

LUPUS *for the* INTERNIST

7:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Thursday 03 May 2018

Muralla Ballroom, **The Bayleaf Intramuros**, Manila, Philippines

by Francis Martin T. Cuenco, MD

COURSE OVERVIEW

- *Burden of illness of systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) among Filipinos.*
 - *Diagnostic approach and differential diagnoses in SLE*
 - *Clinico-pathologic correlations in Lupus Nephritis*
- *Manifestations and complications in SLE attributable to the disease and/or therapies*
- *Management guidelines and therapeutic advances in SLE*

Lupus is a serious, life altering, and potentially fatal disease that deserves more understanding and support. It's our responsibility to get involved and do whatever we can to help fight this unpredictable and misunderstood disease. –

Julian Lennon, Lupus Foundation of America Global Ambassador

The Lupus Inspired Advocacy (LUISA) of Rheumatology Educational Trust Foundation, Inc. (RETFI) in partnership with Philippine Rheumatology Association (PRA) successfully held a post-graduate course last 03 May 2018 at the Bayleaf Intramuros. Appropriately themed “Lupus for the Internist” highlighting the multi-system nature of the illness, the course aimed to reinforce partnerships among physicians of various specialties in providing optimal healthcare for lupus patients.

Prof. Sandra Navarra, chief of Rheumatology at the University of Santo Tomas (UST), organizing chair and course

director presented the current “Lupus landscape in the Philippines”, emphasizing the burden of illness and various un-met needs of lupus patients.



Prof Sandra V. Navarra giving an overview of lupus landscape in the Philippines

Prof. Daniel Tak Mao Chan, Chief of Nephrology at University of HongKong and founding convenor of the Asian Lupus Nephritis Network (ALNN) elegantly presented “Immunopathogenesis of Lupus Nephritis”. This was followed by an interesting and practical lecture on “Clinico-pathologic correlations” by UST nephrologist Dr. Stephanie Andres. Prof. TM Chan’s lecture on “Management of Lupus Nephritis”

covered generalities then focused on relevant data applicable to the Asian population.



Prof. Daniel T.M. Chan giving a lecture on Pathogenesis of Lupus Nephritis

This segued-way to the “Role of calcineurin inhibitors in renal and extra-renal inhibitors, comprehensively and clearly delivered by Dr. Neil Solomons, chief medical officer of Aurinia Pharmaceuticals. Drs. Navarra, Chan, Andres, Solomons were joined by Dr. Juan Javier Lichauco, Chief of Rheumatology of St. Luke’s Medical Center (SLMC) in a stimulating panel discussion on a complicated case of Pregnancy in Lupus Nephritis, presented by Dr. Noreen Kintanar.



Dr. Neil Solomons discussing the role of CNIs in Lupus Nephritis

In the afternoon, Dr. Melissa Aquino-Villamin’s lecture on “Lupus Diagnosis 101”

stressed the importance of basic clinical assessment and the usefulness of inexpensive laboratory tests like the CBC, creatinine, and urinalysis in screening SLE patients prior to immunologic profiling. Following this, Dr. Sheila Marie Reyes underscored “Lupus as a great mimic” by presenting real-world cases of patients with non-lupus conditions simulating lupus manifestations, as well as diagnosed lupus patients but with complications attributable to medical conditions other than lupus.



Dr. Melissa Villamin (above) and Dr. Shiela Reyes (below) tackling lupus essentials

These issues were further tackled in the session on “Difficult Lupus” presented by Dr. Mika Ana S. Frio and an expert panel consisting of rheumatologists Drs. Linda Charmaine Roberto, Melissa Aquino-

Villamin, Leonid Zamora – joined by Dr. Daisy Tagarda, an infectious disease specialist shedding light on the difficult aspect of overlapping manifestations of SLE and infections.

rendered future directions for lupus education, reinforcing the un-met needs of Filipino lupus patients with need for more clinicians knowledgeable and adept in the specialized care of these patients.



Dr. Mika Frio (above) presenting a case of difficult lupus with the help of our panel namely Drs. Daisy Tagarda, Charmaine Roberto, Leonid Zamora, and Melissa Villmain

The final session covered lupus treatment strategies based on an interesting review and updates on “New therapies in Lupus: Which Target for Whom?” delivered by Dr. Leonid Zamora. Culminating the course was a video-cast of Professor Murray B. Urowitz’ “Ten commandments in SLE management”, with key learning points summarized by Dr. Liza S. Traboco

In closing, Dr. Julie Li-Yu, incumbent PRA president, gave a summary and



Dr. Julie Li-Yu, president of the PRA, summarizing the post-graduate course and giving the closing remarks

The day turned out very productive and educational, with a total 139 participants: 64 (47%) of whom were internal medicine consultants and trainees, 51 adult rheumatologists (37%), 10 pediatric rheumatologist (7%), 6 nephrologists (4%), 1 infectious disease specialist, 1 hematologist, 1 endocrinologist, 1 general practitioner, and 2 dermatologists. Participant feedback was very good to excellent with all responders

clamoring for more of these educational meetings.

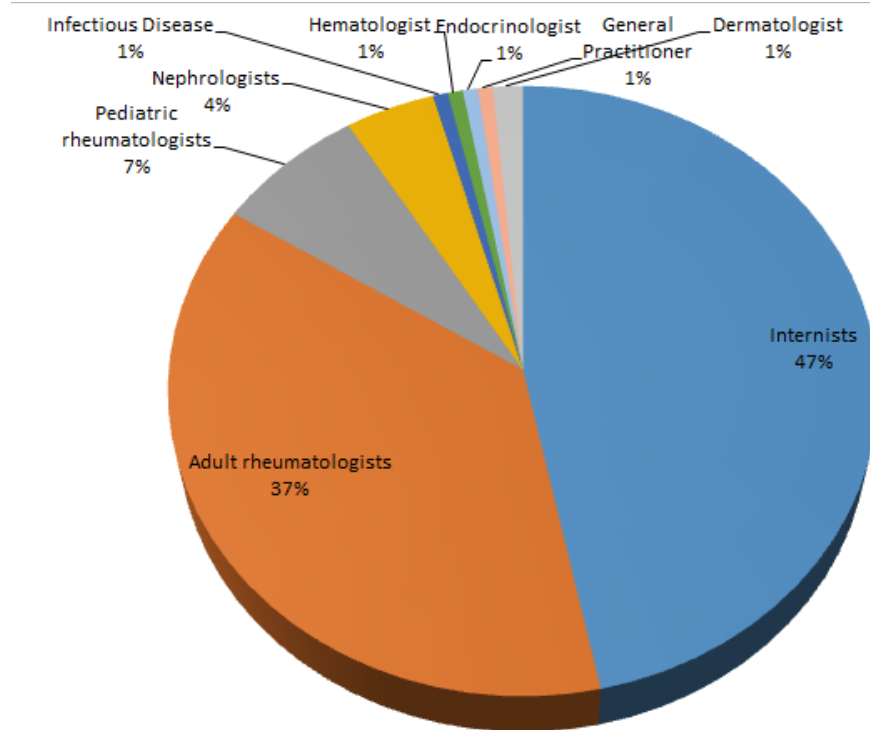




PHOTO GALLERY: LUPUS FOR THE INTERNIST POST-GRADUATE COURSE