Report on the Philippine outreach trip, 25 November – 2 December 2022



Professors Zibari and Chu travelled to Philippines for a medical outreach on behalf of IHPBA at end of Nov 25 to Dec 2^{nd} . This outreach was planned before but unfortunately it was delayed due to pandemic COVID-19.

Many thanks to Professors Catherin Teh (HPB Surgeon), Lester Suntay and Don Alvear (Ped Surgeons & WSF) & Dagupan Doctors Villaflor Memorial Hospital Administrators of Philippine for the opportunity to conduct another Humanitarian Surgical Outreach and Capacity building trip to the Philippines.

Many thanks to IHPBA for supporting this outreach trip. Also, we are very greatfull to Willis-Knighton Health System (WKHS) for donating operating room supplies & to the Philippines IHPBA Chapter and of course, to World Surgical Foundation (WSF). Professors Teh, Alvear, Chu, Suntay and Zibari worked side by side collaboratively, collegially, compassionately with much fun, educational & bidirectional learning.

The team was able to perform the first two liver resections in Dagupan Doctors Villaflor Memorial Hospital with excellent post op recovery albeit outside our comfort zones! Additionally, complex biliary case, paediatric cases, MIS were all done safely.

Many thanks to the awesome teamwork of Karlo Marco, Orduna Kyle, Gervin Ong, Mayeen Fernandez, Ralph Rapacon, Joey Bulatao, Kevin Marin, Jeff Fontanilla, Pikoy Cayabyab, Gab, Joyce our scrub and Jennely our circulating, MarieFe Guiang Dela Cruz and Dr Gozar Duque. Considering it's the first time for us to come together (surgeons, anaesthesiologist, nurses, GI, technical crew, admin), with limited supplies and equipment.

Thanks to the great organization of World Surgical Foundation, under the leadership of Dr Domingo Alvear, & Lester Suntay, Philippine College of Surgeons under the leadership of Dr Ramon Inso and PCS SURE Commission Dr Beda Espineda, Dagupan Doctor Villaflor Memorial Hospital, under the leadership of Dr Juvie Villaflor, in collaboration with PALES & PAHPBS and every individual who contributed to the success of this mission. The success is just the tip of the iceberg underneath lies all the hard work to achieve this. More importantly, thanks to the patients for their trust in us.

This medical outreach trip was followed by the 3rd PAHPBS International Symposium "HPB Standards of Care and Beyond" - Quality Standards in HPB: Biliary Disease in Focus, on Dec 1-2, 2022; ACE Hotel & Suites, Pasig City, Manila, Philippines.

Professor Zibari spoke about "Biliary Complications after liver Transplantation; While Dr Chu spoke about "Pancreaticoduodenectomy for Distal Cholangiocarcinoma" and Dr Pitt gave a presentation on "Quality Indicators in HPB surgery".

Since the last visit, Professor Catherine Teh has made a significant impact and has been able to recruit young talent including female surgeons. My recommendation is for IHPBA to continue to support the people of the Philippines. The IHPBA leadership must encourage the Southeast Asian chapters of IHPBA to engage with outreach and capacity building.

Finally, we are grateful to Willis-Knighton Health System for donating operating room supplies for this mission.

Professor Teh assisted with the collaboration with World Surgical Foundation - Philippine's Chapter. Teaming up with NGO's and other sister societies is vital and with unity we can make a more significant impact of alleviating pain and suffering of the less fortunate worldwide.

Professor Gazi Zibari



































