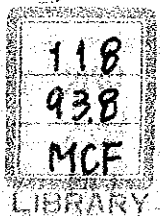


SUMMARY REPORT  
ON  
PRELIMINARY STUDY ON CONTROL MEASURES  
AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE PHILIPPINES

JUNE, 1982

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## PREFACE

The Japan International Cooperation Agency has decided to make a basic study on the present status of infectious diseases in Republic of The Philippines with a view to finding guidelines and collecting data necessary for the effective and smooth implementation of medical cooperation projects in The Philippines entrusted the study to the Japan International Cooperation Agency. The Agency conducted the study by dispatching a study team headed by Dr. Shozo Inoki, Consultant, International Medical Foundation of Japan, from March 29 to May 2, 1982.

The Study team had discussions with the officials of the Government of the Philippines and conducted a field survey in Regions No. 3,4,5,7,8,11, and Metropolitan Manila area in the Philippines. After the study team returned to Japan, further studies were made and the present report has been prepared.

I hope that this report will be useful for the further development of the health programs in the Philippines and also contribute to the promotion of friendly relations between our two countries.

I wish to take an opportunity to express my deep appreciation to the officials concerned of the Government of the Philippines for their full cooperation and kind hospitality extended to the Study team.

June 1982,  
Tokyo, Japan

Masao Hasegawa,  
Executive Director  
Japan International Cooperation Agency



## Summary Report

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has been extending, its technical cooperation to the Republic of the Philippines in various fields among which health and medical cooperation is of vital importance. In order to establish the guidelines for more effective and efficient cooperation in future, JICA has performed a preliminary study on the condition of infectious diseases and control measures against them in the Philippines, entrusting the study work to the International Medical Foundation of Japan (IMFJ).

The study team which is composed of 4 experts in the field of infectious diseases, one parasitologist, one microbiologist, one physician and one public health doctor, was dispatched to the Philippines for 35 days from March 29 to May 2, 1982. They visited various institutions in charge of medical and health services in Region 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11 and in Metropolitan Manila area, and studied available statistical data and other documentation. They also studied general condition of medical and health care facilities, the manpower situation, and disease control activities in various sectors. The time was too limited for this study to draw any conclusive picture about the whole situation. However, since a number of problems were identified in the course of this survey, we would like to propose the following observations.

The significant incidence and mortality of infectious diseases especially in infants and children are still among the major health problems in the country. Among the prevalent communicable diseases, pneumonia, pulmonary tuberculosis and gastroenteritis are the highest priorities. Leprosy causes patients, their families and their community a great deal of hardship. Sexually transmitted diseases have also presented serious problems. Parasitological diseases such as schistosomiasis, malaria, filariasis and amoebic dysentery are still highly prevalent.

High morbidity and mortality of these communicable diseases seem to have been caused by a fairly high rate in population growth, a low income per capita, malnutrition, crowded living conditions within the household and poor environmental sanitation. The tropical climate and topography of the country composed of thousands of islands make the control of these diseases difficult.

The importance of the infectious disease problem is well recognized by every health authority, and the health administrative organization has been established to provide control measures against these diseases. Special disease control/eradication programs such as National Tuberculosis Control Program, Leprosy Control Program, Sexually Transmitted Diseases Control Program, Malaria Eradication Program, and Schistosomiasis Control Program were introduced. A countermeasure for diarrheal diseases by means of the oral rehydration, ORESOL Project, and Expanded Program on Immunization are also in progress. For implementation of these



programs, strategies for maximising health resources under the concept of Primary Health Care are working effectively. Other relevant programs such as Family Planning Program, Nutritional Service, Maternal and Child Health Program, Environmental Sanitation Program, health education etc. are also collaborating efficiently with the direct countermeasures against communicable diseases which were mentioned above. These fortified measures have reduced, slowly but successfully, mortality caused by dreadful diseases such as pneumonia, tuberculosis and gastroenteritis.

In spite of these effective measures, however, the communicable diseases are still highly ranked among the top 10 causes of morbidity and mortality. Many new pulmonary tuberculosis and infantile tetanus cases are reported despite the extensive coverage of vaccination program.

