

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

PHILIPPINE INSTITUTE OF TRADITIONAL AND ALTERNATIVE HEALTH CARE (PITAHC)

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OUR VISION

People's health through traditional and alternative health care.

OUR MISSION

We lead in the research and development, promotion and advocacy, and development of standards on traditional and complementary medicine (T&CM); and we ensure its accessibility, availability, sustainability and integration into the national health care system.

OUR THRUSTS

As a research institute, PITAHC seeks to:

1. Conduct, coordinate, and manage research studies on T&CM policies, products, services and technologies:
 - a. Assess existing policies, products, services and technologies for their safety, efficacy/beneficial use, and easy access
 - b. Develop new policies on T&CM
 - c. Develop natural products and technologies
 - d. Document traditional knowledge systems and practices
 - e. Develop a repository of data for T&CM research studies
 - f. Develop a directory of T&CM practitioners and facilities
 - g. Conduct operations research for integration in health care systems
2. Develop standards for specific T&CM practices
 - a. Formulate competency standards and guidelines for T&CM practice and certification of T&CM practitioners and accreditation of T&CM facilities
 - b. Formulate policy for the protection of traditional knowledge systems and practices, natural health resources, and technologies
3. Manage knowledge and information for the promotion and utilization of T&CM products, services and technologies
 - a. Design and implement communication plan, tools, and messages
 - b. Establish T&CM wellness centers and clinics
 - c. Strengthen partnerships with local government units (LGUs), non-government organizations (NGOs), and other local and international agencies for networking and linkages
 - d. Integrate T&CM in the academic curricula
 - e. Intensify promotion strategies for T&CM products, services and technologies
 - f. Integrate T&CM products, services and technologies in the national health care delivery system

TAGLINE “ May PITAHC sa puso ng bawat Pilipino”

HIGHLIGHTS OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS

I. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For this year, researches were prioritized based on the research agenda of PITAHC. To carry out its mandate, the institute partnered with research institutions such as the University of the Philippines-National Institutes of Health, Health Futures Foundation Inc., Bicol University Development Foundation Inc., De la Salle Health Sciences Institute, and state universities nationwide.

A total of fifteen (15) research projects were completed/developed during the year:

I. Natural products research

1. Evaluation of safety and efficacy of *siling labuyo* (*Capsicum frutescens*) liniment in the management of osteoarthritis

Traditional medicine has used *siling labuyo* in the management of osteoarthritis, that was adapted and developed by rural and urban communities in place of commercially available drugs and expensive therapy. The objective of the study is to evaluate the safety, efficacy and acceptability of *siling labuyo* (*Capsicum frutescens*) liniment for the treatment of osteoarthritis. The expected output is the formulation of *siling labuyo* liniment for the treatment of osteoarthritis and data on its safety, efficacy and acceptability. This study may provide a strong support for the continuous use of this preparation in the communities.

2. An evaluation of the safety and efficacy of community-produced *Senna alata* (Akapulko) 50% thin ointment compared to clotrimazole 1% cream in the treatment of pityriasis versicolor: An assessor-blinded, randomized controlled trial

Skin disorders such as Pityriasis versicolor (an-an) have been a common problem in the Philippines. It affects the quality of life of the people suffering from it and tends to be anxious not only from the discomfort but also from its effect on one's physical appearance. It also affects the social, emotional and psychological aspect of the patient. Traditional medicine have used akapulko for its treatment. This was adapted by rural and urban poor communities in place of the expensive commercially available drugs. The objective of the study is to evaluate the safety, efficacy, and acceptability of *akapulko* (*Senna alata*) thin ointment for the treatment of Pityriasis versicolor as an anti-fungal agent. The expected output is the formulation of akapulko thin ointment.

