



PhilHealth La Union celebrates achievements, holds orientation for Konsulta Providers

By: Kristine G. Fontanoz

With the desire to continuously update and foster collaboration and to recognize the local healthcare providers and stakeholders who demonstrated outstanding performance in the implementation of PhilHealth Konsulta in the Province of La Union, the La Union Local Health Insurance Office (LHIO) held its Universal Health Care (UHC) Policy Framework Orientation for Local Health Officers and Stakeholders at the J & V Resort in San Fernando City, La Union on December 18, 2023.

PhilHealth Regional Office I Regional Vice President Dennis B. Adre, in his inspirational

message, encouraged stronger collaboration with the Local Government Units and thanked them for their support and dedication to quality healthcare services.

He also highlighted the increased PhilHealth benefits, both implemented and in the pipeline, to help patients overcome the rising cost of health care due to inflation. Marissa D. Mapile, Public Relations Officer I, acknowledged all participants and thanked them for attending the activity while Raymund O. Maningding, Chief Social Insurance Officer of LHIO La Union, also expressed gratitude to everyone for attending the activity.

PhilHealth also recognized the achievements of the community's healthcare providers with an awarding ceremony, praising the top implementers of Konsulta.

Doña Donata Dumuk Aguila Memorial Health Center ranked 1st place in Konsulta First Patient Encounter (FPE), and for its exemplary performance in the implementation of the National Health Insurance Program. Hon. Eulogio Clarence Martin P. De Guzman III, Municipal Mayor of Bauang, La Union, personally received the award. He promised to support PhilHealth's programs and services to ensure his constituents' well-being.

San Fernando City Health Office, Agoo Municipal Health Office, and Luna Municipal Health Office and Birthing Clinic were also acknowledged for taking the second to fourth places in Konsulta FPE.

Rural Health Units (RHUs) with the highest Konsulta registration rate were also commended during the event. The awardees were Bangar Municipal Health Office and Birthing Clinic with 99% registration rate, followed by Naguilian Municipal Health Office with 93%, and Luna Municipal Health Office and Birthing Clinic with 84%.

Agoo Municipal Health Office stood out as the only local health facility that dispenses four essential services: Konsulta; Tuberculosis - Directly Observed Treatment Shortcourse (TB-DOTS); Animal Bite Treatment (ABT) Package; and Maternity Care Package (MCP) Package.

The Provincial Health Office (PHO) of La Union was also recognized for its support and activities to implement PhilHealth's programs, and its crucial role in the successful accreditation of RHUs and City Health Offices (CHOs) for Konsulta. The plaque was received by Dr. Ellen Bautista, Medical Specialist and Dr. Dan William Y. Dacanay, Provincial Health Officer I.

The activity also included a series of engaging discussions to provide a comprehensive understanding of UHC.

Dr. Bautista discussed the service delivery design of Health and Primary Care Networks, and e-Konsulta's implementation status in La Union Province. Her presentation included the La Union Health Care Provider Network, as well as the data showing the number of RHUs/CHOs referrals to higher-level facilities.

Dr. Ivy A. Ico, Provincial Department of Health (DOH) Office-Team Leader, explained the role of Primary Care Provider Network (PCPN) in UHC. Maningding and Mapile joined the presentations with "*PhilHealth Apat Dapat for Universal Health Care*", reiterating that all RHUs and CHOs should be accredited providers of Konsulta, MCP, TB-DOTS, and ABT packages.

The accreditation status of health providers was also presented, and revealing that only Agoo Municipal Health Office has been accredited for all these services. It encouraged its peers to obtain accreditation for the four programs.

To update the participants on the method of benefit claims payment, and all related issuances, Noel R. De Guzman, Social Insurance Assistant I, LHIO La Union, discussed the Auto Credit Payment Scheme.

His presentation showed data on pending disbursements to RHUs and advised them to submit the necessary requirements to receive claims for services rendered to patients. This was followed by a short open forum to address concerns raised by the participants.

As the year ends, LHIO La Union remains committed to ensuring a strong relationship with its stakeholders. The event has proven to be a resounding success – fostering collaboration and recognizing the outstanding contributions of the local health care providers in La Union. ###