What can be improved in those projects to reduce these problems? Frankly speaking, the present activity for infectious diseases control in this country is aimed solely at the reduction of mortality and is shorthanded to extend it to active preventive one. The Republic of the Philippines has only started to develop its community health integrating medical care system and public health services, and due to the limited financial means and human resources, the priority is given now to a segment of its population, which is actually affected by those serious diseases. In the near future, however, active preventive measures must also be incorporated so that the general health

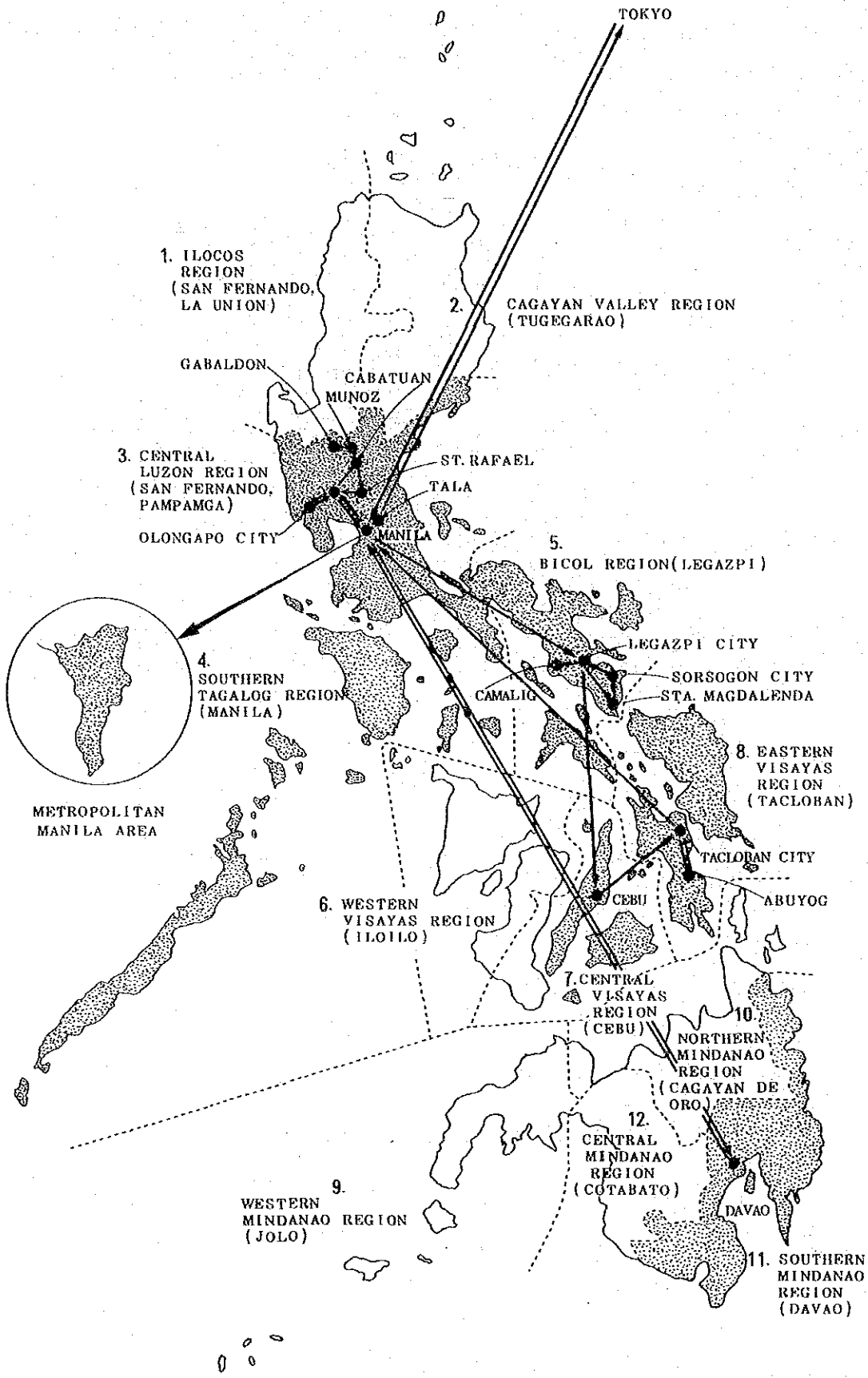
condition of its entire population will be improved. It will certainly be realized, as the consequences of the country's significant achievements in health care and medical programs and rapid community development observed in the past few years, by the dedicated efforts of all the personnel engaged in these activities.