3. Comparison of the effects on inflammation by virgin coconut oil versus corn oil in the diet of patients with moderate psoriasis and its co-morbid diseases: A randomized, controlled double-blind trial

The common pathogenesis of prevalent diseases that plaque modern human is inflammation. A major pathway of inflammation starts with the diet because

breakdown products from food incorporated in cells, genes, organelles, and cell membranes. These participate in balancing the pro and anti-inflammatory processes needed for physiologic oxidation and for oxidative process. Based on the physico-chemical properties and preliminary clinical data of the test oils, one test oil is expected to be more anti-inflammatory while the other is pro-inflammatory. The objectives of the study is to conduct a double blind randomized, parallel clinical trial of patients with moderate psoriasis given similar topical medications and similar diet but differing only in the use of oils (coconut oil versus corn oil) and compare the effects on the levels of change on psoriasis clinical indices and immune-histochemical markers of inflammation in same-site skin biopsies.

4. Assessment of the bioactivities of plant foods consumed by locals in the different regions of the Philippines

Plant foods are rich on oxidants. These plants contain nutritive and non-nutritive components that once inside the body, react with free radicals and neutralize their harmful effects. The total profile of each local and indigenous plant foods consumed everyday by Filipinos is not well studied. The objective of the study is to determine the anti oxidant properties of hydrophilic extracts of plant foods using different in vitro antioxidant activity assays; to measure the in vivo total anti-oxidant power of serum/plasma of the most active plant extracts using ORAC assay; measure the in vivo resistance of DNA to oxidative stress of the most active plant extract using single cell gel electrophoresis; determine the phytochemical components of the plant food extracts responsible for the antioxidant property and anti-mutagenic properties of plant extracts found to be rich in antioxidants using AMES test, and to develop a booklet on the antioxidant activity as well as the phytochemical properties of local and endemic plant foods consumed in the different regions in the Philippines

5. Phase III clinical trial on the safety and efficacy of *Carmona retusa* (Vahl) Masam (*Tsaang gubat*) syrup compared with dicycloverine syrup among pediatric patients with mild to moderate gastrointestinal colic/pain secondary to acute gastroenteritis

The study aims to benefit the farmers, patients and pharmaceutical industry since *Tsaang gubat* shrub is easy to grow, maintained and propagated all over the Philippines. *Tsaang gubat* could be used as an alternative drug to dicycloverine in pediatric patients with acute gastrointestinal colic/pain secondary to acute gastroenteritis. The six components of the project are 1) agriculture, to enhance the initial knowledge of the cultural management of *tsaang gubat* under current weather conditions and to mass produce and harvest the required volume of *tsaang gubat* leaves for R&D; 2) dosage formulation, to manufacture *tsaang gubat* syrup from *tsaang gubat* leaves for use in phase III clinical trial; 3) mutagenicity/clastogenicity tests, to evaluate the DNA-damaging capacity and chromosome-breaking potential of *tsaang gubat* samples, 4) bioassay, to determine the anti-peristaltic activity of *Carmona retusa* aqueous extract and syrup with dicycloverine syrup; 5) acute and chronic toxicity, to determine the toxicity profile (acute and chronic) of *Carmona retusa* aqueous leaf extract and

formulated leaf syrup in rodents; and 6) clinical trial, to compare the response of pediatric patients with mild to moderate gastrointestinal colic/pain with single dose of either *tsaang gubat* syrup or dicycloverine and to compare and characterize the adverse effects of *oral tsaang gubat* or dicycloverine syrup among pediatric patients treated for colic effective management of AVR.

II. Philippine traditional medicine research

1. Documentation of Philippines traditional knowledge and practices on health and development of traditional knowledge library on health: The Iwak and Kalanguya-Ikalahan of Nueva Vizcaya

Each indigenous community possesses a unique body of knowledge and practices which has been developed throughout centuries of use and has been passed down to succeeding generations. This information base continuously evolves, adapting to changes in a community's culture and environment. It includes the people's wealth of knowledge including those in health, disease and healing. The objective of the study is to document the traditional knowledge and practices on health, disease and healing of the Iwak and Kalanguya-Ikalahan communities of Nueva Vizcaya province; participate in the preservation of the traditional knowledge and practices in a digital library form presented in www.tkd.com and to translate the outputs of the research into activities/initiatives/papers that will benefit the community and other interested sectors. The TKDL is a modern method of protecting our culture heritage as previous and new documentation on traditional knowledge on health are gathered and encoded into a digital format.

