

BRIDGING KNOWLEDGE, REKINDLING CONNECTIONS WITH PEDIATRIC RHEUMATOLOGY

By Sheree Ann Rachille C. Mejarito, MD





The goal is not only to control inflammation, but to ignite hope.

Kawasaki Disease (KD) is an acute, self-limiting vasculitis that predominantly affects children under five years of age. Although the exact etiology remains unclear, it is believed to result from an abnormal immune response in genetically predisposed individuals.

"Bridging knowledge, rekindling connections with Pediatric Rheumatology"

On August 30, 2025, the University of Santo Tomas Section of Pediatric Rheumatology successfully held its first face-to-face conference since the pandemic. This milestone event marked the long-awaited return of in-person academic gatherings, bringing together adult rheumatology fellows, consultants, medical interns, and medical residents in a spirit of collaboration and shared learning.

The conference focused Kawasaki on Disease, a critical pediatric condition with implications for long-term cardiovascular rheumatologic health. **Through** comprehensive lectures case discussions, the participants deepened their understanding of its pathophysiology, clinical manifestations. diagnostic challenges. and evolving treatment strategies.

The program also highlighted the importance of a multidisciplinary approach in managing complex pediatric rheumatologic conditions, emphasizing the role of early recognition and timely intervention. The dynamic exchange of ideas between pediatric and adult rheumatology trainees and consultants enriched the discussions and strengthened the culture of teamwork across specialties.

This landmark conference not only advanced medical knowledge but also symbolized resilience and progress. Truly, our first face-to-face conference was a memorable and inspiring milestone.





Pediatric Rheumatology Conference

MARIA CARMEN M. NERI-GALLENTES, MD 1st Year Pediatric Rheumatology Fellow August 30, 2025



