforce on common yet essential aspects in the diagnosis of surgical conditions and to enhance the learning and training of residents who may have limited exposure before surgical residency training. The first of this series was Native Skills for Basic Assessment and Radiology for Surgeons. Our distinguished lecturers were Dr. Marcelino Mendoza who spoke about the applications of abdominal x-ray, contrast studies and cholangiogram and Dr. Maria Lourdes Badion who discussed the applications of abdominal CT-scan and Magnetic resonance imaging. This activity was well attended with 499 Zoom registrants, 155 zoom attendees, and 278 FB views.



On January 20, 2024, PSGSMMC through the CST had the second “Native Skills for Surgeons” series. This time it was about Breast Imaging for Surgeons (Mammography and Ultrasound). We had an excellent lecturer namely Dr. Nicola



Raphaela Tison, a breast surgeon from University of Santo Tomas who provided a comprehensive yet easy to understand presentation of the applications of mammography and breast ultrasound. There were more than 427 zoom registrants and 186 actual attendees with 85 FB views.

On January 27, 2024, the PSGSMMC, again through the CST, embarked on its continuing “1st Masterclass Series.” This Masterclass Series is a learning activity which aims to invite expert surgeons in their fields to speak on and engage the audience in the management of top surgical conditions. The schedule has been made such that the topic would coincide with the Department of Health’s calendar of events. Since January is considered Liver Month, the PSGSMMC invited Dr. Anthony Perez, a PCSMMC Board of Director and Professor of Surgery from UP-PGH, as a guest lecturer. Dr. Perez talked about the “Diagnosis and Management of Liver Malignancies.” The webinar’s moderator Dr. Raymond S. de Vera, also a hepatopancreatobiliary surgeon was able to conduct a lively and interesting discussion which engaged the audience very well. There were 344 zoom registrants with 129 actual zoom viewers and 57 FB views.



On February 17, 2024, in line with the Cancer Awareness month, we embarked on the 2nd Masterclass Series through the efforts of the CST. Since it was Cancer Awareness month, the topic chosen was about Breast Cancer because it is the most common cancer. To make the webinar more comprehensive, we also included a topic on benign breast conditions. This webinar “Benign and Malignant Breast Conditions: Diagnosis and Management” was again aptly moderated by Dr. Helen Amo, a member of the committee and a practicing Surgical Oncologist from Jose Reyes Memorial Medical Center and St. Luke’s Medical Center. The first lecture on benign breast conditions was delivered by a breast specialist from Chinese General Hospital, Dr. Maila Rose Liwag Torillo and the lecture on malignant breast condition was delivered by Dr. Remy Karis Velasco, who is affiliated in both Makati Medical Center and Chinese General Hospital. Due to the enthusiasm of the audience, the webinar extended beyond two hours. There were 295 zoom registrants with 111 actual zoom viewers and 348 FB views.



On February 18, 2024, PSGSMMC, through the Committee on External Affairs, spearheaded by Dr. Carlos E. Ejercito Jr., in collaboration with Dr. Mike dela Paz, a PSGS Fellow of Oriental Mindoro as well as surgical residents from PAGSR once again embarked on a socio civic activity known as the “PSGSMMC Philippine’s Indigenous People’s Outreach Program” Armed with the passion to help the indigenous tribes of the Philippines as part of the Socio-civic activities of the PSGSMMC, we travelled by land and by sea and by

land to reach the foot of the mountains of Oriental Mindoro at the Infinity Farm to meet with the Mangyan people. We distributed gifts of sacs of rice, canned goods and vegetable seedlings to 40 families. The seedlings were donated by the local office of the Department of Agriculture. The expression on the faces of the Mangyan people was priceless. We could all the feel the sincerity of their gratitude through their smiles and soft spoken thank you’s. As part of our advocacy in preserving nature, we also embarked on a tree planting ceremony at the Infinity Farm area after the gift-giving to the Magyan people.



On February 19, 2024, the following day, the External Affairs Committee visited the Mangyan Cultural Center in Calapan not only to learn more about the Mangyan Tribe but also to purchase as well several items made by the people like weaved messenger bags, lanyards, and key chains among others as samples that we intend to present to the PCS, PSGS National and other medical and surgical societies to be used in their conventions as giveaways. Through this we all have the opportunity of helping in the

livelihood of the indigenous Mangyan Tribe. This is the second indigenous tribe that the PSGSMMC has visited and helped, The first outreach activity under the banner of the “PSGSMMC Philippine’s Indigenous People’s Outreach Program” was with the Aeta Tribe in Pampanga during the second quarter of 2023. The next trip would be to Sulu for the indigenous Badjao Tribe and to the the Mountain Province to help the indigenous tribe of the Igorot Tribe. Again, this is an innovative social outreach program first conceptualized and executed under the PSGSMMC. With the indigenous people being the most marginalized people in the Philippines, the PSGSMMC aims to ensure that this program becomes a sustainable program to help in the livelihood of the indigenous people of the Philippines.

On February 20-22, 2024, the PSGSMMC through the Committee on External Affairs, together with the Metro Manila surgical residents from the Philippine Association of General Surgery Residents (PAGSR) joined the World Surgical Foundation, and conducted a series of operations as part of the “Oriental Mindoro Joint Surgical Outreach Mission” at the Oriental Mindoro Provincial Hospital. This was the first surgical outreach mission as part of the MOA between PSGSMMC and WSFP. This joint endeavor was able to provide essential surgical care to 46 indigent patients, 42 of which underwent major surgical procedures while 4 underwent minor procedures. This initiative not only addressed immediate health concerns but also offered a renewed sense of hope and well-being to those in the underserved communities. Other organizations collaborated and supported in this surgical outreach program. PSGSMMC was able to work closely hand-in-hand with the Philippine College of Surgeons, Southern Tagalog Chapters of the PCS and PSGS, PCS Sure Commission, Philippine Society of Anesthesiologists, ORNAP, Oriental Mindoro Provincial Government, and the Oriental Mindoro Provincial Health Office. Everyone played a pivotal role in making this endeavor achievable. With the same passion and advocacy of helping others, truly this activity is a testament that teamwork makes the dream work at all levels.



On March 9, 2024, the PSGSMMC conducted a workshop entitled “Training the Barangay Health Worker in Breast Cancer” through the CST spearheaded by Trustee-in-Charge Dr. Ida Lim in collaboration with the All Women’s Surgeon of the Philippines (AWSP) held at the Barangay Hall in Dapitan Sampaloc, Manila. This is in line with the Socio-Civic activities of the organization geared towards training our allied health workers.

On March 9, 2024, the PSGSMMC conducted a series of innovative programs in collaboration with TV media IBC 13 called “Dok, True Ba?” This is in line with the thrust of PSGS National for chapters to think of innovative programs to benefit health care professional and the general community. As part of the society’s mission to deliver compassionate service to the community, this project is geared towards providing medical and surgical information to commonly asked questions by the general public. During its pilot episode aired last March 9,2024, Trustee Dr. Dale C. Avellanosa talked about and answered questions concerning “Breast Cancer,” as part of the program’s contribution in the celebration of the National Women’s Month of March. The episode was well received as 3.9K viewed it on Facebook and another 600 on YouTube during its live telecast.



On March 23, 2024, the PSGSMMC conducted the “3rd Masterclass Series” on “Colorectal Malignancies” using the zoom platform streamlined through other social media platforms again under the CST. This was held during the month of March since this month is the Colorectal Cancer Awareness month . The PSGSMMC featured the experts from the Philippine Society of Colorectal Surgery to discuss the management of one of the top cancers in the country. Moderated by

Dr Carol Cueto, past PSGS President Dr George Lim discussed in depth the “Indications and Technique of Complete Mesocolic Excision with Central Vascular Ligation.” To give a balance to the lecture, the society also presented the topic entitled “Contemporary Management of Fustula in-Ano.” The management of this common anorectal condition which can be difficult to manage at times was discussed by Dr. Kenneth Yabut . There were 468 zoom registrants, 167 attendees and 179 FB views.



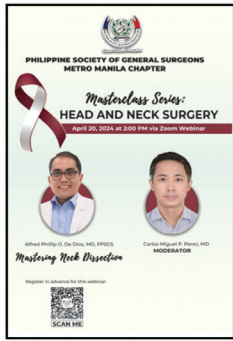
On April 13, 2024, in the next episode of “Dok, True Ba” PSGMMC featured Dr Ferdinand “Ferdie” Y. Syfu, PSGSMMC’s Vice President , who talked about on television through IBC Channel 13 the topic on “Awareness on Heat Stroke-Summer Diseases.”



