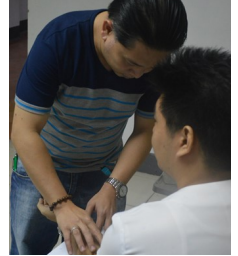




OA PARTNERS WITH AMSA FOR IMMUNIZATION DRIVE '15

Article by John Ramel Rafael



The Order of Asclepius partners with the Asian Medical Students Association (AMSA) – WVSU Chapter for the Immunization Drive '15. The three-part event was held on October 2, 17 and 14, 2015 at Room 102, Roxas Hall, WVSU.

The first part of the activity comprised of a seminar on the importance of immunization. Dr. Belen U. Rosada (OA Batch 30) of the Western Visayas Medical Center (WVMC) – Department of Family & Community was the resource speaker for the said event. In her talk, she discussing the general mechanism of immunization as well as the importance of vaccination. She also highlighted the importance of vaccination against Hepatitis B

virus, an established cause of acute and chronic hepatitis which can easily be spread through contaminated blood and body fluids.

The second part was the laboratory testing. A total of 13 medical students availed of the said services which involved blood extraction for qualitative and quantitative screening for Hepatitis B antigen and antibody (HBs and HBsAg). Serum titers are blood tests which measure an individual's immunity to a specific disease. Furthermore, results will indicate the need for vaccination.

The last part of the three-day activity was the immunization proper. A total of 11 individuals received vaccination in the form of Hepatitis B, Influenza, Human

Papilloma Virus (HPV), Pneumococcal, Mumps, Measles & Rubella (MMR), and Varicella vaccines. On the same day, certificates of recognition were also given to Dr. Belen U. Rosada, Dr. Ma. Rica Irene A. Jastia, Dr. Christine Ena Carado, and Dr. May Grace N. Rolle of the WVMC – Department of Family & Community for facilitating the laboratory testing as well as the procurement and administration of the vaccines.

The annual Immunization Drive which is sponsored by the Order of Asclepius and the Asian Medical Students Association (AMSA) – WVSU Chapter seeks to provide affordable vaccination for the medical students in order to prevent the occurrence of vaccine-preventable diseases. #