III. Traditional and complementary medicine (T&CM) modalities research

1. The role of acupuncture therapy as an adjunct to standard therapy for pruritus with atopic dermatitis: A patient and assessor-blinded, randomized, placebo-controlled trial

Non-pharmacologic interventions and physical modalities for pruritus or itch are rarely investigated, despite these methods having neither systematic nor serious side effects and thus maybe useful adjunct therapies. There is evidence that acupuncture reduces the intensity of itch, decreases eczema severity, and improves the quality of life. The objective of this study is to determine the efficacy of acupuncture in reducing itch intensity and disease severity, and decreasing the use of medication among patients with atopic dermatitis.

2. Effect of low level laser therapy on acupuncture points as adjunct management for osteoarthritis of the knee among the elderly

This research aims to prove that adjunct low level laser treatment (LLT) when applied to the acupuncture points of osteoarthritic patients can greatly relieve pain and stiffness, and improve mobility and range of motion, thus decreasing intake of analgesic drugs.

IV. Policy systems and standards research

1. Standards for acupuncture clinical research in the Philippines: A review and analysis of international guidelines

Evidenced-based medicine has been practiced for over two decades. The same rigorous standards should also apply to complementary medicine to ensure the patients safety as well as the efficacy and cost-effectiveness of the modalities. The objectives of this study is to formulate guidelines for acupuncture research in the Philippines and to identify acupuncture research needs and challenges in the Philippines.

2. Guidelines on the national accreditation of TAHC organizations

3. Guidelines on the national certification of hilot practitioners and accreditation of hilot training centers and hilot healing centers

4. Policies and guidelines in the conduct of local and foreign TAHC mission

V. Social cultural research

1. The knowledge, attitudes, and practices of herbal medicines among physicians in Davao City

The project will assess how physicians of Davao City view the use of herbal medicine in their own perspective as well as in their field of practice. In another context, this project will seek to find the necessary interventions for the strengthening of the herbal medicine program and its integration in the health care system. The objective of this study is to determine if an association exists between knowledge, attitudes and practices of herbal medicine and demographic profile of physicians in Davao City.

VI. Knowledge management research

1. Collection and review of literature on traditional and complementary medicine from educational and research institutions in Regions II, VIII, XI and XII

There are a lot of completed researches on T&CM throughout the country. These were conducted by students for their thesis and dissertations, the academe, different government agencies, research institutions, and non-government institutions. However, there is no single repository of data on all of these completed projects. The objectives of this project are to collate researches, contribute to database, information dissemination and mobilization of the universities, research institutions and consumers to solicit their participation in providing information about researches on herbal medicines and other forms of T&CM modalities. The data gathered in Regions II, VIII, XI, and XII will be used as database on T&CM researches in the said regions.

2. Maintenance of databases and websites for Philippine traditional knowledge on health, illness, and healing and for researches on Philippine medicinal plants

The database and websites will guide the researchers, the industry and government on the present state of the art of Philippine medicinal plants. They could serve as tracking research and development work on particular plants thus preventing duplication of work, but rather serve as springboard for next step of drug research and development. They will also provide an inventory of documentation work on traditional knowledge; the same will give ideas for natural products research based from traditional knowledge, even as the same databases will give protection to the traditional knowledge owners (The Intellectual Property Office has used the URL www.tkd.com in their review of patent application.) The objective of this project is to maintain databases and websites for Philippine traditional knowledge on health, illness, and healing and for researches on Philippine medicinal plants.

Quality Control Laboratory

Herbal Research & Processing Plant

Davao City



II. SOCIAL ADVOCACY AND TRAINING

PITAHC continuously intensified its different advocacy campaign activities through public appearances, participation in exhibits both local and international, print, and broadcast media. Media such as radio, television, press, and social media played very important roles especially in its campaign-based approaches. As a result of its campaign activities, PITAHC is now recognized as a frontrunner on T&CM in the Philippines

Equally important in its advocacy initiatives are the involvement and participation of its partners and stakeholders in the promotion and utilization on the use of T&CM products, services, technologies.