On April 20, 2024, again in the television program of “Dok, True ba? in the IBC Channel 13, Dr. Raymund Joaquin “Jake” F. Erese, also a Trustee, discussed matters about “Diabetes and Treatment Options for Morbid Obesity.” This is truly an innovative program reaching far and beyond to more people utilizing a respectable TV station thru TV media streamlined to various social media platforms. This brings the brand of PSGS to newer heights of credibility and respectability to the forefront as a trailblazer in health awareness information dissemination to the people in the country coming from all classes of society.

On April 20, 2024, the PSGSMMC through the CST conducted the “4th Masterclass Series” on “Head and Neck Surgery.” We chose this topic because Proclamation 1676 declares the fourth week of April and every year thereafter as Head and Neck Consciousness Week . The observance of Head and Neck Consciousness Week is a call for implementation of an intensive information dissemination campaign regarding the prevention, early diagnosis and prompt treatment of Head and Neck Cancer and



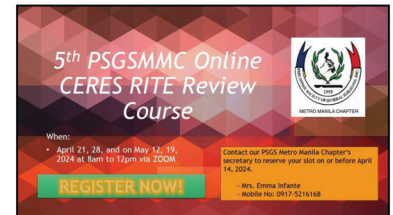


prevent its detrimental social effects. In line with this PSGSMMC featured a lecture by Dr. Alfred Phillip de Dios on “Mastering Neck Dissection” which was moderated by young head and neck surgeon Dr. Carlos Miguel Perez . There were 284 Zoom registrants, 97 actual attendees, and 111 FB views.

Also on April 20, 2024, the PSGSMMC through the CST spearheaded by our colorectal surgeon Dr. Romarico Azores conducted simultaneously with the 4th Masterclass Series on Head and Neck Surgery the “1st Bowel Anastomosis” Workshop which is a hands-on activity held every year with a total of four workshops per year. This surgical education activity was held at the Aesculap Academy, BBraun Office, at the Bonifacio Global City in Taguig together with colorectal fellows who served voluntarily as facilitators of the workshop. There were 30 resident-participants.

On April 21, 2024, the PSGSMMC, through the Committee on CERES/RITE Review spearhead by Trustee-in-Charge Dr. Billy UY conducted the 5th Annual “1st CERES/RITE Review Course.” This is an activity which comprises 4 different review days offered last April 21 & 28, 2024 and May 12 & 19, 2024. This is conducted every year and the main objective

is to help our general surgical residents review on the fundamental issues of common clinical cases that they encounter during the span of the residency training. The chapter expects that the basic knowledge that will be obtained from attending this review course will give the surgical resident the fundamental foundation in the clinical practice and the basic foundation in preparation for the certifying examination in the future. Guest lecturers faculty were chosen based on their expertise in their respective fields where comprehensive lectures with interactive engagement by the participants were ensured. This is one of the ways the PSGSMMC helps our surgical resident prepare for these important examinations that will propel them to be certified as competent surgeons in the future. A total of 520 surgical residents enrolled in this course.



On April 26, 2024, the PSGSMMC launched another innovative program in collaboration with Johnson and Johnson Philippines called “LEAPS and HOPS.” LEAPS & HOPS means Lucid Enhancement in Advanced Energy, Suturing, Hemostasis Optimization, and Stapling. This program aims to educate surgeons on the latest technology using advanced energy, latest sutures, proper utilization of staplers, and various types of hemostatic products so that our surgeons may be updated on the armamentarium available to make their surgeries safe and efficient. The big launch was held at SEDA Vertis North Hotel in



Quezon City where all Chairs, Training Officers , and Senior Residents were invited to attend to witness this innovative program that is offered not only to the surgical residents but to all PSGS Fellows as well. There was a total of 118 attendees. True to the thrust of the PSGS National, PSGSMMC embraced this collaboration knowing that this innovative program would ultimately benefit our patients.



On April 27, 2024, the PSGSMMC started a series of “Operation Tuli” programs in collaboration with various institutions. The first program was held in collaboration with the PCSMMC and was held at the Gat Andres Bonifacio Memorial Hospital. There were 80 young boys who benefited from this program.

Also on April 27, 2024, the PSGSMMC through the Committee on Surgical Research head by Trustee-in-Charge Dr. Jake Erese conducted the “Basic Research Methodology Course” in collaboration with the PCSMMC. The chapter believes that research is an integral in the surgical training of our residents . Hence, this activity is conducted every year. There were 279 zoom registrants, 117 zoom attendees, and 44 FB views.

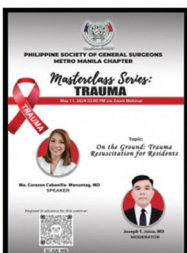
On April 28, 2024, the PSGSMMC through the Committee on RTE/CERES conducted again the “2nd RITE/CERES Review Course.”

On May 5, 2024, the PSGSMMC, in line with the thrust of the PSGS National in conducting PSGS Lay Forum Series conducted through the Committee on External affairs and Public Relations, the PSGS Lay Forum Series entitled “Ekspertong Panayam, Ugnayan, Talakayan” and the topic chosen was “Surgery for Diabetes.” Our guest speakers were Trustees of the PSGSMMC namely Dr. Jake Erese and Dr. Paolo Porciuncula both experts in the field of metabolic and bariatric surgery. This was well attended session creating an awareness of the surgical options in the treatment of obesity as a disease as well as surgical treatment of diabetes.



On May 11, 2024, the PSGMMC through the CST again spearheaded by Dr. Romarico Azores conducted the “ 2nd Bowel Anastomosis Workshop” for the surgery residents once again at the Aesculap Academy. The were again a total of 30 residents from Metro Manila who participated to enhance proper suturing skills in bowel anastomosis.

Also on May 11, 2024, the PSGSMMC conducted the 5th Masterclass Series on Trauma. We have invited Dr. Ma. Corazon Cabanilla-Manuntag who talked “On the Ground: Trauma Resuscitation for Residents.” We have invited Important to the PSGSMMC is to ensure the our general surgery residents are well versed on trauma management wherever they may decide to establish their practice. This is Avery important activity for learning trauma. There were 354 zoom registrants, 185 zoom attendees, and 252 FB views.



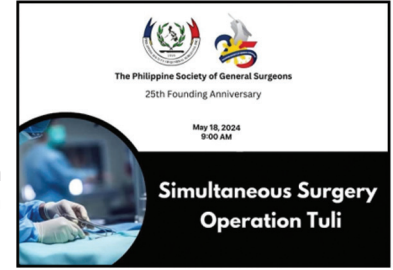
On May 12, 2024, the 3rd RITE/CERES Review Course was conducted once again headed by Trustee-in-Charge Dr. Billy Uy. Again this was well attended.

On May 18, 2024, the PSGSMMC conducted the “2nd LEAPS & HOPS Program” for residents belonging to PSGS -accredited training institution belonging to Clusters A & B of Metro Manila. The focus for this activity was on “Suturing and Knot Tying.” A total of 63 residents attended at the venue in Providence Hospital in Quezon City.

Also on May 18, 2024, as part of the of PSGS-Initiated Simultaneous Tuli Surgeries Activity in celebration of the 25th Year Founding Anniversary of PSGS, the PSGSMC Chapter launched the “Simultaneous Operation Tuli” program held at the San Juan Medical Center spearheaded by Trustees-in-Charge for the Committee on External affairs and Public Relations Dr. Carlos E. Ejercito , Vice President Dr. Ferdie Syfu and Secretary Dr. Ddale Avellanosa. A total of 25 young boys underwent circumcision during this momentos event.

On May 19, 2024, the 4th and last RITE/CERES Review course was conducted. Again this was well attended and a total of 520 surgical residents benefited from this program.

On May 25, 2025, as part of the continuing celebration of the 25th Founding Anniversary of PSGS, PSGSMC through the Committee on External Affairs and Public Relations conducted another “Operation Tuli Program” entitled “25@25” which was held at Asian Hospital and Medical Center. This wa sin collaboration with the Institute of Surgery of Asian Hospital and Asian Hospital Charities Foundation. Again, a total of 25 patients were circumcised.