From scientific viewpoints, the following suggestion will be made, though these have already been recognized by health authorities in the country. First, epidemiological analysis should be introduced into health services by those of the health care profession who are actually involved in the disease control activity at a front line level, so that the problem should be better understood and the right measures be taken against that. The disease surveillance, if it is to be a fruitful one, should be supported by laboratory findings, obtained by some adequate and reliable technologies. Special emphasis should be placed on the promotion of laboratory services at regional level, where the present scale is too limited and at the provincial level, where it is almost entirely missing at present. Laboratory based study must be encouraged both in medical care system and public health services, because accurate diagnosis derived from laboratory examinations provides the soundest basis to any information and bring about most cost-effective countermeasures and medical care. The greater attention must be directed towards mild and inapparent infection cases of man-to-man transmitted diseases, as important sources of infections. The computer network of health information

should also contribute tremendously to the better public health by providing immediate access to useful information.

Lastly but not the least, JICA and IMFJ should like to mention that the present survey could not have been accomplished without the kind assistance and cooperation of Dr. Jesus Azurin, Minister of Health, Dr. Basaca-Sevilla, Director of Bureau of Research and Laboratories, Directors of each regions, and their staffs. The exchange with those people made the entire tour of investigation the most informative and stimulating one for the study team. Finally, our recommendations mentioned above are based on the ideas and principles agreed upon with the Minister of Health of the Philippines.





REGIONS IN REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE AREA SURVEYED

→ COURSE    [shaded area] AREA SURVEYED    ● PLACES VISITED



TEAM MEMBERS

- Shozo Inoki, M.D.  
(Team Leader) : Consultant, International Medical  
Foundation of Japan  
Professor Emeritus, Osaka University
- Makoto Ohashi, M.D. : Consultant, International Medical  
Foundation of Japan  
Director, Department of Microbiology,  
Tokyo Metropolitan Research Laboratory  
of Public Health
- Yatsuka Imagawa, M.D. : Consultant, International Medical  
Foundation of Japan  
Director, Department of Infectious  
Diseases, Tokyo Metropolitan Bokuto  
Hospital
- Izumi Yoshikawa, M.D. : Consultant, International Medical  
Foundation of Japan  
Assistant Professor, Department of  
Public Health, Nippon Medical School
- Mr. Hiroshi Uehara : Secretary, South East Asian Medical  
Information Center, International  
Medical Foundation of Japan





RECORDS OF THE SURVEY

- March 29 (Mon.) : Lv. Tokyo (19:30) - Ar. Manila (22:45)
- March 30 (Tue.) : A.M. Courtesy call to the Japanese Embassy and  
JICA office in Manila.  
P.M. Preparation of itinerary.
- March 31 (Wed.) : A.M. Visit to JICA Office in Manila and confirma-  
tion of the itinerary.  
P.M. Visit to Bureau of Research and Laboratories,  
and discussion with Dr. Bassaca-Sevilla,  
Director of the Bureau (counterpart) on the  
plan and itinerary of the survey.  
Visit to US Naval Medical Research Unit  
No. 2 and Maralia Eradication Service.
- April 1 (Thu.) : A.M. Visit to Research Institute for Tropical  
Medicine.  
P.M. Visit to International Rice Research  
Institute, Los Baños.
- April 2 (Fri.) : A.M. Courtesy call to Dr. Azurin, Minister of  
Health and confirmation of the plan and  
itinerary of the Survey.  
P.M. Report of the itinerary confirmed to JICA  
Office.

April 3 (Sat.) : A.M. Dr. Ohashi: Lv. Manila - Ar. Davao  
 - P.M. Visit to Regional Health Office No. 11 and  
 Davao Quarantine Station. Others: Visit  
 to Tagaytay invited by Minister.