Community-based training/orientation on herbal medicine preparation and acupressure on common illnesses

To promote traditional and alternative health care (TAHC) to the people, PITAHC conducts trainings, lectures and orientation on acupressure for stress management, herbal soap, herbal ointment and herbal syrup preparation at the community level. There is an increase in number of requests of invitation from local government units, non-government organizations, and religious organizations from PITAHC to conduct these activities for primary health care. Likewise, the skill gained in the community-based herbal products preparation has made these herbal products available and accessible to their families.



Photo above: Social advocacy & training division staff headed by Noel S. Tuason (2nd picture) and resource speaker giving lectures on different T&CM modalities.

Regular lecture/demonstration at PITAHC Central Office

PITAHC conducts free weekly health seminars at the Central Office in Quezon City on the different T&CM modalities. The seminar is opened to the public every Thursday at 2:00 in the afternoon.



Photo above: Social advocacy & training division staff Aquilino R. Ofies (center picture) demonstrates cupping/ventosa

TAHC month celebration

In celebration of Traditional and Alternative Health Care (TAHC) month every November, PITAHC carried out a one day event at the Central Office and in its four Herbal Processing Plants. Activities include free consultation and treatment using different T&CM technologies and modalities. Practitioners in acupuncture, naturopathy, chiropractic, tuina, and hilot offered free services to the general public. A total of one hundred eighty five (185) patients were treated using the different TAHC modalities. Exhibit and bazaar that showcased herbal and organic products were made available to the public. Likewise, lecture and orientation on ear acupuncture and acupressure for pain management were simultaneously conducted in Cotabato, Davao and Tacloban Cities.



Photo above (clockwise): PITAHC staff and partners during the parade last November 22, 2016, and partners giving free therapeutic massage services to the public.

Newsletter

Well-being newsletter features topics and information on T&CM. PITAHC's activities, seminars, trainings, services, products, and facilities are featured here regularly. This newsletter is released every quarter.

TAHC center at Veterans Regional Hospital

The Veterans Regional Hospital in Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya recently inaugurated its TAHC center at the said hospital. The center offers services in acupuncture to patients for pain management of common illnesses.

Participation to exhibits

As part of its advocacy activities, PITAHC actively participated in local exhibits nationwide. Its products, services, programs and facilities were showcased during exhibits and trade fairs.



Bioasia 2016, Hyderabad, India

Bioasia is one of the widely attended annual international events in Asia. The theme of the event is “Leveraging India to succeed globally”. The event was held in Hyderabad, India that showcased products most likely to further boost the growth for life sciences industry. It also focused on connecting the dots to build stakeholder consensus and draw a distinct map to propel the sector growth in biotechnology, and research and development industries. Concurrent with this event, an exchange of updated information on drug regulatory procedures and government procurement policies/mechanisms of pharmaceutical products were shared by resource persons from fourteen (14) countries including the Philippines. PITAHC was invited and shared the existing system of government procurement in consonance with Republic Act 9184 or the Government Procurement Reform Act.



Photos above (clockwise): PHARMEXIL sponsored the exchange of updated information on Drug Regulatory Procedures and Mechanisms and Systems of Procurement of Pharmaceutical Drugs from different countries. Shown are regulatory officers and procuring officers from India, Egypt, UAE, Congo, Ghana, Myanmar, Mozambique, Iran, Cambodia, Euthopia, Nigeria, Namibia and the Philippines represented by Ms. Eva A. Beltran, Head, Management and Advisory Services Division of PITAHC.

International integrative medicine expo 2016, Jangheung, Korea

The international integrative medicine expo was held in Jangheung, Korea to promote the area of Jangheung as an integrative hub of Korea. For this year, the said expo was participated by two hundred (200) integrative medicine-related organizations and companies from forty (40) countries including the Philippines represented by PITAHC. The objective of the said expo is to introduce a patient-centered integrative medicine by providing one to experience one-stop integrative medicine services that combine western medicine, oriental medicine and proven complementary and alternative medicine.

PITAHC promoted its herbal products in the said expo while participating countries such as Japan, India, Pakistan, China, and Sri Lanka promoted aromatherapy, homeopathy/ayurveda, unani medicine, acupuncture and herbal medicine, respectively..



