



Republic of the Philippines  
PROVINCE OF ISABELA  
CITY OF ILAGAN

***Isabela’s Epidemiology and Surveillance Unit: Enabling  
Key to an Enhanced Preventive and Promotive Health Care***

*Date: October 29-30, 2019*

*Venue: Grand Lewis Hotel, Angeles City Pampanga*

It is strongly viewed that accurate, sensitive and timely Epidemiology and Disease Surveillance Unit is one of the essential components of a public health system as this critically prevents occurrence of diseases and epidemics. that threaten health and well-being of every Isabeleno family. With Universal Health Care focused on preventive and promotive health care, this has been identified as one of the ten (10) Key Features of this health milestone and one of the population-based health services embodied under Rule IV : Health Service Delivery; Section 17 of the Implementing Rules and Regulations of the UHC Law.

As a concluding activity of the evaluation made last month by the Regional and Epidemiology Surveillance Unit (RESU) the Cagayan Valley Center for Health Development (CVCHD) conducted an *Epidemiology And Surveillance Unit (ESU) Scientific Conference* wherein participants included Provincial Health Officers, City/Municipal Health Officers, Surveillance Nurses /Focal Persons in the entire region.

The activity aims to provide updates on the four Surveillance Systems: Philippine Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (PIDSR), Vaccine Preventable Disease Surveillance (VPDS), Event Based Surveillance and Response (ESR) and HIV Surveillance. It was also a venue to recognize all performing ESU as well as solicit continued support and commitment in disease surveillance.

As the province has consistently been awarded for the Best Epidemiologic and Surveillance Unit (ESU) in 2012, Isabeleno families are assured that their health and well-being are safeguarded and protected!



IPHO bags the Best ESU Award Region-wide given by the Regional Director, Dr. Rio Lat Magpantay.



Region 2 participants compose mainly of MHOs and Nurses take a souvenir shot



Dr. Arlene Lazaro, PHO I (FHS) presents the UHC Plan where ESU is one of the 10 Key Features



Commitment Setting made by Dr. Lazaro led by RD Magpantay

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***Handog Pagmamahal para sa mga Senior Citizens***

*Date: October 23-25, 2019*

*Venue: Community Center, Dinapigue, Isabela*

To ensure health and well-being of the general population especially among senior citizens who are one among the vulnerable groups, the Municipality of Dinapigue in celebration of the Elderly Filipino Week , spearheaded the conduct of Medical Mission as a strategy to help attain its theme, “ *Healthy and Productive Living Starts with Me*”!

After a courtesy visit to the local chief executive thru the Municipal Health Officer, the group were oriented on the goals of the activity which was launched last Tuesday, October 22, 2019 with the presence of all their leaders. The ever- dynamic Sangguniang Bayan on Health , Hon. Alexis Nicolai Dy was supportive from the beginning until the activity ended with the presence of enthusiastic health workers from Integrated Provincial Health Office, Gov. Faustino N. Dy Memorial Hospital, Cauayan District Hospital and Rural Health Unit of Dinapigue who all genuinely addressed the health needs of the population.

The activity started with the brief message of the Municipal Administrator, Ms. Ruth Derije and the presence of SB on Health, Hon. Alexis Nikolai Dy. Majority of the 85 recipients of the noble activity were senior citizens and others included adults and children. Other services provided were dental care and administration of Influenza and Pneumococcal Vaccines to ensure protection among those at risk and the aged population.

It was indeed a rewarding experience serving the community mostly the elderly group fueled by the spirit of cooperation and support from local leaders and health workers from the local government unit of Dinapigue!



The SB on Health, Hon. Alexis Dy of LGU Dinapigue joins the provincial and municipal health workers during the noble activity





Actual physical check- up of the medical practitioners for the elderly group



The support staff as they perform their respective roles during the activity



The dynamic medical team (Left to Right) : Ms. Milagros Magdalora, RM from CDH, Dr. Herrison Alejendro - OIC-COH of Cauayan District Hospital, Dr. Chris delos Santos and Dr. Viel Bagunu, both from GFNDMH, Dr. Reygene Caratiquit, MHO LGU Dinapigue, Dr. Ma. Cristina Alejandro from CDH , Rhodora Santos, RN and Ms. Maryglo Bangug both from IPHO, Eunice Rubianes, DMD, LGU Dinapigue, Hannah Ramirez, RM from CDH and the team leader, Arsen Benozza, DMD from IPHO

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***“The Power of Health Workers Towards Tobacco Cessation”***

*Date: October 23-25,2019*

*Venue: Carmelita Hotel, Tuguegarao City*

The Department of Health Cagayan Valley Center for Health Development (DOH CVCHD), in collaboration with World Health Organization (WHO) Western Pacific Region conducted a three-day **MPOWER Tobacco Cessation Training** on October 23-25,2019 at Carmelita Hotel in Tuguegarao City.