On May 25, 2024, the PSGSMC through the CST spearhead by Dr. Paolo Porciuncula conducted the “3rd LEAPS & HOPS Program.” The topic covered for this program was on Hemostasis Optimization Program which comprised of lectures and hands-on workshop. This was again held at the Providence Hospital in Quezon City.

On May 26, 2024, the PSGSMC through the Committee on Socials and Sports headed by Trustee-in-Charge Dr. Neil Mendoza conducted the “Badminton and Pickle Ball Fun Game Sports Activity Program.”The purpose of this activity was to foster camaraderie among residents and consultants representing the institutions and theirs clusters. This was held at the Centro Atletico Badminton Center in Quezon City. There were 33 attendees.

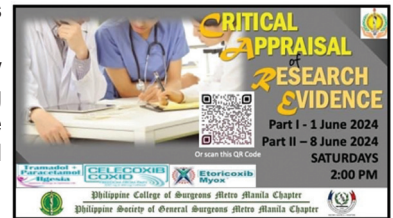


On June 1 and June 8, 2024, the PSGSMC through its Committee on Surgical Research headed by Dr. Jake Erese, conducted the annual activity on “Critical Appraisal of Research Evidence.” For the Part I held last June 1, there were 247 Zoom registrants, 122 Zoom attendees, and 55 FB views. For the Part II, there were 76 Zoom registrants, 47 actual zoom attendees, and 80 FB views.



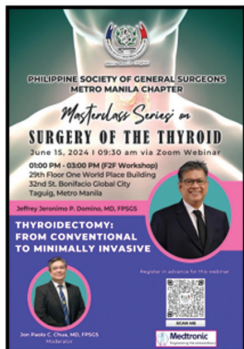
On June 7, 2024, the PSGSMC through the CST headed by Dr. Ida Lim conducted a lecture on Cancer Awareness and a Thyroid Screening Activity. This was in collaboration with the American Concrete Institute of the Philippines and help at the Polytechnic University of the Philippines Gymnasium in Manila. We engaged the surgical residents and sent them to conduct thyroid screening through neck palpation.

On June 15, 2024, PSGSMC through the CST conducted the “6th Masteclass Series” on “Surgery of the Thyroid.” Our distinguished guest speaker was Trustee Dr. Jeffrey Domino who talked about “Thyroidectomy: From Conventional to Minimally Invasive.” This activity consisted of a lecture via the zoom platform in the morning and a hands-on workshop on the thyroid model in the afternoon. This was held at the



One World Place Building in Taguig Metro Manila. There were 222 zoom registrants, 120 attendees, and 24 FB views. There were 25 attendees and 10 faculty during the afternoon workshop,

On June 22, 2024, the 3rd Bowel Anastomosis Workshop was again conducted under the CST headed by Dr. Romarico Azores and the volunteer colorectal fellows who acted as faculty and facilitators. A total of 90 partipcant-residents have attended this bowel anastomosis series so far. This was held again in the same venue of the Aesculap Academy Building in Bonifacio Global City. The “4th Bowel Anastomosis Workshop will be held in July 2024

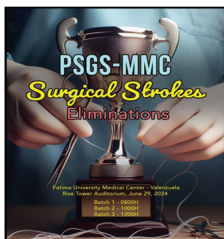


Also on on June 22, 2024, the PSGSMC conducted another simultaneous “Operation Tuli Program” again nuder the Committee on External Affairs and Public Relations at the Asian Hospital and Medical Center spearhead by Trustee-In-Charge Dr. Carlos E. Ejercito Jr. A total of 30 young boys underwent circumcision that day.

On June 26, 2024, the Committee on Publications headed by Dr. John Paolo Chua, came out with the PSGS Metro Bulletin 1, which covered the activities of the PSGSMC from September 2024 to February 2024. This Bulletin was disseminated via digital pdf format and hard copy to the various PSGSMC institutions and residents for their information about the accomplishments of the chapter. The PSGS Metro Bulletin 2 will be released in August 2024 during the PSGS Annual Convention

On June 29, 2024, the PSGSMC conducted the much awaited Surgical Strokes Challenge headed by Trustee-in-Charge of the CST Dr. Paolo Porciuncula. This was held at the Rise building of the Our Lady of Fatima University Medical Center. It was an exciting event were all the participants had fun competing against each other trying to be in the Top \* positions. The winners will represent the PSGSMC during the PSGS National Surgical Strokes Challenge where all other chapter champions will compete against each other during the PSGS Annual Convention in August 1-3, 2024. The top 8 winners from Metro Manila were 1. The Medical City, 2. FEU, 3. UP-PGH, 4. SLMC-QC, 5. Dr. Jose R. Natalio Memorial Hospital & Sanitarium, 6. Ospital ng Muntinlupa, 7. Makati Medical Center, and 8. Quezon City General Hospital.





On July 1, 2024, the PSGSMMC participated in the “Adopt a Tree” program by the Tagaytay Highlands where 2 Araucaria Trees were purchased through a donation by PSGSMMC and will be planted with a stone marker where the name of “PSGSMMC 203-2024” will be engraved. This activity is part of the socio-civic activity of PSGMMC in support of the sustainability of mother earth as well as in support of sending several deserving qualified students to school as scholars.

At present, the Research paper of the PSGSMMC on S.T.E.P.S, headed by the Trustee-In-Charge of the Committee on Surgical Research Dr. Jake Erese is still on-going being a prospective study and hopefully will be completed by end of 2024.

The other forthcoming activities and programs for the months of July and August of 2024 prepared by the various committees of the PSGSMMC are as follows:



- July 4, 2024:  
Election of PAGSRMMC Officers - PAGSRMMC Oversight Committee- Dr. Jeffrey Domino
- July 5, 2024:  
Interhospital Surgical Research Paper Contest by Committee on Surgical Research (Club Filipino, San Juan) - Dr. Jake Erese
- July 6 & 7, 2024:  
Review Course for Mock Oral Exams by Committee on Review Course (AGGGCT Building, QC)— Dr. Billy Uy
- July 14, 2024  
Lecture and Workshop on Basic Ultrasound for Clusters C & D by CST (Providence Hospital) - Dr Paolo Porciuncula
- July 14, 2024:  
Lecture and Workshop on Endoscopy for Clusters C & D (Providence Hospital) - Dr Ida Lim/ Dr Paolo Porciuncula
- July 20, 2024:  
ZERO MIS-USE, Energy, and Stapling Workshop for Clusters A & B; Clusters C & D (Providence Hospital) - Dr. Paolo Porciuncula
- July 21, 2024:  
1. Lecture Workshop on Basic Ultrasound by CST for Clusters A & B (Providence Hospital)-Dr. Paolo Porciuncula  
2. Lecture and Workshop on Endoscopy for Clusters A&B by CST (Providence Hospital) - DR. Paolo Porciuncula
- July 21, 2024  
Philippine Indigenous People Outreach Program: Badjao Tribe by Committee on External Affairs - Dr. Carlos E. Ejercito
- July 21-24, 2024  
Joint Surgical MISSION WITH WSF in Sulu by Committee on External Affairs - Dr. Carlos E. Ejercito Jr.
- July 27, 2024:  
1. 7th Masterclass Series on Breast Surgery: From Conventional to MIS by CST - Dr. Ida Lim  
2. 8th Masterclass Series on Gastric Surgery: The Essentials of Surgery for Gastric Malignancy by CST - Dr. Ida Lim
- July 28, 2024:  
Lecture/Workshop on Flexible Sigmoidoscopy in Pampanga by CST - Dr. Romarico Azores
- July-August 2024  
Restructured Project STRANDS: Surgical Training Reinforcing Applications for Non-technical and Developmental Skills to be conducted by the Committee on Surgical Education headed by Trustee-in-Charge Dr. Joy Jerusalem will include the following topics:  
1. Communication Skills  
2. Teamwork/Collaboration  
3. Leadership/Management Skills  
4. Situational Awareness  
5. Emotional Intelligence and Stress  
6. Professionalism and Ethics
- August 10, 2024:  
Annual Business Meeting and Turnover Ceremony and Induction; Roma Italia, Manila Hotel
- August Saturdays and Sundays 2024:  
1. 4th Bowel Anastomosis Workshop by CST - Dr. Romarico Azores  
2. Basic Skills Surgical Workshop for Clusters C&D by CST - Dr. Paolo Porciuncula  
3. Lecture and Workshop on Choledochoscopy by CST - Dr. Paolo Porciuncula  
4. LEAPS & HOPS-Lecture and Hands -On on Science of Tissue Management & Surgical Site Infection by CST - Dr. Paolo Porciuncula  
5. Podcast - “Doc to Me” - Dr. Paolo Porciuncula

As you can see all the activities of the PSGSMMC were happening almost every week for the last 10 months since September of 2023. This a testament to the dedication of the Officers and Trustees of the the PSGSMMC working closely together with the various committees, fellows, and residents. With the above summary of the successful outcomes of the numerous activities of the PSGSMMC, I am proud and honored to present to you this PSGSMMC Annual Report and President’s Report for 2023-2024. It is with great pride that I commend the Officers and Board of Trustees together with the Cluster Heads and the PAGSRMMC for a job well done in serving our Fellows, our Surgical residents, and our patients in Metro Manila. This success is a testament to the grit and resilience exhibited by everyone in the chapter in achieving the same goal. Truly this is a testament that teamwork makes the dream work.