Photos (clockwise): PITAHC OIC-Director General Dr. Francis Vicente S. Ras and party during the special meeting with Jangheung County Governor Kim Sung and PITAHC booth during the Integrative Medicine Expo in Jangheung, Korea.

Establishment/expansion and maintenance of herbal gardens

The four Herbal Processing Plants established medicinal plant gardens dedicated to the collection, cultivation, preservation, promotion and display of different herbal plants with known history of medicinal use in the different regions, labeled with concise information on their botanical, common and local names, efficacy and safety, beneficial and healing properties. These gardens are a showcase wherein students, researchers, and the public are provided with useful information on the different medicinal plants.





Photos above: Herbal garden at the Cotabato Herbal Processing Plant in Cotabato City.

Technical assistance

The four HPPs served as venue for manufacturing internship of pharmacy students from the different universities and colleges in the Philippines. The required two hundred forty (240) hours internship program was completed by the students in fulfillment of their requirements in B.S. Pharmacy course in the following universities and colleges.

1. University of St. Louis, Tuguegarao City
2. St. Paul University, Tuguegarao City
3. Lorma Colleges, La Union
4. University of Perpetual Help, Cauayan, Isabela
5. Medical Colleges of Northern Philippines, Tuguegarao City and Tabuk City
6. University of Southern Mindanao, North Cotabato
7. San Carlos University, Cebu City
8. University of Immaculate Concepcion, Davao City
9. San Pedro College, Davao City
10. Lourdes College, Cagayan de Oro City

Likewise, the four HPPs provided advisory in the implementation of researches of students in herbal medicine. Moreover, the HPPs provided processed raw materials and experimental animals needed in the conduct of their researches.

Training courses

For 2016, a total of eight (8) training courses were conducted with a total of one hundred seventy two (172) participants trained on the following:

1. Basic acupuncture training
2. Chinese therapeutic massage
3. Ear acupuncture
4. Advanced acupuncture
5. Balance acupuncture
6. Ear detoxification and acupressure for pain management



Photos above: Training on balance acupuncture held in Tacloban City last November 14-15, 2016.

III. STANDARDS AND ACCREDITATION

Publication of implementing guidelines on TAHC certification and accreditation

In 2016, the following implementing guidelines on TAHC certification and accreditation were published in the national administrative register at the University of the Philippines law center.

1. PITAHC Circular No. 01, series of 2016: Guidelines implementing RA 8423 IRR on the national certification of hilot practitioners and accreditation of hilot training centers and hilot healing centers (Vol. 27, No. 2, April-June 2016)
2. PITAHC Circular No. 2, series of 2016: Guidelines on the national accreditation of TAHC organizations (Vol. 27, No. 2, April-June 2016)
3. PITAHC Circular No. 03, series of 2016: Policies and guidelines in the conduct of local and foreign TAHC mission

Certification of TAHC practitioners

A total of one hundred thirty three (133) practitioners were certified consisting of one hundred ten (110) acupuncturists, five (5) chiropractors, five (5) naturopaths, and thirteen (13) homeopaths/homotoxicologists.

As of December 2016, there are now a total of seven hundred seventy six (776) certified acupuncturists, thirty four (34) certified chiropractors, fifteen (15) certified naturopaths, and thirty two (32) certified homeopaths/homotoxicologists nationwide.

Accreditation of clinics, training centers and organizations

A total of six (6) TAHC clinics, one (1) training center and one (1) TAHC organizations were accredited during the year.

As of December 2016, there are now thirty (30) accredited clinics in acupuncture, one (1) in naturopathy, and five (5) in homeopathy/homotoxicology. Likewise, there are eight (8) accredited acupuncture training centers, three (3) in naturopathy, and one (1) in

homeopathy/homotoxicology. Moreover, seven (7) TAHC organizations were accredited in acupuncture, one (1) in chiropractic, and one (1) in homeopathy/homotoxicology.