The Training aims to orient the Local Government Units (LGUs), Health Workers and other Stakeholders on the implementation of RA 9211, otherwise known as Tobacco Regulation Act of 2003, Civil Service Commission Memorandum Circular No. 17, s.2009 and the Executive Order 26,s.2017 of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte. Also, they were trained on Counseling on Brief Advise on Tobacco Cessation.



Photo-shoot of all the Resource Speakers and the participants



Participants go through one-on-one counseling exercises on giving brief advise on smoking cessation.



PESU Nurse Arlene D. Martinez presents the Plan of Action for Isabela.



WHO Technical Officer Dr. Florante E. Trinidad and Ms. Nicole Stephanie A. Ubalde Communication Officer of ASH Philippines pose with some of the DMOs of CVCHD and IPHO personnel

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***“Saving Precious Lives of Mothers and Newborns”***

*Date: October 16-17, 2019*

*Venue: Lancaster Hotel, Mandaluyong City*

The Maternal Death Review Forum: A Call to Action is a collaboration between the National Safe Motherhood Program of the Disease Prevention and Control Bureau and the Epidemiology Bureau, the forum showcases the result of Epidemiology Bureau’s epidemiology surveillance report (ESR) and DPCB’s maternal death reviews conducted by various Provincial and City Review Team with support from the Regional Offices in 2017 and 2018.

The objective of the forum is for Filipino women to have full access to health services towards making their pregnancy and childbirth safer; to provide rational and responsive policy direction to local government partners in the delivery of quality maternal and newborn health services with integrity and accountability using proven and innovative approaches. Through FOURmula One Plus Thrust towards Universal Health Care Frame.



Following the workshop, the participants gather for a pictorial



National, Regional and Provincial MNCHN coordinators conduct a systematic review of Maternal and Neonatal Death





CV-CHD DMOs and Provincial Health Officers of Quirino and Nueva Vizcaya poses with the Provincial MNCHN Coordinators

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**Local Chief Executives: Champions for Building Healthier  
Communities thru Universal Health Care**

*Date: October 11 , 2019*

*Venue: 3K Hotel, Santiago City*

Local Chief Executives are considered as the champions for building a responsive health system since they primarily lead a community towards developing enabling initiatives to attain better health outcomes thru an institutionalized health sector reforms. Recognizing fully the importance of LGU cooperation to successfully implement Universal Health Care Law, the Cagayan Valley Center for Health Development conducted the *“LCE Orientation on Universal Health Care”* mainly to provide relevant information regarding its newly-signed Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) in the provincial, city/municipal levels of government, particularly among the region’s three (3) Integration Sites- Isabela, Nueva Vizcaya and Quirino. In addition, this also aims to gather issues and concerns of municipalities and discuss the needed support relative to the implementation of the program.

Republic Act 11223 or the Universal Health Care Law is an all-inclusive program that grants Filipinos equitable access to affordable and quality health services without suffering from financial difficulties. Strengthening the capacities among primary health care providers thru various mechanisms are developed by DOH in order to accelerate progress towards the attainment of UHC. Under the law, every Filipino has access to the full continuum of health services they need and eligible for preventive, promotive, curative, rehabilitative, and palliative care upon automatic enrollment to the government’s health insurance program.

Participants include provincial governors, representatives, city/municipal mayors, budget officers, SP/SB on Health, Development Management Officers and Service Delivery Networks Provincial Coordinators. It was an avenue for the clear provision of their roles based on Local Government Code on LGU Autonomy while laying down the benefits of city/municipal health system into an integrated province-wide health system under the four main thrusts: health governance, health regulation, health service delivery and health financing.

As our very own Senator, Hon. Nancy Binay, Co-author of the UHC said, “We believe Filipino families must be afforded a safety net in times of dire need that through this , we seek to protect people from the financial burden of paying out of their own pockets, reduces the risk of people being pushed into poverty because it will help cushion the impact of having to use the family’s savings or of borrowing money to pay for health care services.”

With this new dawn in healthcare industry, Universal Health Care will surely address inequities that will pave the way towards an enhanced health system thru clear understanding and cooperation of local officials in the Province of Isabela !



The UHC Banner that greeted all participants from the three provinces!