# Panay Chapter Holds Workshop Series

## January 6, 2024: MIS-HOL workshop

8am to 12 noon

Iloilo Doctors Hospital AV Room

Participated by 14 fellows and 7 residents from Panay and Negros chapters  
Negros chapter headed by Dr Joanne Torre



The new project of PSGS Panay to hold Quarterly Research Lectures and Workshops for residents offer numerous indispensable advantages and benefits, particularly as the production of research output is their residency training requirement for graduation. These sessions are integral to the holistic development of future surgeons, combining academic rigor with practical training to ensure well-rounded, competent professionals. By equipping residents with advanced research skills, ensuring they stay at the forefront of surgical advancements, these educational activities lay a strong foundation for the future of both the residents and the residency program.

This innovative pilot workshop on Stapled Bowel Anastomosis organized by PSGS Panay chapter is centered on offering an invaluable platform for honing technical skills crucial for modern surgical practices. The workshop is meticulously divided into two primary drills: side-to-side linear stapled anastomosis and end-to-end circular stapled bowel anastomosis. These drills are designed to emulate real-life surgical scenarios, providing participants with a hands-on experience that bridges the gap between theory and practice. During the stapled bowel anastomosis drills, residents learn to handle tissue with precision during the insertion and extraction of the bowel stapler. This skill is vital for minimizing tissue damage and ensuring a smooth anastomosis process. The placement of the bowel stapler is a critical step, and residents are trained to position the stapler correctly before firing, emphasizing safety protocols to prevent complications. Focus on the meticulous inspection of stapler placement and the importance of adequate compression time was also emphasized. Residents were made to assess the final shape of their anvil donuts, ensuring they are uniform and intact, which is a key indicator of a successful anastomosis. Hemostatic checking of the stapler line is also a pivotal aspect of this drill, teaching residents to identify and address any bleeding promptly. Throughout the workshop, the technical skills of the residents were rigorously assessed. These assessments cover critical competencies such as handling of tissue during insertion and extraction of the bowel stapler, correct placement of the stapler for safety, thorough inspection of stapler placement and compression time, evaluation of the anvil donuts' final shape, and diligent hemostatic checking of the stapler line. This innovative workshop by PSGS Panay is more than just a training session; it is a transformative experience that equips surgeons with the essential skills to perform stapled bowel anastomosis with confidence and precision. By blending hands-on practice with expert guidance, we are paving the way for a new generation of skilled surgeons ready to excel in their field.



## January 13, 2024: Research workshop on “Statistical Tools for Surgical Investigators”

Speaker Dr Jhoanne Marsh Gatpatan

Smallville 21 hotel Iloilo

Participated by 11 Fellows and Associates and 28 Residents including guests from Negros chapter



## January 20, 2024 Stapled Bowel Anastomosis workshop

8am to 12noon

West Visayas State University Medical Center Conference room

Participated by 8 Residents and facilitated by 5 Fellows

## January 20, 2024 “Training-of-Trainers” Residents’ Trauma essentials training workshop (1st of series)

2pm-5pm

West Visayas State University Medical Center Conference room

Participated by 8 Residents and facilitated by 5 Fellows

“Training-of-Trainers” is a “spin-off” project derived from the initial brainchild project “Trauma Essentials for First Responders”, to leverage its concepts and fast-track information sharing. Surgical Residents are now trained to be the “Trainers” on how to train emergency first responders.

## January 27, 2024 “Trauma Essentials for First Responders” trauma workshop (a collaborative innovative program with PCS Panay chapter)

Duenas, Iloilo 9am to 3pm

Participated by 11 Residents and 23 Fellows

This trauma training workshop is an innovative, collaborative brainchild program designed by Dr. Roy Joseph Trinidad (PCS Panay Trauma Committee Head), Dr. John Paul Gonzalez (PCS Panay President), and Dr. Juliene Certeza (PSGS Panay President), which started from their informal brainstorming meetings, with the aim of revolutionizing trauma response.

This program significantly enhances our emergency first responders ability to provide immediate, effective care at the trauma scene, giving victims the best possible chance of survival and recovery.

**February 23, 2024 “Isip Surhano” Interhospital Quizbowl Contest (collaboration with Negros and Cebu Chapters)**

5-8pm  
Radissons hotel SM City Iloilo  
Participated by more than 55 Residents and Fellows

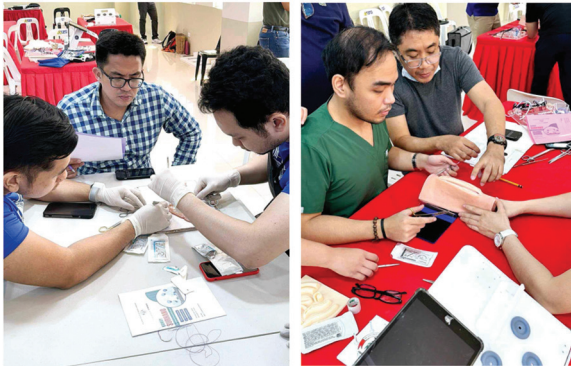
This activity was first conceived during the presidency of Dr Luis Serafin Dabao in 2011, initially involving only the Panay chapter training institutions. Later, it expanded to include invitations to the Negros and Cebu chapters. The last one was held at Smallville complex Iloilo Business hotel in 2014 under the presidency of Dr Guadalupe Villaret-Matejka and was not continued due to budget concerns. The 2023 board of directors under the presidency of Dr Juliene Certeza decided to re-launch this tradition.



**February 24, 2024 “Kamay Surhano” Interhospital Suturing and Laparoscopic Skill Contest**

Western Visayas Medical Center Building D Conference Hall  
Participated by 13 Residents and 14 Fellows and Associates

This is a new chapter activity patterned to the national “Surgical Strokes challenge”, to offer a platform for our surgical residents to hone their surgical skills in a competitive yet supportive environment, to prepare them mentally for the upcoming PCS Tripartite Interhospital skill contest and national contest., thus, contributes to the overall enhancement of surgical training and patient care.



**March 20, 2024 A Case-based approach Nutrition workshop “Clinical Nutrition in Surgical Patients”**

Zuri Hotel, Diversion Road Iloilo  
Speaker Dr Michael Catiwalaan, a colorectal surgeon  
Participated by 22 Residents and Fellows, plus interns



**March 2, 2024 Interhospital Grandrounds “Now You See Me”**

Hosted by Department of Surgery, West Visayas State University Medical Center  
Presented by Dr Carl Michael Bernabe.  
Held at WVSUMC College of Medicine Auditorium.  
Participated by 45 Residents and Fellows.





**March 23, 2024 “Critical Appraisal of Journals” Research workshop**

The Venue function room, Smallville Complex Iloilo  
 Participated by 30 Residents and 11 Fellows



**April 20, 2024 “Back to Basics” Post graduate course in Inguinal hernia**

Speakers Dr Jose Macario Faylona, Dr Manuel Villamor Jr, Dr Carlo Angelo Bordon  
 West Visayas State University College of Medicine Auditorium  
 Participated by more than 70 Fellows and Residents, plus guests from Negros chapter.

It is the first ever postgraduate course in inguinal hernia facilitated by West Visayas State University Department of Surgery, compose of scientific lectures and live hernia surgeries, particularly Lichtenstein, Shouldice and Desarda techniques.