Administration of national certification examination

PITAHC administered two (2) national certification examinations in June and December 2016 to eleven (11) acupuncturists for upgrading from certified associate acupuncturists (CAA) to certified acupuncturist (CA); and certified associate medical acupuncturists (CAMA) to certified medical acupuncturists (CMA).

Monitoring of practitioners and clinics

To ensure compliance to set standards and guidelines in the practice of different TAHC modalities, monitoring visits were carried out to sixteen (16) certified TAHC practitioners and accredited clinics in Metro Manila, Digos City, Bohol and Dipolog City. Likewise, five (5) acupuncture clinics were monitored in Metro Manila, Cebu City, and Bohol prior to their accreditation.

Printing of handbooks for TAHC certification/accreditation

Two handbooks that were developed during the previous year were now printed such as; PITAHC national certification handbook for medical acupuncturists and PITAHC national certification handbook for non-medical acupuncturists.

MARKETING AND SALES

PITAHC, being the government sole manufacturer of herbal medicines, continuously supplied the requirements of government agencies nationwide. The Department of Health, Regional Health Offices and its retained hospitals had the biggest share of procurement of the institute's herbal products.

As of November 30, 2016, a total of P48.00 million was generated from the sales of herbal products.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Results of operations

Since CY 2015, PITAHC's HPPs focused their activities from production of herbal medicines and other herbal products into research and development as mandated by the Governance Commission for Government Owned and Controlled Corporation (GCG) in its directive last September 2012.

Sales revenue (net of sales discounts) as of October 31, 2016 amounted to P32.104 million or 60% of the P53.690 million target sales for CY 2016.

Cost of sales generated at P15.040 million or 47% of net sales, resulting into gross profit from sales of P17.064 million.

Total expenses amounted to P66.631 million consisting of personal services of P41.284 million, maintenance and other operating expenses of P25.336 million and financial expenses of P0.011 million.

Loss therefore from operations amounted to P49.566 million. However, after deducting other income of P4.884 million, net loss is registered at P44.682 million. Considering the P28.555 million subsidy from the national government and income tax of P0.229 million, net loss is registered at P16.356 million.

Financial position

As of October 31, 2016, the Institute generated total assets of P354.432 million consisting mainly of cash of P160.453 million, property, plant, and equipment of P105.114 million, inventories of P28.712 million, prepayments of P25.545 million, and receivables of P21.027 million.

Total liabilities amounted to P15.744 million, consisting mainly of payables to contractors/suppliers.

Total equity as of October 31, 2016 amounted to P338.688 million consisting mainly of government equity of P82.888 million and retained earnings of P255.800 million.

Philippine international commitments

PITAHC also participates in the Philippine international commitments like the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN). Last July 2016, PITAHC was among the participants/contributors in the workshop on the preparation of the book on “Traditional Medicine Self-Care in ASEAN” held in Nonthaburi, Thailand and the ASEAN Cluster 3 workshop in Malate, Manila.



Photos above: During the Association of South East Asian Nations' (ASEAN) workshop on the development of book on “Traditional Medicine Self-Care in ASEAN and ASEAN Cluster 3 workshop “Strengthening Health System and Access to Care held in Nonthaburi, Thailand and Malate, Manila, respectively.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

PITAHC provided programs for the improvement of its employees' skills, knowledge, capabilities, and competencies. By offering programs that are designed to promote personal and professional career growth, they enable the Institute to improve efficiency, productivity and profitability. The following seminars, workshops, trainings, and fora were attended by officials and staff during the year.

