



19th PCQACL Annual Convention

CONFERENCE BULLETIN

Pre-Convention Hybrid Workshop - September 7, 2022 | Main Convention - September 8-10, 2022

Redefining Global Challenges into Quality Laboratory Standard

DAY 1 • SEPTEMBER 8, 2022 • THURSDAY



What a day indeed! The 19th PCQACL Annual Convention held at Crowne Plaza Hotel started with the Opening Ceremonies hosted by Mr. Aeron John Legaspi. Mr. Gerrick Joseph Dolor, the Over-all Chairman of the convention, gave his welcome remarks with the encouragement of redefining our practices and policies to meet the needs of the everchanging times. Dr. Sarah Jane Datay-Lim, the current PCQACL president, officially opened the 19th Annual Convention sharing her enthusiasm to adapt to the changes while at the same time grow in the midst of the uncertain future. Through an audio-visual presentation, the delegates were able to get to know better the PCQACL Executive Officers headed by Dr. Datay-Lim and the Board of Trustees (Dr. Edna May Lasap-Go, Dr. Rodelio Lim, Dr. Maximo Saavedra, Dr. Bernadette Espiritu, Dr. Elizabeth Arcellana-Nuqui, Dr. James Peter Aznar, and Ms. Joanna Marie Carpio). We get to see the broader picture and role of the PCQACL Organization through a video launch. The vision is that PCQACL shall be the leader in promoting Quality Services provided by Clinical Laboratories in the Philippines by means of Training, Education and Research.



Dr. Elizabeth Arcellana-Nuqui, the PCQACL Past President and current Chairman on Committee on External Relations introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. Kenneth Andrew Sikaris who subspecializes in Chemical Pathology. He emphasized that the term reference interval should be used instead of normal range since the values change depending on the age, gender and physiologic status of the subjects. Without partitioning these various physiological groups, patients may be reported inappropriately as the specificity and the sensitivity of a test will be clinically misleading.



Awards were given for the following categories: Institutional (Veterans Memorial Medical Center, The Medical City - Ortigas, and Philippine General Hospital), Corporate (Biosite Medical Instruments Inc., Labmate Pharma Inc., Mindray Medical International Philippines, and Sysmex Philippines Inc.), Outstanding Service (Ms. Erlinda C. Pijuan), and Lifetime Achievement (Dr. Elizabeth Y. Arcellana-Nuqui). The PCQACL Academy online Certificate and Training Program (PACT) was also promoted to enhance access to training programs in the field of laboratory medicine. The opening ceremonies was already filled with so much learnings together with the inputs coming from the lectures of our sponsors.



The COVID-19 pandemic hasn't ended yet. Dr. Regina Berba who subspecializes in Infectious Diseases shared the findings of their PGH study about SARS-CoV-2 antibodies. Here we will realize the importance of getting vaccinated not only with the primary series but also with the booster shots. Such study is very timely since our government is considering the lifting of the policy on mandatory wearing of face masks outdoors.



The afternoon session started with a talk by Dr. Robert Tanchanco, a nephrologist from The Medical City. In 2021, the Chronic Kidney Disease Epidemiology Collaboration (CKD-EPI) evaluated the accuracy of existing estimating GFR equations and compared them with new equations that do not use race, and published the CKD-EPI 2021 race free equation based on serum creatinine alone, and on the combination of serum creatinine and Cystatin C. The new eGFR formula removed the race from the equation soon, this formula may be adopted to the Filipino population to classify our CKD patients. Dr. Lizette Kristine Lopez, an endocrinologist, tackled Gender Sensitivity in Reporting Laboratory Results. Gender sensitivity is being aware of the differences due to sexual orientation, gender identity and expression (SOGIE) and not letting these cause gender bias in how doctors manage patients.



Before proceeding to the Best Practices Contest, a raffle draw sponsored by Dr. Elizabeth Nuqui and Progressive Productivity Solutions, was enthusiastically hosted by the very energetic Dr. Annie Valdez with the prize consisting of five Php 300.00 sent to the winners via Gcash. As part of celebrating quality laboratory medicine, the tradition of presenting the Best Practices of the different institutions was continued as facilitated by Ms. Joanna Marie Carpio. There were four finalists (Western Visayas Medical Center, The Medical City Clinics, The Medical City - Main, Mary Mediatrix Medical Center) that took up the challenge to share their best practices. The members of the Board of Judges are Dr. Henry Cañizares of Vicente Sotto Memorial Medical Center and Dr. Adrian P. Ybanez of Cebu Technological University. The winner for this competition will be announced during the Closing Ceremonies on September 10, 2022. The first day of the convention proper ended with a bang through another set of raffle draw with Php 1,000.00 as the final prize.

CONTRIBUTORS: Dr. Anaclleta P. Valdez | Dr. Marjorie Tubillo | Dr. Ross Bacong | Dr. Emil Bryan M. Garcia