April 4 (Mon.) : A.M. Discussion on the survey plan in Region  
 3 with Minister, Dr. Bassaca-Sevilla,  
 Dr. Noveno, Regional Health Director No. 3  
 at Ministry of Health.  
 Visit to San Lazaro Hospital.  
 P.M. Visit to Planning Service and Bureau of  
 Health Services, Ministry of Health.

April 6 (Tue.) : A.M. Visit to Bureau of Quarantine, Ministry of  
 Health, and Institute of Public Health,  
 University of the Philippines.  
 P.M. Visit to Disease Intelligence Center and  
 Schistosomiasis Control and Research  
 Service.

April 7 (Wed.) : A.M. Visit to National Economic and Development  
 Authority.

April 8 (Thu.) : A.M. Visit to Makati Medical Center (National  
 Holiday).

April 9 (Fri.) : (National Holiday)

April 12 (Mon.) : A.M. Lv. Manila - Ar. San Fernando Pampanga  
 Visit to Regional Health Office No. 3.

April 12 (Mon.) (Cont'd) : P.M. Visit to Angeles City. Stayed at Regional Training Center.

April 13 (Tue.) : A.M. Visit to Provincial Health Office, Pampanga.  
P.M. Visit to Central Luzon General Hospital.

April 14 (Wed.) : A.M. Lv. San Fernando, Pampanga - Ar. Olongapo City  
Visit to Olongapo City Health Department.  
P.M. Courtesy call to Mayor.  
Inspection of establishments. Stayed at Olongapo City.

April 15 (Thu.) : A.M. Lv. Olongapo City - Ar. San Fernando, Pampanga  
Visit to Regional Health Laboratory.  
P.M. Lv. San Fernando, Pampanga - Ar. Nueva Ecija  
Visit to Nueva Ecija Provincial Health Office, and Dr. Paulino J. Garcia Memorial Research and Medical Center. Stayed at Cabanatuan.

April 16 (Fri.) : A.M. Visit to Muñoz Municipal Health Office.  
P.M. Visit to Gabaldon Barangay Health Station and Malaria Eradication Service, Region 3.

April 17 (Sat.) : A.M. Visit to Rural Health Unit II, Bulacan.  
P.M. Lv. Bulacan - Ar. San Fernando, Pampanga

April 18 (Sun.) : A.M. Preparation of interim report of the  
- P.M. survey.

April 19 (Mon.) : A.M. Discussion on a status of communicable  
diseases problem in Region 3 with Regional  
Health Director and other health personnels,  
and clearance of the interim report by the  
director.  
P.M. Lv. San Fernando, Pampanga - Ar. Manila

April 20 (Tue.) : A.M. Lv. Manila - Ar. Legaspi  
Visit to Regional Health Office No. 5.  
P.M. Visit to Albay Provincial Health Office,  
Camalig Rural Health Unit, and Polangui  
Barangay Health Station.  
Stayed at Legaspi City.

April 21 (Wed.) : A.M. Visit to Sorsogon Provincial Health Office  
and Filariasis Control Services, Region  
No. 5.  
P.M. Visit to Sta Magdalena Main Health Center.

April 22 (Thu.) : A.M. Attended to Monthly Regional Health Staff  
Conference, Region No. 5.  
P.M. Lv. Legaspi - Ar. Cebu  
Visit to Open Emergency Hospital, Lapu Lapu  
City, Sudtonggan Human Development Training  
School and Cebu Quarantine Station.

April 23 (Fri.) : A.M. Visit to Consolacion Main Health Center,  
and Yati Barangay Health Station.

April 24 (Sat.) : A.M. Visit to Southern Islands Hospital.  
Discussion with personnels concerned on the  
problem of integration of laboratory services  
in hospital and health office.

April 25 (Sun.) : A.M. Lv. Cebu - Ar. Tacloban

April 26 (Mon.) : A.M. Visit to Regional Health Office No. 8,  
Leyte Provincial Health office, and  
Schistosomiasis Control and Research Project,  
Palo.  
P.M. Visit to Abuyog General Hospital.