1. International Training Workshop on Development and Conservation of Traditional Ethnomedicine.
2. 8th Indigenous People Community Health Workers Training
3. Quezon Herbal Program Seminar
4. 3rd Batch of the DOH Executive Management and Leadership Seminar
5. BioAsia 2016
6. 2016 Philippine Pharmacists Association National Convention with theme "Reducing the Global Burden of Disease, Optimizing Pharmacists Contribution"
7. 2nd National Organic Agriculture Scientific Conference
8. Rice-based Products Health and Nutrition Facts
9. Inaugural Lecture of Sr. Jaun "Michelle" Liu, L. Ac.
10. PITAHC Team Building Activities
11. Training entitle "Climate-Resiliency Field School Intensive Training and Season Long Field School Sessions (CrFS)
12. On-Line Distance Education Development on Medical Acupuncture Certification Course
13. ASEAN Workshop on Research and Development of Herbal Products
14. 38th Annual National Convention of Certified Public Accountant (GACPA) with theme "Building Global Partnership Through Knowledge Sharin."
15. 2016 Philippine Pharmacists Association National Convention
16. Orientation Seminar on The Revised Procedure of Handling Administrative Disciplinary Complaints
17. Documentation of Knowledge, Skills and Attitude of Traditional Healers (Manghihilot)
18. Workshop on Accomplishing Strategic Performance Management System (SPMS) Forms
19. Planning Meeting with the University of the Philippines Open University (UPOU)
20. 8th Web Users Conference
21. Food Security Forum 2016
22. Workshop on Basic Acupuncture
23. APEC Workshop on the Development of Herbal Medicine Database in Asia Pacific Region
24. Annual Celebration of Accountancy Week with theme "GACPA Moving up a Notch for Nation Building
25. 2nd Philippine-India Joint Working Group Meeting on Health and Medicine
26. Witness the progress of the study "Establishing the Philippine Blueprint for Natural Products, Inclusive of Primary and Secondary Metabolites, Development and Conservation.

27. ASEAN Workshop on Research and Development of Herbal Products.
Course II: Instrumentation and Techniques for determination of medicinal plant quality
28. Witness the progress of the study "Establishing the Philippine Blueprint for Natural Products, Inclusive of Primary and Secondary Metabolites, Development and Conservation.
29. Second Workshop on the Preparation of the Book on "Traditional Medicine Self-Care in ASEAN"
30. Conference on "The Prospects for the Philippines 2016-2022"
31. 84th Philippine Public Health Convention with theme "Germ Proofing in all Health Facilities in the Country"
32. Philippine National Health Research System (PNHRS) Week with theme "Research and Innovation for Health and the Environment"
33. Quality Management System-GAP Assessment towards ISO 9001:2015 Certification
34. Public Forum on Effects of Chemical Use in Food Production
35. 1st Meeting of the Cluster "Strengthening Health System and Access to Care under the ASEAN Post-2015 Health Development Agenda
36. Civil Service Commission – NCR RACE to serve Fun Run VI
37. Training on Germplasm Conservation, Regeneration and Documentation of Medicinal Plants Collection.
38. 3rd Session of the Career Executive Service Leadership Conclave Series for 2016.
39. Two-Day Training on Acupressure and Ear Acupuncture for pain and Rehab Management
40. Draft and Finalization of the project proposal for the CVHPP Bioassay and Animal Facility
41. Gender and Development Training. Topic: Gender Sensitivity and other GAD Tools
42. Workshop on Data Management for Researches on Philippine Medicinal Plants and Philippine Traditional; Knowledge on Health, Illness and Healing
43. DOH-ASEAN Health Clusters Planning Workshop
44. 1st Philippine Herbal Medicine Summit
45. PITAHC Central Office Sportsfest 2016
46. 2016 Luzon Convention of HRMPs
47. 1st China-ASEAN Forum on Health Cooperation
48. 3rd PAGBA Quarterly Seminar and Meeting with theme "Steering and Managing Public Financial Management/Governance/Reform in the Transition Year
49. Training on Philippine Public Sector Accounting Standards (PPSAS) and Revised Chart of Accounts
50. GAD Activity re: Film Showing "The Revolutionary Road"
51. Fire and Safety Emergency Preparedness Seminar
52. International Integrative Medicine Expo 2016

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FUTURE PLANS

1. Organizational assessment and re-engineering of PITAHC towards becoming the research institute for traditional and complementary medicine in the Philippines.
2. Legislative amendment of the traditional and alternative medicine act (TAMA) law on the regulatory functions and authority of PITAHC
3. PITAHC ISO 9001:2015 certification by 2017
4. Implementation of researches following the strategic map for CY 2017-2022
5. PITAHC to host the ASEAN commemorative event on T&CM in 2017