**May 13, 2024 “Acupuncture and Cancer Treatment” Lay Forum via Zoom**

Speaker Dr Mark Angelo Sunaz, a certified acupuncturist and integrative medicine practitioner.  
 A PSGS-initiated program for 25th Founding anniversary



Held at Western Visayas Medical Center Department of Surgery office and facilitated by 5 Fellows and Associates, with more tha 45 Zoom participants

**May 18, 2024 “Simultaneous Live Surgery”**

A PSGS-initiated program spearheaded by national PSGS President Dr Leonardo Ona, to commemorate its 25th founding anniversary milestone, with simultaneous skin cutting of all 10 chapters, symbolic of the collective achievements of the society and its mission of service to all Filipinos. The case was done by a senior resident assisted by 2 junior residents and was facilitated by 3 Fellows.



**May 18, 2024 “Simultaneous Tuli Mission”**

25 boys were circumcised at West Visayas State University Medical Center OPD.  
 A PSGS-initiated program to commemorate PSGS 25th founding anniversary.  
 Participated by 6 Fellows, 4 Residents, and ORNAP nurses and our interns.

**May 18, 2024 “Trauma Essentials for First Responders” training workshop for ICER (Iloilo City Emergency Responders)**

2nd part of a series of training workshops, in collaboration with PCS Panay chapter.  
 I-CARE Building, Brgy Sooc Arevalo, Iloilo City.  
 Participated by 12 Residents and 10 Fellows



**May 22, 2024 “25th PSGS Founding Anniversary Thanksgiving Dinner and Awarding of Past Presidents”**

Zuri hotel Grand Ballroom, Iloilo city

Participated by 26 Fellows and Associates and 15 Residents

Panay chapter held this anniversary celebration simultaneously with the national PSGS anniversary Gala night at The Manila Hotel, represented by Panay chapter Board of Director Dr Venerio Gasatay Jr and chapter President Dr Juliene Latriz-Certeza.

Our chapter believed it was a special occasion to celebrate as a time to remember those that have helped to shape who we are as an organization, an opportunity to praise the memories of our society, and a time to reflect on our past, and to hope for a promising future. Such an atmosphere of celebration gave us immense happiness and gratitude. Indeed, anything can be achieved with focus, perseverance and passion.



**June 1, 2024 Interhospital Grandrounds “1440 Hours”**

Hosted by Western Visayas Medical Center Department of Surgery

Presenter Dr Bert Lorenz Divinagracia

WVMC Building D Conference hall, Mandurriao Iloilo

Participated by 34 Residents and 19 Fellows and Associates



**June 5 and 6, 2024 2-Day Adult and Pediatric Surgical Mission**

In collaboration with the World Surgical Mission, PCS SureCommission and PCS Panay chapter

Adult cases were done at Iloilo Provincial Hospital in Pototan Iloilo, with 4 Residents and 13 Fellows and Associates who did the major and minor procedures.

Pediatric cases were done at Western Visayas Medical Center, with 12 Residents and 11 Fellows and Associates who did the 21 major procedures.



**June 9, 2024 CERES Written Exam (a PSGS-initiated program) via online platform**

Held in each 5 Panay accredited training institutions.

Total of 37 Residents took the exams and 12 Fellows facilitated.



**June 15 and 16, 2024 “25 Libreng Operasyon”**

A 2-Day Simultaneous Capiz Surgical Mission held at Sen. Gerardo M. Roxas Memorial Hospital Dao Capiz and Roxas Memorial Provincial Hospital Roxas city, as part of our PSGS 25th Founding anniversary outreach program.

Our dedicated team of surgeons, nurses and volunteers worked tirelessly to ensure the success of this mission.

Total of 19 minor cases, 26 major/medium cases were done with the support of 23 Fellows/Associates and 16 Residents.

This event, driven by our socio-civic advocacy, aimed to provide much-needed surgical assistance to our community. This collective effort truly exemplifies the power of community and the importance of giving back.



**June 15, 2024 “Trauma Essentials for First Responders” trauma workshop**



**June 22, 2024 Research Workshop “Basic and Advanced Literature Searching techniques”**

Sam’s Hotel, Diversion Iloilo  
Speakers Professor Stephen Alayon and Joesyl Marie Aranas  
Participated by 27 Residents and 5 Fellows



Part 3 of a series of trauma workshop, in collaboration with PCS Panay chapter, held at Sen. Gerardo M. Roxas Memorial Hospital Dao Capiz, as part of our innovative program with the aim of revolutionizing trauma response in the whole of Panay. We try to invest in the concept referred to as the “train-the-trainer” model. It is highly effective for creating a sustainable and scalable approach to education and skill development.

By equipping a core group of trainers with the necessary knowledge and skills, we enable them to pass on their expertise to others, who can continue the cycle, leading to a widespread and multiplying impact. This approach ensures that training programs can reach a larger audience over time, leveraging the initial investment in trainer development to achieve a broader and more enduring impact.



**July 10, 2024: Interhospital Research Paper and Interesting Case Report Contest**

Venue: Sam’s 21 Hotel at 5pm  
Compose of 3 categories. Category 1 is full research paper (4 entries), Category 2 is Research proposal (7 entries), and Category 3 is Interesting case report (3 entries).

A prestigious event where talented residents will showcase their innovative researches. This activity will offer insightful presentations from our surgical residents, engaging discussions in the Q&A sessions, opportunities for collaboration and networking, and offer recognition and awards for best research. Independent esteemed judges were invited.



**July 26, 2024 Interhospital Grandrounds “Hindered Health-Unveiling the Unseen”**

To be hosted by Department of Surgery Iloilo Doctors Hospital-Iloilo Mission Hospital Consortium.  
Venue: Iloilo Doctors Hospital AV Room  
August 18, 2024 Oral Examination for Senior Residents  
Venue TBA

Our second take of this “milestone” project to help our senior residents prepare for their Philippine Board of Surgery (PBS) Diplomate oral examinations

The first “Oral Examination for Senior Residents” of all 4 training programs, was held last June 2023, it was our “transition” project spearheaded by our board member and then PCS chapter president, Dr. Ryan Ed Comuelo and our Ex-Officio Dr. Simeon Barranco III. It was a significant milestone, as our residents faced rigorous questioning by our Fellows and Associate Fellows, which gave them idea how PBS Oral examination be like. Each resident demonstrated their knowledge, critical thinking, and decision-making skills through challenging clinical scenarios (in head and neck, breast, skin and soft tissue, esophagus, stomach, hepato-pancreaticobiliary, small intestines, colorectal and anus). This examination marked an important step in their surgical careers, reinforcing the high standards of our training programs in Panay.

# Southern Tagalog Chapter: On the Go All Year Round

## Compliance with PSGS Initiated Program

1. Attendance to the 21st Surgical Forum
  - A. Attendance to the 21st Surgical Forum
    - I. Opening Ceremonies - Awarding of Samuel Trocio Most Outstanding Chapter Award
      - Shangri-la Mactan, Cebu, July 19, 2023, 7:00 AM
    - II. Fellowship Night
      - Shangri-la Mactan, Cebu, July 20, 2023, 7:00 PM
  - B. PSGS MIS HOL Workshop Face to Face Intermediate Level Laparoscopic Surgical Skills Workshop
    - I. Hands-on Minimally Invasive Hybrid Online Learning (MIS-HOL) program for Basic MIS Skills for Intermediate residents
      - De La Salle Medical and Health Sciences Institute, Dasmariñas City, Cavite, November 20, 2023, 9:00 AM
2. Pink Run
  - A. "D'FEETING BREAST CANCER: (FUN RUN FOR BREAST CANCER AWARENESS),
    - Filinvest Alabang, Muntinlupa, October 15, 2023 5:00 AM
3. 25th Founding Anniversary Celebration
  - A. Simultaneous Live Surgeries, May 18, 2024
    - I. Batangas Medical Center
    - II. De La Salle University Medical Center
    - III. Mary Mediatrix Medical Center
    - IV. Quezon Medical Center
    - V. University of Perpetual Help Medical Center
  - B. Simultaneous Tuli Mission
    - I. Batangas Medical Center
    - II. San Pablo General Hospital
    - III. De La Salle University Medical Center
    - IV. San Antonio Life Care Hospital
    - V. University of Perpetual Help Medical Center
    - VI. Southern Tagalog Regional Hospital
    - VII. Metro San Jose Medical
  - C. 25th Anniversary Gala Night
    - I. Manila Hotel, May 22, 2024 6:00 PM
4. Proctoring in CERES
  - A. Online Orientation of Proctors for the CERES Examination, via the Zoom platform, May 24, 2024 7:00 PM
  - B. Mock online CERES Exam (Dry-Run), Accredited Training Institutions in Southern Tagalog Chapter, June 2, 2024, 8:00 AM
  - C. Online CERES, Accredited Training Institutions in Southern Tagalog Chapter, June 9, 2024, 8:00 AM