April 27 (Tue.) : A.M. Lv. Tacloban - Ar. Manila

April 28 (Wed.) : A.M. Visit to Regional Health Office No. 4, and  
National Institute of Tuberculosis.  
P.M. Visit to Lung Center of the Philippines  
and Central Luzon Sanitarium.

April 29 (Thu.) : A.M. Preparation of summary report at Director  
Bassaca-Sevilla's Office, Bureau of  
Research and Laboratories.  
P.M. Courtesy call to Minister of Health, and  
clearance of the report by the minister.

April 30 (Fri.) : P.M. Courtesy call to JICA Office in Manila  
and Japanese Embassy.

May 2 (Sun.) : Lv. Manila - Ar. Tokyo

LIST OF THE INSTITUTIONS VISITED

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

Office of the Minister

Dr. Jesus Azurin, Minister

Mr. Antonino P. San Juan, Acting Assistant Secretary

for Personnel Management and Development

Disease Intelligence Center

Dr. Julio P. Valera, Director

Dr. Lenaida O. Ludonice, Chief, Division of Health Statistics

Dr. Teresita M. Bonoan, Officer-in-charge, Division of Epidemiology

Planning Service

Dr. Andres Galvez, Director

Schistosomiasis Control and Research Service

Dr. Julian S. Noseñas, Deputy Executive Director

Malaria Eradication Service

Dr. Delfin G. Rivera, Director

Bureau of Health Services

Dr. J.J. Dizon, Director

Dr. Francisco S. Valeza, Chief, Division of Disease Control

Bureau of Research and Laboratories

Dr. Virginia Bassaca-Sevilla, Director (Counterpart)

Dr. Jose V. Plantilla Jr., Acting Assistant Director

Mr. Milagros L. Rolda, Research Bacteriologist, Bacteriology  
section

Bureau of Quarantine

Dr. Manuel G. Alvero, Assistant Director

San Lazaro Hospital

Dr. Ceser Uylangco, Director

Dr. Lourdes T. Sanitiago, Chief Bacteriologist

Regional Health Office, No. 11, Davao City

Dr. Edilberto G. Fernando, Regional Health Director

Bureau of Quarantine, Port of Davao

Dr. Benjamin B. Sarenas, Director



Regional Health Office No. 3, San Fernando, Pampanga

Dr. Napoleon S. Noveno, Regional Health Director  
Dr. Aurora Manlapig, Chief Technical Services  
Dr. Luzonia R. Bakir, Chief Regional Laboratory  
Dr. Antonio S. Lopez, Chief, Regional Health Training  
Mr. Rodolfo V. Cunanan, Chief, Administration Division  
Mrs. Luz A. Pineda, Regional Nursing Supervisor  
Mrs. Gmelia R. Lising, Regional Nursing Supervisor  
Mrs. Virginia C. Guirta, Senior T. B. Nurse  
Dr. Julia Regino, Regional T.B. Consultant, Medical Specialist II  
Mrs. Aurora P. Sabado, Nurse Instructor II, Regional Health  
Training Center  
Miss. Nora Coloma, Bacterislogist, Regional Laboratory

Provincial Health Office, Pampanga

Dr. Ismael M. de Jesus, Provincial Health Officer  
Mrs. Lvia S. Sginrre, Supervising Public Health Nurse  
Mrs. Olivia L. Fuazon, T.B. Nurse Coordinator  
Mr. Benjamin M. Mguafifi, Chief Sanitary Inspector

