



**PEDIATRIC INFECTIOUS
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PIDSP AT THE APAME CONGRESS 2012



Left to Right: Dr Jeong Wook Seo, Dr Maria Leisa Magboo-Gaviola, Prof. Ma. Pilar S. Malata, Ms Merlita Opena, Dr Ng Kwan Hoong, Ms Alma Prosperoso, Dr Erlinda Palaganas, Dr Cecilia Maramba-Lazarte, Dr Xenia Fabay and Dr Kiichiro Tsutani

By Xenia Fabay and Cecilia Maramba-Lazarte

The Asia Pacific Association of Medical Journal Editors (APAME) held its annual convention on August 31 to September 3, 2012 at the University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. One hundred thirty seven delegates from 21 countries attended the congress. The Philippines had the most delegates from a foreign country (13 delegates) and the PIDSP Journal was represented by Professor Cecilia Maramba Lazarte and Xenia Jaramillo Fabay. The 2012 Board of Directors of APAME are as follows: President: Professor John Arokiasamy (Malaysia); Executive Vice President: Professor

Wilfred CG Peh (Singapore); Vice President for Internal Affairs; Professor Chang-Ok Suh (Republic of Korea); Vice President for External Affairs: Professor Kiyoshi Kitamura (Japan); Secretary-General: Professor Jose Florencio Lapena, Jr (Philippines). A new set of officers were elected during the congress with Professor Kitamura as President and Ms. Merlita Opena as a new board member.

The mission of the APAME is to contribute to the improvement of health by ensuring the quality of health-related information published

in medical journals, utilized for better decision-making and effective delivery of health services in the region. The comprehensive coverage of the topics by distinguished speakers during the congress enlightened the attendees on methods to improve the quality of Asian medical journals. The sessions included issues on journal networks and policies, directions and evolutions in publishing, journal management, ethical issues in publishing, institutional repositories, and communication with the public. The workshops held dealt with standards of a successful journal and the art of being first-rate peer reviewers.

This congress was special and memorable for the PIDSP editors in attendance because the PIDSP Journal was the only publication from the Philippines which was accepted by the Western Pacific Region Index Medicus (<http://www.wprim.org/>) database for the year 2012. Abstracts of researches from the PIDSP

Journal may be accessed soon by anyone around the world at the WPRIM website and the full text articles through APAMED Central which was launched during this convention. APAMED Central (<http://apamedcentral.org/>) is an online index of medical and health journals published in the WPR and SEAR. Full-text of published researches from journals from Asia can now be accessed on the internet, thus increasing the accessibility worldwide of medical health research.

The PIDSP journal can be further improved, and attendance in these conferences are opportunities to adopt the best practices by other societies and journals which are successful. Global standards on journal ethics, writing and editing should be emulated. Continuing education on journal management is a necessity, thus the next APAME Congress in 2013 in Japan shall be next opportunity for such learning.



PIDSP Joins the PPS Total Family Healthcare Expo

By: Mary Antoinette Madrid



As part of the Philippine Pediatric Society (PPS) Diamond Jubilee celebration, the PPS held its first ever health expo last September 1 and 2, 2012 at the SMX Convention Center, Pasay City. It was a privilege for PIDSP to be a part of this momentous affair. In preparation for the event, the PIDSP members assigned to be in charge of the society's participation to the expo prepared selected infectious disease primers to be distributed to the expo's participants.

The following comprised the **PIDSP Adhoc committee on PPS Health Expo:**

Advisers: Jaime A. Santos, M.D.

Ma. Anna P. Banez, M.D.

Members: Arlene Dy Co, M.D.

Minette Delos Reyes, M.D.

Fatima Gimenez, M.D.

Mary Antoinette Madrid, M.D.

Drs. Timmy Gimenez and Nanette Madrid with Mary Manese, and Jhen arrived on the first day of the expo and

occupied a corner booth which was shared with PFV and proceeded to hand out flyers to the early delegates who visited the booth. Dr. May Montellano and Dr. Salvacion Gatchalian were also present to lend support to the event. More people poured in by lunchtime. Some of those who dropped by the booth were enthusiastic enough to ask what diseases were contained in the flyers. They also commented that these illnesses were the ones they've been seeing on the news especially dengue and leptospirosis. Though most of the observed participants were from the medical community (co-pediatricians, medical students, medical interns, dentists and nurses), there were also numerous families who attended the expo. Ms. Gemma Asistin and Kuya Miguel (of the PFV) also helped in the distribution of the flyers. The expo was generally well-attended. Since the proceeds of the expo will go to the "Piso Para sa Scholar College Scholarship Grants," this made our society's participation even more significant.