## 5. Assessment of Chapter Annual Report

- A. National Meetings
  - I. Induction of 2023-2024 PSGS Board of Directors & Chapter Board of Trustees
    - Shangri-la Mactan, Cebu, July 21, 2023, 7:00 PM
  - II. Induction of 2023-2024 PSGS Southern Tagalog Chapter Officers and Board Trustees
    - Sol Y Viento Mountain Hot Springs Resort Pansol, Laguna, August 12, 2023 4:00 PM

- III. PSGS Meeting with Chapter Presidents and EXECOM
  - Corazon Restaurant, Shangri-La Plaza, Mandaluyong, December 5, 2023 1:00 PM
- IV. PSGS Board Meeting and Dialogue with Chapter Presidents
  - Crustasia Restaurant, Baguio Ayala Land Technohub, Camp John Hay, Baguio, May 2, 2024 12:00 PM
- V. PSGS 25th Anniversary Meeting with Chapter Presidents
  - Via Zoom March 15, 2024, 7:00 PM
- VI. PSGS Meeting with Chapter Presidents
  - Via Zoom, April 29, 2024, 4:00 PM
- VII. PSGS Meeting with Chapter Presidents
  - Via Zoom, May 8, 2024, 7:00 PM

## B. Chapter General Assembly

- I. Via Zoom, November 30, 2023 6:00 PM
- II. Via Zoom, April 4, 2024 6:00 PM

## C. Chapter Officers Meeting

- I. Southern Tagalog Chapter Meeting
  - July 19, 2023, 7:00 PM
- II. Via Zoom, July 27, 2023 6:00 PM
- III. Via Zoom, August 9, 2023 6:00 PM
- IV. Via Zoom, August 17, 2023 6:00 PM
- V. Via Zoom, August 21, 2023 6:00 PM
- VI. Via Zoom, September 1, 2023 6:00 PM
- VII. Via Zoom, September 29, 2023 6:00 PM
- VIII. Via Zoom, October 19, 2023 6:00 PM
- IX. Via Zoom, January 9, 2024 6:00 PM
- X. Via Zoom, February 12, 2024 6:00 PM
- XI. Via Zoom, February 16, 2024 6:00 PM
- XII. Via Zoom, March 11, 2024 6:00 PM
- XIII. Via Zoom, March 27, 2024 8:00 PM
- XIV. Via Zoom, April 15, 2024 6:00 PM
- XV. Via Zoom, May 10, 2024 6:00 PM

## 6. Handwashing Advocacy

- A. Chapter Handwashing Advocacy Poster
  - I. De La Salle Medical and Health Science Institute, College of Medicine Auditorium, June 29, 2024 12:00 PM
- B. Handwashing Campaign to Southern Tagalog Chapter Families
  - I. Splendido Taal Country Club, June 30, 2024 9:00 PM

## 7. Patronizing PSGS Merchandise

- A. 25th Anniversary PSGS Polo Shirt
- B. 25th Anniversary PSGS Watch

## Continuing Surgical/Medical Education Activities

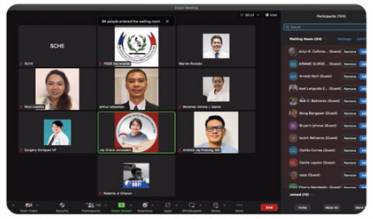
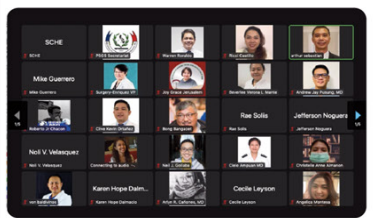
1. Chapter organized and conducted surgical courses
  - a. Basic Suturing and Casting Workshop
    - Batangas Medical Center, September 6, 2023 8:00 AM
  - b. Open and Laparoscopic Hernia Workshop
    - Batangas Medical Center, September 16, 2023 8:00 AM
  - c. Basic and Advance UTZ Workshop
    - Batangas Medical Center, September 23, 2023 8:00 AM
  - d. Bowel Anastomosis and Stapling Workshop
    - Batangas Medical Center, September 27, 2023 8:00 AM

- e. Post Graduate Course, Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy, Bowel Anastomosis Principles, Decreasing Anastomosis Leaks, Organ Donor Identification,
    - Batangas Medical Center, September 29, 2023 8:00 AM
  - f. Endoscopic Hernia Workshop
    - Quezon Medical Center, October 13, 2023 8:00 AM
  - g. Southern Tagalog Center Collaboration Multispecialty Symposium: Integration of Diverse Perspectives on Peri-operative Critically Ill Surgical Patients
    - University of Perpetual Help Medical Center, November 12, 2023 9:00 AM
  - h. Fundamentals of Surgical Skills in the Acute Setting
    - De La Salle University Medical Center, January 20, 2024 8:00 AM
  - i. Wound and Ostomy Workshop
    - Quezon Medical Center, March 23, 2024 8:00 AM
  - j. Stich and Teach
    - University of Perpetual Help Medical Center, May 22, 2024 9:00 AM
  - k. Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy Workshop for Senior Residents
    - Batangas Medical Center, May 25, 2024 8:00 AM
2. Round table discussions, symposia and scientific fora
    - a. Training the Trainers: Test Construction Lecture
      - Batangas Medical Center, September 22, 2023 8:00 AM
    - b. Advanced Colorectal Cancer Symposium
      - Batangas Medical Center, September 28, 2023 8:00 AM
    - c. Art and Science Webinar Series: Surgical Staplers in Open Upper GI and Small Bowel Surgery
      - Via ZOOM Webinar, November 25, 2023
    - d. Responsible Conduct on Research Learning Series
      - De La Salle Medical and Health Sciences Institute, Dasmariñas City, Cavite, January 5, 2024 8:00 AM
    - e. 2nd Dr. Mario Augusto Lorman L. Goco Memorial Lecture Safety in Surgical Mission
      - PCS Surgery in Underserved Regions and for Education and World Surgical Foundation Advocacy for Safe Surgery
        - Mahalta Convention Center, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro, February 19, 2024 7:00 PM
      - Musculoskeletal Health and Its Impact on A Surgeon's Career Longevity and Patient's Safety
        - Mahalta Convention Center, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro, February 19, 2024 7:30 PM
      - Basic of Fluorescence Guided Surgery: Surgical Technology for Safe Surgery
        - Mahalta Convention Center, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro, February 19, 2024 8:00 PM
      - Obstruction from a Meckel's Diverticulum
        - Mahalta Convention Center, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro, February 19, 2024 8:30 PM
    - f. Southern Tagalog Chapter Research Forum "Sift Through Collaboration"
      - There and Back Again: A Brief Overview of Translation Research in Health Technology
        - LPU-st. Cabrini School of Health Sciences Auditorium, April 20, 2024 12:00 PM
    - g. Personality Development Webinar Series: Surgeons as Effective Presenters
      - Via ZOOM Webinar, April 19, 2024 3:00 PM
    - h. Art and Science of Surgery Webinar Series: Surgical Malpractice and Ethical Issues in Surgery
      - Via ZOOM Webinar, September 30, 2023 6:00 PM
    - i. Personality Development Webinar Series: An ECHO on the Non-Technical Skills for Surgeons
      - Via ZOOM Webinar, March 16, 2024 6:00 PM
3. Chapter Research Paper Presentation or Contest
    - a. Annual Research Paper Competition,
      - LPU-St. Cabrini School of Health Sciences Auditorium, Santo Tomas, Batangas, April 20, 2024 8:00 AM
    - b. Interesting Case Presentation
      - LPU-St. Cabrini School of Health Sciences Auditorium, Santo Tomas, Batangas, April 20, 2024 10:00 AM
    - c. Descriptive and Analytical Case Presentation
      - LPU-St. Cabrini School of Health Sciences Auditorium, Santo Tomas, Batangas, April 20, 2024 11:00 AM
    - d. PSGS STC Fellow Published Research
      - Ilagan LMB, Magnaye RC, Yacapin CPRC, Cuasay AB, Moreno AA. Comparison of PhilHealth Case Rate and Actual Charge of Hospitalization for Common in-Patient Surgical Procedures from 2017-2019 in a Level 3 Hospital. Philipp J Surg Spec 2024; 79(1): 20-28.
    - e. PSGS STC Fellow International Lecture Presentation, ISMIT October 19-21, 2023
      - "Cost of Minimally invasive Surgery procedure and what can surgeons do"
      - \* "Art in Laparoscopy: seven years fun experience of life-long skills training and passion in minimally invasive surgery from an innovative idea to philanthropic endeavor"
- Public Health Awareness Programs/Local Government Health and Socio-Civic Activities
1. Surgical missions
    - a. Medical and Operation Tuli
      - Brgy. Bayani, Naujan Oriental Mindoro, July 30, 2023 8:00 AM
    - b. Tuli Mission with ORNAP Mindoro
      - Brgy. Calero, Calapan, Mindoro, August 13, 2023 8:00 AM
    - c. Open and Laparoscopic Hernia Mission
      - Batangas Medical Center, September 16, 2023 8:00 AM
    - d. San Pablo Minor Surgical Mission
      - San Pablo City General Hospital, September 27, 2023 8:00 AM
    - e. Endoscopic Hernia Mission
      - Quezon Medical Center, October 13, 2023 8:00 AM
    - f. Mindoro Surgical Mission
      - Oriental Mindoro Provincial Hospital, February 19-22, 2024
    - g. Laparoscopic Cholecystectomy Mission
      - Batangas Medical Center, May 25, 2024 8:00 AM
    - h. Balayan Surgical Mission
      - Don Manuel Lopez Hospital, May 26, 2024 8:00 AM
    - i. Operation Tuli
      - San Pablo District Hospital, June 11, 2024 8:00 AM
  2. Outreach programs
    - a. Gift Giving at Bahay ni Maria, A Home for the Aged and People with Special Needs
      - Calamba, Laguna, August 12, 2023 8:00 AM
    - b. Blood Donation Drive San Pablo
      - San Pablo District Hospital, August 15, 2023 8:00 AM
    - c. Give Blood, Give Love, Give Life Blood Donation Drive
      - University of Perpetual Help Medical Center, October 27, 2023 8:00 AM
    - d. Outreach Gift Giving Program
      - Ruel House, Brgy Masipit, Calapan City, Oriental Mindoro, February 22, 2024 10:00 AM
    - e. Blood Donation Drive with Philippine Red Cross
      - San Pablo District Hospital, May 21, 2024 8:00 AM

