

May 5-8, 2019 SMX Convention Center, Pasay City By Dominic S. dela Cruz, MD

The Philippine College of Physicians (PCP) successfully held the 49TH Philippine College of Physicians Annual Convention Theme: "Optimizing Value in Healthcare" last 5 May – 8 May, 2019 at SMX Convention Center, Pasay City.

UST Rheumatology fellows attended the event. The 3<sup>rd</sup> day of event breakout symposia, 7 May 2019, dealt on trends in rheumatology. Topics included Updates in management of osteoporosis by Dr. Julie T. Li- Yu, who presented the latest WHO classification criteria for low bone mass, osteoporosis, use of FRAX, latest clinical practice guidelines diagnosis of osteoporosis in postmenopausal women.



Approach to systemic vasculitis was by Dr. Jose Paulo P. Lorenzo, who emphasized principles, spectrum, diagnosis and prompt recognition of vasculitis.

Controversies in Vitamin D therapy by Dr. Nemencio A. Nicodemus Jr. elaborated that the use of vitamin D supplements and prevention of cancer and cardiovascular disease had no evidence, but encouraged its use for bone health.



On the 4<sup>th</sup> day, the Philippine Rheumatology Association (PRA) led by Dr. Evan Vista, Dr Julie Li-Yu and UST Rheumatology fellows, successfully conducted 'wet clinics' at Hall 2, Exhibit Area: 8 May 2019. **Up Close and Personal with Patient Partners in Rheumatology**.



The Patient-Partners: From Left to Right. Sonia Tanate, Elyn Centeno, Zeny Estrada, Herminia Ong and Robelle Tanangunan. Back: Dr Evan Glen Vista, introducing the patient-partners



Patient-partners: Zeny and Herminia, demonstrating musculoskeletal screener

**The patient is the best teacher**. This workshop couldn't be more interesting without the participation of three rheumatoid arthritis (RA) patients Zenaida Estrada, Elyn Centeno and Sonia Tanate, who have been patient partners for more than a decade – with the participation of one psoriatic arthritis patient Hermina Ong, and one with systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) ,Robelle Tanangunan. Despite their chronic disabling condition, they proved to be true teachers to medical students and doctors for many years.



Patient-partners: Elyn, Robelle and Sonia, demonstrating musculoskeletal screener

They were officially trained and certified to teach musculoskeletal examination through the global Patient Partners<sup>®</sup> Educational Program now adapted by Rheumatology Educational Trust Foundation, Inc (RETFI). Their stories of despair, hope and triumphs effectively spread awareness of their disease. During the workshop, participants were given a chance to perform musculoskeletal examination with the three RA (3), psoriatic arthritis (1) and SLE (1) patient-partners. Sixty doctors, mostly internal medicine practitioners, residents, rheumatology fellows attended the wet clinic. Overall, the workshop was very productive, educational and fun!



The patient-partners, facilitators, and Doctors who attended the workshop

Photo Gallery: Up Close and Personal with Patient Partners in Rheumatology





