

Regional Unified Health Research Agenda

The Philippine National Health Research System, with its goal to enhance health status through research, generates the National Unified Health Research Agenda (NUHRA) as one of its core areas, alongside ethics, utilization, resource mobilization, system monitoring and evaluation, and capacity building. While the NUHRA serves as the country's template for health research and development efforts, the Regional Unified Health Research Agenda (RUHRA) is more relevant to regional problems and gives direction at the regional level.

The RUHRA presents the identified health research priorities. It should guide researchers and funders alike in the development of more relevant health research in the region for the next six years.

Health-related researches conducted in the region since 2012 were focused on clinical research on plant or animal derivatives, evaluations, and determining the incidence rate of a disease. Researches with societal and service impact were also conducted and include knowledge, attitude, and practices (KAP) of resident physicians, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) testing, health literacy, quality evaluation of drugs, and health insurance coverage, among others.

REGIONAL UNIFIED HEALTH RESEARCH AGENDA 2017-2022

REGION XI DAVAO REGION



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Regional Consultation

Regional Health Research Priorities

The Regional Health Research and Development Consortium (RHRDC) of each region was included in the identification process of health research priorities through the conduct of a consultation. The regional consultation for Region XI was held on 10-11 May 2017 facilitated by the Alliance for Improving Health Outcomes, Inc. The consultation was attended by 28 participants. Their input, together with technical papers and situationers defining the national and regional status of health research, was considered in the formulation of the NUHRA and RUHRA.

The research priorities and perceived needs of each representative were raised through small focus group discussions, with participants grouped into three categories: academe, government agencies and non-government organizations (NGOs), and health institutions. The three groups came up with suggested research topics which were grouped under 14 general themes. These themes were prioritized using criteria with designated scoring weights established by the stakeholders. The themes were ranked using the following criteria:

- magnitude of the problem at 40%,
- impact or benefit at 30%,
- feasibility at 15%, and
- urgency or timeliness at 15%.



Maternal, newborn, child health and nutrition

Researches to address maternal, newborn, child health and nutrition issues



Infectious diseases

Researches on prevalent infectious diseases, including HIV, dengue, and tuberculosis



Reproductive health

Researches on reproductive health, particularly adolescent practices and gender sensitivity



Nutrition, functional food, and food safety

Researches on nutritional interventions to improve the nutrition status of the population



Health economics and governance

Researches on efficiency, equity, financial risk protection, and responsiveness of programs



Non-communicable diseases

Researches on risk factors leading to non-communicable diseases and evaluation of programs



Climate change and disaster risk reduction management

Researches on service delivery and food preparations during disasters



Traditional/herbal medicines and natural products

Researches on development of medicines from local herbal plants



Environmental health

Researches on the prevention and control of pollution



Behavioral and mental health

Researches on risk factors and effectiveness of interventions for mental health



Health and nutrition in GIDAs

Researches on health utilization and nutrition in geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas



Occupational health

Researches on health hazards in the workplace, particularly in relation to mining



Information and communications technology in health

Researches on technology development for improved health services



Innovation in health technology

Researches on development of technology in hospitals to increase its availability