

## **Neurotrauma Advocacy in the Philippines: Establishing the Neurotrauma Society and the Second Philippine Neurotrauma Bootcamp**

The Neurotrauma Committee of the Asian Australasian Society of Neurological Surgeons (AASNS), presently chaired by Dr Lynne Lourdes N Lucena, together with the Academy of Filipino Neurosurgeons Inc (AFNI) and the organizers led by Dr Roel Anthony Domingo and Dr Sixto Ordoño, both neurosurgeons from the Northern Luzon Integrated Neurosurgical Consortium, successfully concluded the second Philippine Neurotrauma Bootcamp May 1-2, 2024 at the Hotel Supreme in Baguio City, the summer capital of the Philippines.

As part of the educational courses and neurotrauma advocacy awareness programs of the AASNS, the two day bootcamp with the theme "Holistic Approach to Neurotrauma" featured experts from the local medical and nursing community, fellows from the AFNI and our guest lecturer who flew in from Dubai, UAE - namely Dr. Mohammad Alolama, the founding and present President of the Emirates Neurosurgical Society. The welcome address was delivered by the AFNI President Dr Eric Legaspi who emphasized the importance of a neurotrauma bootcamp and what can be learned from it. The opening remarks of Dr Lynne Lourdes Lucena, AFNI Vice President, mentioned the contributions of the different partners and collaborators. Dr Kate Drummond, AASNS President, delivered a virtual message while Dr Virendra Sinha, AASNS Secretary, and Dr Yigal Shoshan, AASNS Educational Committee Chair, both gave important virtual lectures. The organizing committee led by Dr Roel Domingo together with Drs Sixto Ordoño, Dave Anthony Diomampo, Servando Andre Liban III, Lady Scarlett Sedano, Miriam Claire Dy and Katrina Villanueva all gave expert lectures on neurotrauma from the essentials in the emergency care to neurocritical management of both brain and spinal cord injuries. Dr Miriam Dy and Dr Karlo Pedro were both virtual lecturers from the US and Canada.

The neurotrauma bootcamp was held in a hybrid fashion with physical attendees in the hotel and virtual attendees on the Docquity platform and app. The physical attendees comprised of 121 doctors, 151 nurses and allied professions for the whole two days while on the Docquity platform, a total of 1243 were virtual participants from the entire Philippines and other countries including Malaysia, Indonesia, Taiwan, Singapore, Vietnam and Qatar. The top five specialties attending were Nurses, followed by General Practitioners, Pediatrics, General surgeons and Neurologists/Neurosurgeons. The whole bootcamp was free of any registration fees both on the physical and virtual platform.

The generous partners who were partly instrumental in the activity's success due to their financial contributions presented their portfolio of products with lectures and exhibits in their respective booths. These sponsors were Ever NeuroPharma, Zeiss, E-chimes, RBGM Medical, Medtronic, Reign Medical Enterprises, Delex Pharma, One Pharma, Neurospine, Medilight Inc, B Braun, Pacific Surgical, Pharmasia, Fixus Enterprises, Brainlab, Surgicare, Central NeuroSystems, Bellfrei Spa, Amare and Justified Cut.

Officers of the Philippine College of Surgeons and members of the Board of Regents, led by Dr Juvie Villafior, visited the site and further cemented the collaboration on this national and global advocacy for Neurotrauma.

On May 3, 2024, after the neurotrauma bootcamp, the Neurotrauma Society of the Philippines was launched at the Baguio Country Club during the Philippine College of Surgeons Midyear Convention. The launching was attended by fellows of the AFNI and PCS and partners from the medical community. The Founding President, Dr Lynne Lourdes N Lucena, lectured on the importance of the creation of the Neurotrauma Society, the multidisciplinary and holistic aspect of Neurotrauma management, and noted the future website which will serve as the conduit where potential members from can sign in and participate in the advocacy and educational courses. The society is registered in the SEC; other officers are Dr Lina Laxamana, NeuroIntensivist, as Secretary, Dr Ibet Sih, Neurospine surgeon as Treasurer, and Dr Gerardo Legaspi, medical director of the UP-PGH, and Dr Manuel Mariano, Chair, Neuroscience Institute of St Luke's Medical Center as Board of Trustees.

Some photos from the 2nd Philippine Neurotrauma Boot Camp:





ASIAN AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY OF NEUROLOGICAL SURGEONS  
in partnership with ACADEMY OF FILIPINO NEUROSURGEONS  
in cooperation with PHILIPPINE COLLEGE OF SURGEONS  
presents

# 2ND PHILIPPINE NEUROTRAUMA BOOT CAMP HYBRID

**HOLISTIC APPROACH TO NEUROTRAUMA:  
“MEET THE INTERDISCIPLINARY TEAM INVOLVED IN THE  
COMPREHENSIVE CARE OF BRAIN AND SPINAL CORD INJURY”**

MAY 1-2, 2024  
HOTEL SUPREME, BAGUIO CITY  
VIRTUAL PLATFORM VIA docquity

FREE REGISTRATION