

**UP Manila:
Improving health through relevant and excellent programs
and services**

UP Manila is the UP System's flagship campus for health and allied sciences. It is located in Ermita, Manila, one of the vibrant and bustling districts in the Philippine capital. The UP Manila campus is the birthplace and cradle of the University of the Philippines when it was founded in June 1908. Thus, it is the oldest autonomous university of the UP System. For more than 40 years until World War II, UP's formative years were spent in Ermita under the American regime before it moved to its current site in Diliman, Quezon City in 1949.

Much of the evolution of UP as the country's national university and premier learning center for many disciplines occurred in the Manila campus. As such, the history of UP Manila is entwined with that of the UP System. UP Manila's beginnings also trace back to the founding of its oldest college, the College of Medicine, that antedated UP's founding by three years when it was envisioned in 1905 as the Philippine Medical School. Today, UPCM is the country's leading medical school that has been granted Level IV accreditation by the Philippine Accrediting Association of Schools, Colleges, and Universities (PAASCU).

As years went by, new health units that were previously part of the College of Medicine, sprang in close succession. These included the College of Public Health, College of Pharmacy, College of Dentistry, and College of Allied Medical Professions. A separate baccalaureate program in nursing was offered in 1948 following UP's transfer to Diliman, Quezon City.

When UP was reorganized into a system of autonomous universities in 1972, the health units were grouped into the Health Sciences Center that later became the second autonomous university and renamed UP Manila in 1982. This was also the year when the health colleges, such as Nursing and Pharmacy, returned to the Manila campus.

From the above physical and structural evolutions grew what is now known as UP Manila. We are the designated national health university under Republic Act 9500 that stipulated a new charter for UP during our centennial celebration in June 2008..

Under the UP System are seven other autonomous universities that are named based on their location and which are distinguished for

their niche and specializations. UP Manila is the flagship campus for health. It is the country's recognized premiere national health university whose mission is to contribute to the improvement of the Filipinos' health through relevant and excellent curricular, training, and research programs, and delivery of public services.

Today, UP Manila is home to **nine degree-granting units**, the **National Institutes of Health** or NIH, the **Philippine General Hospital** or PGH, and several **academic** and **administrative support offices**. NIH is the central hub for evidence-based health researches with policy implications and is composed of nine institutes and several study groups. PGH is the country's biggest and most modern government hospital that treats about half a million patients a year and serves as the training hospital of UP Manila students. The programs and services are undertaken by its 11,000 strong personnel complement, composed of 4,000 students, 1,300 faculty members, and 5,700 non-teaching staff.

Of all health universities in the Philippines, UP Manila boasts of the largest concentration of health and faculty experts in a wide array of health and related fields. Six out of 15 Philippine presidents and 32 out of 33 National Scientists are graduates of UP.

As the Philippines' health sciences center, UP Manila is distinguished by pioneering and innovative academic programs, relevant researches that respond to the country's major health problems, and significant community services that benefit marginalized sectors of people and communities. The programs and services address the priority health concerns of Filipinos and are being undertaken through close partnership with the government, policy makers, other health universities here and abroad, and professional health groups.

UP Manila develops programs that serve as models and benchmarks of health education and health care in the Philippines. Many of the pioneering curricular programs are offered only in the University even until now. These include the Integrated Arts and Medicine Program (seven-year medical program); Master of Rehabilitation Science; MS in Clinical Audiology; MA in Health Policy Studies; Master of Health Professions Education, and the School of Health Sciences, with three campuses that are equally distributed geographically – the main campus in Palo, Leyte in the Visayas, another in Baler, Aurora in Luzon, and another in South Koronadal, Cotabato in Mindanao.

In recognition of this pioneering role, some of its colleges have been designated as Centers of Excellence. The UP College of Nursing

serves as WHO Collaborating Center for Leadership in Nursing Development; College of Public Health is SEAMEO TROPED Center in Public Health, Hospital Administration, Environmental and Occupational Health; NTTCHP is WHO Regional Development Center in Health Professions Education in the Western Pacific Region.

In research, UP Manila has been pursuing its mandate by generating and disseminating knowledge and technologies that can effectively contribute to the improvement of the quality of life of Filipinos. Its research outputs have greatly influenced the thrusts and directions of national health care programs and have been used as basis for policy formulation and implementation.

Apart from being a state university, UP is distinct in that it provides an academic environment where students, no matter the economic status, are trained to think critically and analytically in an atmosphere of academic freedom and respect for diversity. This is exemplified by the **oblation**, a symbol that UP is popularly known for more than the University itself. Depicting a figure of a naked person with head tilted and arms outstretched signifying autonomy and offering of service to the nation and people. In our campus, we have our own Oblation Plaza in front of PGH and another oblation at the College of Arts and Sciences.

To strengthen its community services, UP Manila is implementing an expanded **Community Health and Development Program**. This is something similar to your CIF program in that it provides community exposure and experiences for our students. This program strives through strong partnership with and support of the community and local officials.

UP Manila is the first university to implement a **Return Service** program that requires graduates to render service for two years after graduation in any part of the Philippines within five years. This program was undertaken first by the College of Medicine but expanded in 2011 to include other colleges. Its goal is to increase the availability of competent health workers in remote and depressed communities.

VISION

UP Manila shall constantly strive to become a globally competitive and nationally relevant university while upholding its honored tradition of academic and research excellence. It will push for academic and operational excellence through a combination of innovative research work, enriched curricula, and dependable public service.

MISSION

It will strive to maintain an efficient administrative governance system and promote creative means to gain financial sustainability while retaining government support. Its mission is to become an entrepreneurial research university with relevant published research that are translated to policies and application that will benefit the Filipino people.