



## **UPM-CD Students win international dental research competition in Taiwan**

The UP Manila College of Dentistry defeated competing dental schools from ASEAN countries in the IADR-SEA Division/DENTSPLY SIRONA Student Clinician Program (SCP) of the 31<sup>st</sup> International Association of Dental Research–South East Asia (IADR-SEA) held at the Taipei International Convention Center, Taiwan, on 12-13 August 2017.

The CD Dental Students Research Team, led by Beatrice April D. Alcantara, won for their study on *“Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices of Philippine Basketball Association Players of Philippine Cup Season 2016-2017 on Mouthguard Use in Preventing Traumatic Dental Injuries.”* The study found that, while most PBA players are familiar with how mouthguards prevent traumatic dental injuries (TDI), the majority have no experience in using it. “Most common reasons for wearing mouthguards are recommendation by a dentist or physician and protection. Most common reasons for not wearing mouthguards are not having thought about it and discomfort. While most of the players do not agree with the PBA requiring mouthguard use, majority are willing to be educated on mouthguard use by a dentist or an athletic trainer.” Needless to say, the far-reaching applications of their research in a new field—sports dentistry—impressed the judges.

Aside from getting the trophy and cash award, Alcantara and her co-researchers (Diana G. Dela Pasion, Priscilla Grace C. Dimacali, and Paul Adrian D. Soriano) will represent the SEA region in the American Association of Dental Research/Canadian Association of Dental Research (AADR/CADR) Annual Meeting and Exhibition in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA, on March 2018.

Students who participated in Taipei topped their own country-level competitions. Participants came from Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Vietnam. In the Philippines, three UPM-CD teams emerged victorious in a competition held at the Dentsply-Sirona country office in Makati on 12 July 2017. Alcantara et al received the 1<sup>st</sup> Place award, while the 2<sup>nd</sup> Place was a tie between the groups of Nygel Shane Acosta and Carol May Llenado (*“Effect of Phosphoric Acid Etching on the Shear Bond Strength of a Self-Etch Adhesive”*) and Anne Margaret Cordero and Christeen Lim (*“Determinants of Dental Service Utilization among Public Elementary School Teachers in a Highly Urbanized City in the Philippines”*). Third place went to students from the University of the East.

The SCP is a research-based competition aimed at promoting and supporting dental research by giving early exposure to research opportunities among dental undergraduates. It is a global program by Dentsply-Sirona Inc. that has been annually conducted for the past 50 years in cooperation with the International Association for Dental Research (IADR).



Students from the UP College of Dentistry bagged the first place in the IADR/Dentsply Sirona SCP held in Taipei, Taiwan, on 12 August 2017. The team is composed of Paul Adrian Soriano, Diana Dela Pasion, Beatrice April Alcantara, and Priscilla Grace Dimacali. Right photo: The team with one of the judges, Dr. Teresa Dolan, Vice President and Chief Clinical Officer for Dentsply Sirona.



The participants of the IADR/Dentsply Sirona SCP along with the dean of UP College of Dentistry, Dr. Danilo Magtanong (top row, second from the left), Dr. Jessica Rebuena Santos (top row, center) and one of the judges, Dr. Teresa Dolan (bottom row, center) during the awarding ceremony.

**Text:** Ms. Bea Alcantara

**Photos:** Paul Adrian Soriano, Diana Dela Pasion, Beatrice April Alcantara, and Priscilla Grace Dimacali  
UP College of Dentistry News & Blog Site (<http://updent.blogspot.com/>)