



# THE ASCLEPIAN VOICE

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**A**midst the angst depicted on their faces, young school-age boys lined up waiting for their turn to undertake a rite considered by most, if not all adolescent Filipino male experience, *circumcision*. Male circumcision is considered a rite of passage to manhood by Filipinos and had been kept as tradition passed down from father to son.

The Order of Asclepius, along with Rotaract Club of Bacolod South spearheaded a circumcision drive at Banago Elementary School II Multipurpose Hall, Brgy. Banago, Bacolod City, Negros Occidental on April 11, 2015.

A total of 94 children participated in the said event with ages ranging from 8 to 18 years old. All participants were successfully circumcised. Post-operative medications for pain and antibiotics were provided as well as health education for home care of circumcision site.

The circumcision drive sought to provide accessible and free surgical services to our countrymen in the community setting. The said activity is also in consonance with the thrust of the Order of Asclepius which is to foster brotherhood in medicine through service.

The said activity was made possible through the support of the following: Dr. Chris Sorongon (Batch 24), Rotaract Club of Bacolod South, Banago Elementary School II Parents - Teacher Association, Banago Barangay Council, medical students of West Visayas State University and University of St. La Salle - Bacolod, and faculty and 3<sup>rd</sup> Year BS Nursing students of Colegio San Agustin-Bacolod.#

## ROAD TO MANHOOD

BY: CHARLES JEBB JUANITAS