Rural Health Unit-I, San Fernando, Pampanga

Dr. Leon J. Galang, Outstanding Municipal Health Officer

Central Luzon General Hospital

Dr. Ignacio D. Valencia, Chief of Hospital IV

Olongapo City Health Department

Dr. Generosa E. Espinosa, City Health Officer

Dr. Alfredo A. Corpus, Assistant City Officer

Dr. Lyoia Zarbo, Medical Specialist I

Dr. Milagros P. Bayana, Chief Medical Technologist

Provincial Health Office, Nueva Ecija

Dr. Artemio E. Da Jose, Assistant Provincial Health Officer

Dr. Paulino J. Garcia Memorial Research and Medical Center

Dr. Manuel L. Yambao, Chief of Hospital

Dr. Emiliano G. Perez Jr., Acting-chief of Clinics

Municipal Health Office, Muñoz, Nueva Ecija

Dr. Flipe L. Padilla, Municipal Health Officer

Barangay Health Station, Gabaldon, Nueva Ecija

Malaria Eradication Service, Region No. 3

Dr. Armando Serrano, Chief Malariologist

Rural Health Unit II, San Rafael, Bulacan

Dr. Nelly C. Villena, Provincial Health Officer

Regional Health Office, No. 5, Legaspi

Dr. Restitut Daquinsin, Regional Health Director

Dr. Aster Mancera-Reganit, Chief, Regional Health Training  
Center

Provincial health Office, Albay

Dr. Jose N. Fernando, Provincial Health Officer

Rural Health Unit, Camalig

Miss Ludia C. Perez, Public Health Nurse

Barangay Health Station, Polangui

Provincial Health Office, Sorsogon

Dr. Reynaldo L. Instrella, Provincial Health Officer

Dr. Wilhelno P. Abrantes, Assistant Provincial Health Officer

Filariasis Control Services, Region No. 5

Mr. Adriano M. Basa, Senior Medical Technician

Main Health Center, Sta Magdalena, Sorsogon

Dr. Julian B. Salazar, Municipal Health Officer

Regional Health Office, No. 7, Cebu

Dr. Fernando Avelino, Regional Health Director

Dr. Jose R. Cimafranca, Chief, Regional Laboratory

Dr. Consuelo D. Aranas, Chief, Communicable Disease Control  
Section

Human Development Training School, Sudtonggan, Lapu Lapu City

Miss Herminia Banayo, Sudtonggan Human Development Project

Open Emergency Hospital, Lapu Lapu City, Cebu

Dr. Jaimo N. Kaamiño, Chief of Hospital

Main Health Center, Consolacion, Cebu

Dr. Antonio R. Trasmonte, Municipal Health Officer

Barangay Health Station, Yati, Lilo-an, Cebu

Mrs. Elena P. Suco, Midwife

Quarantine Station, Cebu

Southern Islands Hospital, Cebu

Dr. Sotero Torralba, Chief of Hospital

Dr. Helen Evangelista, Pathologist

Dr. Alma E. Malilong, Head, Department of Pathology and  
Laboratories

Regional Health Office, No. 8, Tacloban City, Leyte

Dr. Manuel G. Roxas, Regional Health Director

Dr. Santiago A. Sudario, Jr., Medical Training Officer

Dr. Vilente Makabenta, Medical Specialist II

Provincial Health Office, Leyte

Dr. Juanite C. De La Cruz, Provincial Health Officer

Schistosomiasis Control and Research Project, Palo, Leyte

Dr. Bayani L. Blas, Project Director

Abuyog General Hospital, Abuyog, Leyte

Dr. Josenilo E. Bunado, Resident Physician

Regional Health Office, No. 4, Quezon City

Dr. Jose P. Ybañez, Regional Health Director

National Institute of Tuberculosis

Dr. Andres Y. Cruz, Director

Dr. Rosario S. Evangelista, Assistant Director for Research

Dr. Jesus S. Cabello, Chief, Department of Laboratories

Lung Center of the Philippines

Dr. Priscilla Tablan, Officer-in-charge

Central Luzon Sanitarium Hospital, Tala, Caloocan City

Dr. Estanislao R. Espinosa, Chief of Hospital IV

Dr. Josephina P. Giagonia, Chief of Clinics

Miss Rebecca H. Roscom, Chief, Laboratory and Research Center

OTHERS

Research Institute for Tropical Medicine

Dr. Margaritta Galon, Vice-Director General

Dr. Thelma E. Topasi, Chief, Department of Research

Institute of Public Health, University of the Philippines

Dr. Benjamin D. Cabrera, Professor of Parasitology

Mrs. Rosvida Rosal, Librarian-in-charge, Library

United States Naval Medical Research Unit No. 2

Dr. John H. Cross, Scientific Director

Dr. Nunilon E. Sy, Investigator

Makati Medical Center

Dr. Thelma E. Topasi

Schistosomiasis Control Council

Dr. Ernesto J. Zerrudo, Executive Director







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