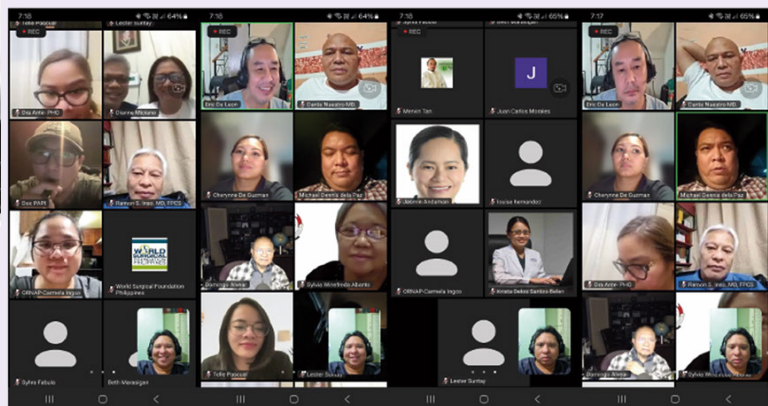
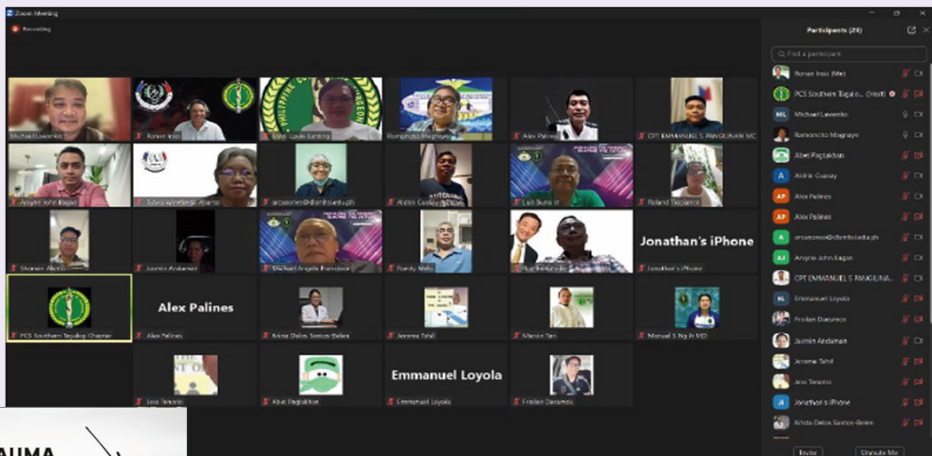
- f. Charity Indigent Patients Outreach
    - San Pablo District Hospital, May 24, 2024 9:00 AM
  - g. Donation Drive for the Victims of Typhoon Aghon in Collaboration with Quezon Medical Society and DSWD
    - Lucena City Social Welfare Office, Quezon, May 30, 2024 8:00 AM
3. Lay-fora
- a. Breast Cancer Lay Forum with Free Breast Consultation
    - University of Perpetual Help Medical Center, October 11, 2023 9:00 AM
  - b. Early Recovery After Surgery and Post-operative Wound Care Lay Forum
    - Oriental Mindoro Provincial Hospital, February 20, 2024 9:00 AM
  - c. The Pink Fit (Fitness activity, Lecture, Lay forum and Breast consult and Biopsy)
    - Calapan City Health Office, Oriental Mindoro, October 29, 2024 7:00 AM
  - d. Lay Forum on Breast Cancer Awareness
    - Batangas Medical Center, March 8, 2024 9:00 AM
  - e. National Women's Month Celebration #BusitOutCancer: Launching of Barangay Healthcare Workers (BHW) Training for Breast Cancer Prevention & Early Detection
    - Calapan City Convention Center, Calapan Oriental Mindoro, March 22, 2024 9:00 AM
4. Participation in disaster preparedness and assistance programs
- a. Role of Surgeons in Territorial Defense
    - Via ZOOM Webinar, March 1, 2024 6:00 PM
  - b. Trauma Respose During Casualties
    - Via Zoom Webinar, April 6, 2024 6:00 PM
  - c. Stop the Bleed - Participation in the 87th PCS Anniversary
    - Batangas Medical Center, September 12, 2023
    - De La Salle Medical and Health Sciences Institute, Dasmariñas, Cavite, September 12, 2023
    - Quezon Medical Center, September 12, 2023
- e. Fun Basketball Games
    - DLSMHSI Animo Center, September 10, 2023, 9:00 AM
    - Luna Goco Medical Center, Calapan, Oriental Mindoro, February 20, 2024 5:00 PM
  - f. Tree Planting "Surgeons Trees and Commitment"
    - Native Fruit Bearing Trees, DLSHSI, Dasmariñas Cavite, September 10, 2023, 9:00 AM
    - Cacao Trees, Lipa city Hall, February 3, 2024 9:00 AM
    - Narra Tree Planting, Mahalta Ecofarm and Silonay Mangrove Ecopark, February 22, 2024 8:00 AM
  - g. Flag Ceremony led by Southern Tagalog Chapter Fellows
    - Batangas Medical Center, September 18, 2023, 7:00 AM
  - h. Launching of Professional Education Training and Research Unit (PETRU) Southern Tagalog Regional Hospital
    - FYNN Boutique Hotel, Bacoor, Cavite, October 18, 2023 2:00 PM
  - i. Updates on Physician's Act
    - VIA ZOOM Webinar, April 30, 2024 6:00 PM
  - j. Southern Tagalog Chapter Podcast: Surviving The Cut
    - First Episode "Humble Beginning with Dr. Ramon S. Inso" aired in Spotify and YouTube, Feb. 29, 2024, 6:00 PM
    - Second Episode "When Dreams and Fate Collide with Dr. Alejandro M. Palines" aired in Spotify and YouTube, June 23, 2024, 6:00 PM
  - k. Southern Tagalog Chapter Lay Video Series
    - First Episode "STC Lay Video Series and Gall Stones" aired in YouTube and Official PSGS Facebook page, May 15, 2024, 6:00 PM
    - Second Episode "STC Lay Vide Series on Sebaceous Cyst" aired in STC YouTube Channel, July 3, 2024, 7:00 PM
  - i. 4th Annual Regional Surgical Strokes Challenge
    - De La Salle University Medical Center, June 29, 2024 9:00 AM
  - m. Southern Tagalog Chapter Family Sports Day
    - Splendido Taal Country Club, June 30, 2024 9:00 AM