The City Health Officer of Santiago City, Dr. Genaro Manalo welcomed all the participants with his powerful words, “Kaya at Pwede” thru LGU support and cooperation

Ms. Cristina Flor Manifosque , EA III, FICT for Luzon Central Office well-appreciated the presence of all LCEs stating that the passage of the IRR is a tangible evidence of support of LCEs in all regions



The CV-CHD Regional Director, Dr. Rio Lat Magpantay relayed the story of Juan and Juana and discussed the “Philippine Health Care System Reform”



The Provincial Governor of Nueva Vizcaya, Hon. Carlos Padilla , a representative of Hon. Michael Dy, of Isabela with the Provincial Health Officers, Dr. Nelson Paguirigan of Isabela and Dr. Edwin Galapon of Nueva Vizcaya as they listen in the discussions





The Provincial Health Officer I , Dr. Arlene Lazaro in the company of the LCEs , PDOH Officers led by Dr. Elsie Pintucan, Officers of AMHOP-Isabela Chapter, Dr. Buduan of Echague and Dr. Puruganan of Cauayan City, Dr. Manalo and Dr. Battang of Santiago City and SDN Coordinator, Ms. Rhodora Santos of IPHO

#### Open Forum and Discussion of Issues & Concerns:



The Hon. Governor, Rodolfo Albano III was represented by Atty. Noel R. Lopez, Provincial Administrator as well as the Provincial Administrator of Quirino, Ms. Theresa Bongot and Dr. Mary Kristin Puruganan during the Open Forum

...in the provision of training grants, including capital outlay, human resources, health, health commodities, and such other management support and technical assistance, to improve the functionality of province-wide and city-wide health systems, and that DOH shall issue the annual guidelines on the provision of such grants.

reserved and unserved areas, as defined in Section 4.14 of these Rules, shall be a priority in the allocation of grants.



The UHC Key Players from DOH Central Office, CVCHD, PHIC and DILG Regional Offices converge to shed light on issues aired by the participants



All System Go for UHC! As a symbol of unity among all LCEs, a souvenir photo was taken

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***“Barangay Health Workers: Kaagapay ng Bawat Pamilyang Ilagueño”***

*Date: October 7, 2019*

*Venue: Community Center City of Ilagan, Isabela*

Barangay Health Workers perform significant roles in the community particularly as frontline workers that support the delivery of primary health services within their communities. As health advocates, enhancing their knowledge and skills in performing their roles and responsibilities is essential such that the Deployed DOH Human Resources for Health in coordination with the City Health Office I and Provincial Health Office-Field Health Services organized a *Re-orientation Seminar* on the different health programs. With Universal Health Care as a major thrust, their functions and responsibilities are critically emphasized to realize accessible and integrated health as they are considered as primary care providers.

About one hundred twenty-nine (129) registered participants in every barangay of City Health Office I of the City of Ilagan were oriented on the updates of the different health programs.



IPHO Program coordinators lecture on: Oral Health Program, BHW Roles and Responsibilities , Family Planning Program, Tuberculosis Program, Rabies Program and Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices.





Invited Resource Speakers receive their plaque of Appreciation from the CHOI, City of Ilagan, Isabela



After training photo with SP Chairman on Health Dr. Lilia O. Bringas and CHOI BHWs



The BHW Provincial Coordinator leads the CHOI BHWs in reciting the Pledge of Commitment

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***“Isabela: On the Road to Simultaneous Catch-up Immunization”***

*Date: October 15, 2019*

*Venue: Piazza Zicarelli Hotel and Restaurant, Upi, Gamu, Isabela*

The Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI), now called National Immunization Program (NIP) was established in 1976 to ensure that infants, children and mothers have access to routinely recommended infant and childhood vaccines. Six vaccine –preventable diseases were initially included in the EPI, tuberculosis, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, tetanus , pertussis and measles. To date, the NIP has seven (7) routine vaccines: BCG, Hepa B, Penta, OPV, IPV, PCV, MMR/MR.

To respond to this situation, the DOH Center for Health Development (DOH-CVCHD) together with the identified or selected Local Government Units (LGUs) conducts a *National Immunization Program Provincial Task Force Meeting* to reduce the morbidity and mortality among children against the most common vaccine-preventable diseases as the main objective. Specifically, it aims to increase the Fully Immunized Children (FIC) Coverage and strategies as well as end –result would entail the LGUs to the following:

- a. Create a Provincial/City/Municipal/Barangay Task Force
- b. Provide assistance during the conduct of the catch-up immunization (routine and missed children)
- c. Organize IEC campaigns (Bandillo, Reproduction/Posting of materials)
- d. Submit needed records and reports
- e. Support Team mobilization( transportation and food)
- f. Conduct Monitoring

With the collaborative efforts from different agencies to vaccinate all eligible children, young Isabelenos will surely grow up happy and healthy!



