The Philippine National Health Research System, with its goal to enhance health status through research, generates the National Unified Health Research Agenda (NUHRA) as one of its core areas, alongside ethics, utilization, resource mobilization, system monitoring and evaluation, and capacity building. While the NUHRA serves as the country's template for health research and development efforts, the Regional Unified Health Research Agenda (RUHRA) is more relevant to regional problems and gives direction at the regional level.

The RUHRA presents the identified health research priorities. It should guide researchers and funders alike in the development of more relevant health research in the region for the next six years.

Regional health researches primarily focused on environmental health, specifically about the effects of pollution or contamination due to industry-based sources. In the current RUHRA, projects of highest priority are improving maternal, neonatal and child health, and addressing infectious diseases, especially sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and dengue. Prioritized research areas also include food safety and nutrition, health system improvement, and environmental health among others.

# REGIONAL UNIFIED HEALTH RESEARCH AGENDA 2017-2022

#### Health Research and Development Consortium Region IV-A

Dasmariñas City, Cavite Tel: (046) 481-8000; (046) 988-3100 loc. 400 region4aconsortium@gmail.com region4a.healthresearch.ph



Philippine National Health Research System DOST-PCHRD Bicutan, Taguig City (02) 837-7535; (02) 837-7536 info@pchrd.dost.gov.ph REGION IV-A CALABARZON

> National Unified Health Research Agenda 2017-2022

# **Regional Consultation**

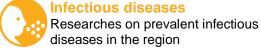
The Regional Health Research and Development Consortium (RHRDC) of each region was included in the identification process of health research priorities through the conduct of a consultation. The regional consultation for Region IV-A was held at The Lake Front, Tagaytay City on 18-19 May 2017 facilitated by the Alliance for Improving Health Outcomes, Inc. A total of 19 stakeholders attended the regional consultation. Their input, together with technical papers and situationers defining the national and regional status of health research, was considered in the formulation of the NUHRA and RUHRA.

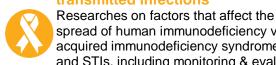
The research priorities and perceived needs of each representative were raised through small focus group discussions. with participants grouped according to two categories: academe and non-academe. Groups suggested research topics and a representative from each presented these to the plenary. Nineteen general themes were established. These themes were prioritized using criteria with designated scoring weights established by the stakeholders. The themes were ranked using the following criteria:

- health impact (40%)
- magnitude of the problem (30%)
- feasibility of study (20%), and
- innovation (10%).



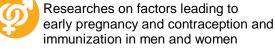
**Regional Health Research Priorities** 





spread of human immunodeficiency virus, acquired immunodeficiency syndrome, and STIs, including monitoring & evaluation of programs

# **Reproductive health**





Researches on causes of continued high prevalence of dengue in the region, including treatment and monitoring & evaluation of programs

Maternal, neonatal, and child health

Researches on maternal, neonatal and

child health services and its utilization

HIV, AIDS, and sexually

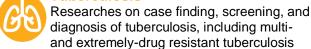
transmitted infections

### Multidrug resistance

Researches on multidrug resistance of environmental and clinical isolates

### **Tuberculosis**









# Food safety and nutrition

Researches on food safety, food security, and nutrition status of the community

#### Health systems



Researches on health systems quality, access, availability, and monitoring & evaluation of programs and services



### Environmental health

Researches on water safety, biodiversity, and climate change resilience of barangays



#### Disaster risk reduction and management

Researches on disaster risk assessment, prevention, and preparedness of the region



#### Substance abuse

Researches on causes of and interventions for substance or drug abuse

# Herbal medicinal products



Researches on practices, use, and development of herbal medicines and products

## Health effects of urbanization and industrialization

Researches on impact of urbanization and industrialization on health



# **Development of diagnostics**

Researches advancing diagnostic development for various infectious agents

### Mental health



Researches on causes, treatment, and management of mental health issues to aid health services

# Geriatric health



Researches on health services and programs for the aging population

### **Functional foods**



Researches on the development and commercialization of functional foods









