7th Philippine National Health Research System Week Plaza del Norte Hotel and Convention Center August 7-9, 2013

Attendance

Day 1: 490
Day 2: 550

Sessions

- Day 1
 - Ethics in Health Research
 - Student Research Competition
 - Indigenous Peoples Health: Research Challenges in IP Communities
 - Mentoring Session on National Peer Review, Editing and Train the Trainers
 - Regional Project Staff and Regional Health Research and Development Consortium (RHRDC) Coordinators' Meeting
 - Roundtable Discussion on Health System Shapers: The Role of Researcher in achieving Universal Healthcare

Sessions

- Day 2
 - Opening of Exhibits & Opening Ceremonies
 - Plenary 1: Research for People's Health
 - Regional Research Paper Oral Competition (Professional Category)
- Day 3
 - Plenary 2: Generating More Quality Proposals
 - Special Awards

• Ethics in Health Research

- It is important to establish a network among other Ethics Review Committees (ERCs).
- Develop a monitoring system to see how the other ERCs perform. Embark on self-assessment or external independent assessment to improve the quality of research ethics system
- Establish a mechanism by which feedback can be obtained regarding the ERCs
- Quality improvement of research ethics system can be facilitated by assessing indicators of research ethics standards/attributes.

- Indigenous Peoples Health: Research Challenges in IP Communities
 - Arrange a meeting with the NCIP and come up with practical solutions to difficulties experienced by researchers in conducting researches involving IP communities.
 - Involve the LGUs in the research process inform the LGUs on the plan to conduct research so they could assist; and coordinate the results with them as well.
 - Researchers should see to it that the participants (IPs) are benefitted from the research. They must be considered as partners and considered as "co-owners" of the research and be entitled with any benefits that may be obtained from research.
 - Partner with policy makers and recognize the possibility of marrying research outputs and indigenous practices.

- Mentoring Session on National Peer Review, Editing and Train the Trainers
 - The session highlighted the importance for journals use peer review, which promotes originality, academic rigour and improves critical thinking/writing skills of editors, reviewers, authors (mechanism for improvement of manuscripts)
 - It is important to be very particular with details; otherwise readers might question the accuracy of the paper's content.
 - Make additional explanations in the write up to avoid/minimize confusion or questions from readers.

- Roundtable Discussion on Health System Shapers: The Role of Researcher in achieving Universal Healthcare
 - The participants were divided into groups to discuss answers to the following:
 - How is UHC being implemented in the locality
 - Current efforts in research
 - Contribution to advancing UHC and other DOH programs
 - Current issues in implementing research
 - Possible solutions to these challenges

Student Research Competition

8 researches from different regions were presented

Regional Research Paper Oral Competition (Professional Category)

6 researches from different regions were presented

Plenary 1: Research for People's Health

- 2014 is the year of health; as the health research community will be receiving more funds – 2% from DOH MOOE, from sin tax, and from PNHRS law
- UHC must be available, accessible, and appropriate for all Filipinos
- Marginalized communities, especially IPs, should not be left behind just because they are hard to reach
- Focus at sustaining partnerships at the LGU level
- Engage in more action research

In summary

- There is a strong call for collaboration have more researches coming from the ground.
- Involve people in meaningful policies, and provide prompt and appropriate response to people's health needs.
- Prepare for the challenge of communicating the work done and facilitating equitable access for all.