The PHO II Dr. Nelson Paguirigan elicits the cooperation of everybody in the conduct of the Simultaneous Immunization.



The NIP coordinator Ms. Patria Bagaoisan presents the Fully Immunized Child semi-annual accomplishment of the province



During the open forum discussion with MHOs, DILG and PDRMMC representatives while PDOHO DMO-V, Dr. Elsie Pintucan provides answers to their concerns.

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***“Sa Bakuna, Kalusugan ni Baby ay Protektado!”***

*Date: October 22, 2019*

*Venue: City of Ilagan, Isabela*

“Suyod Barangay, Sulong Bakuna” served as the resounding theme aimed to protect against serious and fatal Vaccine Preventable Diseases (VPD) among infants and children through provision of free vaccines ! In an effort to reduce the morbidity and mortality cases in the municipalities of Isabela, the Cagayan Valley Center for Health Development OH Region II- Human Resource for Health together with representatives from the Provincial Health Office- Field Health Services and Rural Health Units initiated and hosted the National Immunization program (NIP) Launching Ceremony in the following municipalities:



“Ceremonial Patak” at Barangay Papan Weste, Jones and Delfin Albano with Vice Mayor Tomas Pua administering the vaccine to a young child.



Suyod Bakuna at San agustin



Reina Mercedes LGU and RHU staff conducts a motorcade





IPHO Team with Sto Tomas RHU staff demonstrate the Bakuna sign



Signing of Pledge of Commitment by the RHU staff and health advocates to increase coverage of Fully Immunized Child (FIC) in the province

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***“Nagkakaisang Barangay Laban sa Rabis, Tagumpay!”***

*Date: October 11, 2019*

*Venue: City of Ilagan, Isabela*

The recently signed Executive Order No. 13 of 2019 by our Provincial Governor, Hon. Rodolfo T. Albano III on the strict enforcement of the provisions of the Republic Act 9482 otherwise known as the “Anti-Rabies Act of 2007” by all local government units was emphasized in which every LGU is directed to implement anti-rabies initiatives, to include regular dog vaccination campaigns, establishment of dog impound for stray dogs, and ensuring that every dog is on leash or confined within its owner’s fenced compound.

The Provincial Health Office, in coordination with the Provincial Veterinary Office conducted an intensified *Information Education Campaign* entitled “Nagkakaisang Barangay Laban sa Rabis, Tagumpay!” at Barangays Alibagu and Bliss Village, City of Ilagan, Isabela. This endeavor will further raise and intensify awareness among community stakeholders on the dreadful effects of rabies as well as identify preventive measures on reducing the incidence of animal bites.

As the province continues to institute measures to combat dog bite cases, we look forward to a safer environment in all barangays conducive to attain optimal health!



ONE FOR RABIES ! Provincial Rabies Coordinators and partners from the PVET educates the people of barangays Alibagu, Bliss Village, City Of Ilagan and Barangay District 2 of Cauayan City, Isabela





Supportive Barangay Officials and Health Workers team up for the War Against Rabies advocacy drive!

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### ***“Communication...Keeping It Simple”***

*Date: October 11, 2019*

*Venue: City of Ilagan, Isabela*

The Health Promotion and Communication Service (HPCS) and the Disease Prevention and Control Bureau (DPCB) organized a *“Risk Communication Conference”* and developed a Risk Communication Manual involving various modes of transmission to serve as a guide for the national, regional, hospital and local health education and promotion workforce in communicating with the public in ways that build, maintain or restore trust to help them prepare for, cope with, and respond to any public health emergencies/events.

Risk communication is one of the most important aspects in preparedness plan in any public health emergencies. The value of risk communication in the prevention and control of emerging infectious diseases cannot be underestimated. An informed populace will help prevent fear-driven and potentially damaging public responses and will assume responsibility to help maintain an effective management of health, safety and environmental risks. Effective communication clarifies misconceptions allowing people to make decisions based on complete and accurate information.

Hence, risk communication plays an integral role in the preparation, prevention, response and recovery during an emergency or any health crisis.



The speakers effectively discuss the vital role of communication and its impact in any health threats and risks



“Facing the media” –role playing on media interview during simulation. Ms. Kharen Guillermo , HEPO –Designate from IPHO as one of the active participants

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