Innovative Programs

- 1. Unique and original activities which advances the profile and advocacies of the Society
  - a. Podcast 101 for Surgeons
    - via Zoom Webinar, August 9, 2023, 6:00 PM
  - b. Wealth Management Concepts
    - Sol Y Viento Mountain Hot Springs Resort, Pansol, Laguna, August 12, 2024, 5:00 PM
  - c. PSGS National Committee on Membership Updates
    - Via ZOOM Webinar, August 26, 2023 6:00 PM
  - d. Updates on the Residency Training Curriculum
    - Via ZOOM Webinar, September 2, 2023 6:00 PM
  - n. Online Mock Written Examination for Residents
    - March 3, 2024 PART 1
    - April 7, 2024 PART 2
    - May 5, 2024 PART 3
    - June 23, 2024 PART 4
  - o. Philippine Medical Association - UNILAB CPD Regional Assembly
    - Summit Ridge Tagaytay, January 28, 2024 8:00 AM
  - p. Exemplifying Chapter Unity
    - Bauan, Batangas, July 2, 2024, 4:00 PM



## STC Photo Gallery



# PSGS Head and Neck Study Group Accomplishment Report

• Ida Marie T. Lim, MD, FPCS, FPSGS •

1. Participation in DOH CPG development

The PSGS is represented by some of its members ( research committee and s PSGS Head and Neck Study group ) in the development of the following CPGs:

- A. DOH National Thyroid Cancer CPG – approved and posted in DOH website; executive summary published in Acta Medica Philippina

<https://doi.org/10.47895/2Famp.vi0.6535>

2. Proposal for Head and Neck Specialization/Track within PSGS curriculum

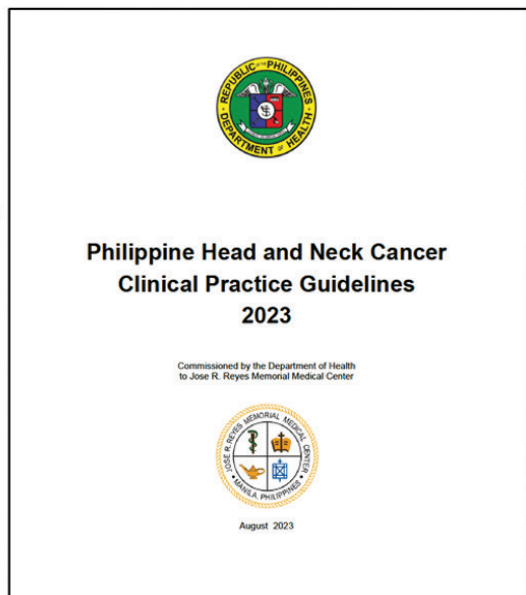
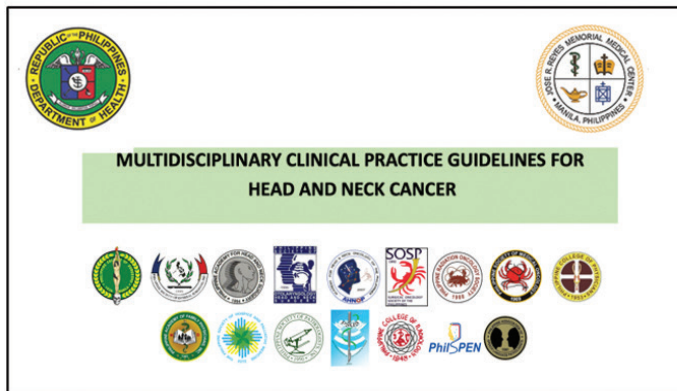
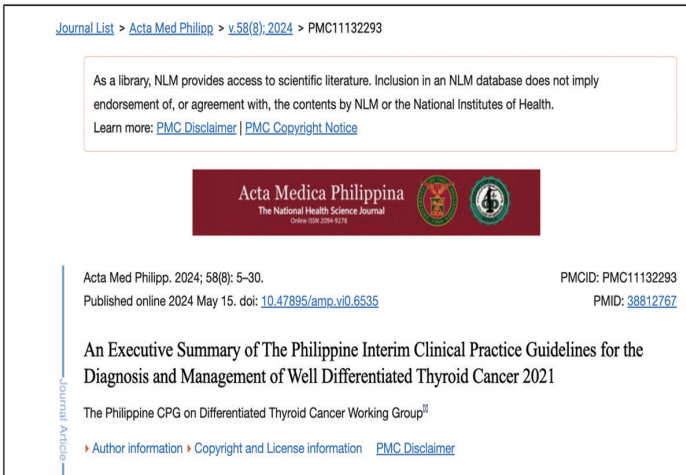
As plans are being prepared to have Head and Neck Certifying board for graduates of a standard Head and Neck Surgery Fellowship program either from a GS or ENT program, we need to put on the same level our GS graduates as their Otorhinolaryngologist counterpart who have finished four years of clinical exposure mainly to head and neck conditions. We were thankful that there are broad minded ENT Head and Neck surgeons who are willing to have a unified board with General Surgery program graduates but as we are discussing, we can sense the GS graduate has less exposure during their five ears training and therefore would need to catch up. Eventually, our ENT counterparts pulled out of the agreement since they did not get the blessing form their mother society.

This should not be a reason to deter the PSGS from pursuing head and neck specialization among its graduates. One proposal which can be a win -win between the Head and Neck group and PSGS and by which we can be assured of their support is to propose a modification of the PSGS curriculum to develop a Head and Neck Track. The modified PSGS-Head and Neck curriculum, will follow the 2023 PSGS outcomes based curriculum but will modify some rotations so as to increase the exposure of the GS resident who will go into Head and Neck fellowship on his/her sixth year . The resident will still graduate after 5 years since he/ she is able to fulfill the GS program requirements. But they would need to sign an agreement upon entering the program that they will continue on for another year of Head and Neck fellowship.

The program need not be implemented in all training programs but only in select programs which can fulfill the criteria set by the Head and Neck board/society. (Please see attached proposal.

B. DOH Head and Neck Cancer CPG

- 1. The PSGS had goof representation in the development of the DOH head and neck Cancer CPG. After a forum held on August 26, 2023 organized in cooperation with PSGS MMC and PCS MMC, the DOH approved manuscript was included in the DOH compendium. (see website )





# PSGS Committee on Research Accomplishments

• Ida Marie T. Lim, MD, FPCS, FPSGS •

## I. RESEARCH Module (Research Education for Scientific Excellence: A Research Capacity Hub)

The PSGS through the Committee on Research in collaboration with PATOS and PCS has embarked on a capacity building program to improve the research skills and eventually the research productivity of the training programs. This is to recognize the importance of research, innovation and technology development in nation building as mentioned in the Philippine Development Plan 2023-2028 as well as the Philippines' lack of inadequate human resources in science-technology-innovation (STI), and R&D; and underdeveloped research culture and productivity. “(Phil Development Plan 2023-2028 <https://pdp.neda.gov.ph/philippine-development-plan-2023-2028/>).

The Research Education for Scientific Excellence: A Research Capacity Hub R.E.S.E.A.R.C.H module has been uploaded in the PCS LMS since March wherein different topics have been uploaded on a timed basis. The committee is thankful for the cooperation

of the different training programs to support the common goal towards research productivity by supporting your trainees and staff in accessing the LMS.

To further capacitate our trainees, we are organizing a FREE face to face Research Workshop to be held on July 30, 2024 8- 5 PM at St. Luke's BGC Auditorium. (See program attached )

## II. National research Contest and Interesting case report

There will be two national contests in line with research to be held on August 2 , 2024 during the PSGS Surgical Forum. The first is the Second National PSGS Interesting Case Contest . Out of sixty plus submission, the committee chose the top two from each chapter. ( see program )

For the afternoon of August 2, 2024, the PSGS National Interchapter Research Contest will be held which will showcase the top two Research output from each chapter. ( see program )

