

World Lupus Day: Make Lupus Visible
“Empowering Children with Lupus and
A Mother's Day Tribute”

May 12, 2024

By: Adrienne Katrin M. Guiang-Valerio, MD &
Maria Catherine Joyce D. Garcia, MD



As we celebrate Mother's Day, it's essential to recognize the courage and resilience of mothers whose children battle lupus. Lupus, a complex autoimmune disease, not only affects adults but can also manifest in children, presenting unique challenges for families. By raising awareness, supporting affected children and their mothers, and advocating for better treatments, we can empower families to navigate the journey of childhood lupus with strength and hope.

For mothers whose children are diagnosed with lupus, the news can be

devastating. They grapple with feelings of fear, uncertainty, and helplessness as they witness their child's struggle with a chronic illness. Despite these challenges, mothers become fierce advocates for their children's health, tirelessly seeking the best medical care and support available. Having the celebration for World Lupus Day coincide with Mother's Day offers an opportunity to honor the strength and dedication of mothers caring for children with lupus. These women embody resilience as they navigate the complexities of managing their child's condition while juggling other responsibilities. They provide unwavering support, comfort, and encouragement to their children, serving as beacons of hope in the face of adversity.

On a day filled with warmth and love, 13 patients and their mothers gathered together to participate in a special Lupus Awareness Event. The program was designed to educate, entertain, and most importantly, honor the bond between mothers and their children battling lupus.

The event commenced with a touching prayer, uniting everyone in a moment of reflection and gratitude. Dr. Christine Bernal delivered the opening remarks, setting the tone for the day ahead. Her words of encouragement and support resonated with the attendees, reminding them of the importance of community and solidarity in the fight against lupus.

As the program unfolded, a sense of joy filled the room with the introduction of a lively game entitled "Guess the Word." Laughter and camaraderie ensued as participants eagerly engaged in friendly competition, fostering a sense of

connection and camaraderie among the attendees.



While the mothers immersed themselves in a talk on “Stay Healthy and Happy while Saving Mother Earth” by Dr. Elaine Veñegas, the children were invited to express their love and appreciation through a heartfelt activity. With creativity and enthusiasm, they crafted beautiful bracelets for their mothers, each bead a symbol of their enduring love and admiration.



The culmination of the event was a surprise tribute video created by the patients for their mothers. As the video began to play, emotions ran high as the heartfelt messages of the children filled the room. Through tearful eyes and heartfelt smiles, mothers listened to the sweet words of encouragement, gratitude,

and love from their children. It was a reminder of the strength, resilience, and unwavering support that mothers provide each day.



lupus and shines brightly in the face of adversity.

In closing, Dr. Maria Theresa Collante offered words of encouragement and hope to the attendees, reminding them that they are not alone in their journey. Together, we can overcome the challenges of lupus and build a brighter future for all.

As the event drew to a close, there was a sense of gratitude and unity among all attendees. The Lupus Awareness Event had not only educated and entertained but had also strengthened the bonds of love and support within the lupus community. It was a testament to the power of compassion, resilience, and the enduring spirit of motherhood.



Whether it's through a heartfelt gesture, a thoughtful gift, or simply spending quality time together, let us show our appreciation for the invaluable role mothers play in their child's lupus journey.

In that moment, amidst the touching tributes and shared experiences, the true essence of Mother's Day was captured. It was not just a celebration of mothers, but a celebration of the profound bond between mothers and their children—a bond that transcends the challenges of

