

CONFERENCE BULLETIN

PHILIPPINE COUNCIL FOR QUALITY ASSURANCE IN CLINICAL LABORATORIES

Crowne Plaza Hotel, Ortigas Avenue, Quezon City
October 10, 2023

PRE-CONVENTION



20th PCQACL Annual Convention Laboratory Transformation in the Digital Age: Personal and Institutional Challenges

The 20th PCQACL Annual Convention goes hybrid once again through face-to-face and virtual Pre-convention Workshop and 3-Day Main Convention with the theme “Laboratory Transformation in the Digital Age: Personal and Institutional Challenges” held at Crowne Plaza Manila Galleria, Quezon City.

This year’s Pre-convention workshop focuses on parasitology in the digital age through series of lectures. Dr. Paulo Enrico Belen, the president of PCQACL, welcomed the participants with his opening remarks.

The first speaker is Ms. Gloraidios Laicel Ison-Imbag, a science research specialist from RITM. She talked about the diagnosis of human malaria through microscopy and reiterated the importance of establishing standards in advanced malaria microscopy in support of the National Malaria Elimination Program which aims to eliminate malaria in the Philippines by 2030. Our second speaker is a fellow member of Malaysian Institute of Medical Laboratory Sciences and an assistant professor of Faculty of Pharmacy in the University of Santo Tomas, Prof. Frederick R. Masangkay. In his lecture entitled “A Different Kind of Crypto: Cryptosporidium and other parasites”, he discussed about the different food and waterborne parasitic protozoans such as Cyptosporidium, Cyclospora and Giardia, as well as the current methods and research development for the detection and identification of these parasites.

Prof. Giovanni D. Milanez, who is also an assistant professor of the Faculty of Pharmacy in University of Santo Tomas, gave us an informative lecture on free-living amoebae (FLAs) in the Philippines. These pathogens are often neglected despite its public health risks. With these, he presented and connected several studies



10.11.12.13.2023



about FLAs which aims to provide potential roadmap and basis for policy formulation regarding isolation, diagnosis and management of FLA infections. A more general and broad discussion about parasites in the Philippines was shared by the former undersecretary of the Department of Health, Dr. Vicente Y. Belizario, Jr. He discussed the most common but often neglected tropical diseases affecting the Filipinos, especially the children. Among these are the soil-transmitted helminthiasis which causes malnutrition, poor school performance and poor health states in the children. He gave emphasis on the sources of these pathogens and importance of laboratory diagnosis for the control and elimination of infections. Our last speaker is the head of clinical pathology in Adventist Medical Center and a senior consultant in Capitol Medical Center, Dr. Elia G. Paulino-Cabrera. Her lecture entitled "Discovering Parasites in Tissue" provided an in-depth discussion regarding the techniques in diagnosing parasites from the different specimens and tissues submitted in the laboratory.

That was just the start of this year's PCQACL convention, and we can't wait to welcome you to our first day of the main convention. So be prepared as we have more exciting session and thought-provoking discussions on the upcoming days.

Here are some of the outtakes from the Pre-Convention Workshop



Participants at the registration counter

Annual Convention
OCTOBER 10, 2025. GIOVANNI D. JESUS LANEZ, MD

Awarding of certificate of appreciation to our honorable speakers

DR. ELIA CABRERA
Consultant, Hospital Medicine, Center for Medical Pathology, Adventist Health Center

PROF. FEDERICK R. MASANGKAY,
Professor of Medical Technology, Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Santo Tomas

Our delegates during the masterclass series and Q&A portion

