

## Session 1: 17:05 – 17:20

# Securing the Health of the Filipino for the Next Millennium: Setting up the Philippine National Institutes of Health's Clinical Trials and Translation



**Eva Maria Cutiongco-de la Paz MD, PhD.**  
(Vice Chancellor for Research, University of the Philippines Manila; Executive Director of the National Institutes of Health)

### Short CV

**Dr. Eva Maria C. Cutiongco-de la Paz** is a Professor of Pediatrics and Genetics, University of the Philippines Manila and the current Executive Director of the National Institutes of Health.

She finished her Doctor of Medicine degree from the UP College of Medicine in 1989 and completed her Pediatric residency at the Philippine General Hospital in 1992.

She had her research fellowship in Molecular Genetics at the International Center for Medical Research at the Kobe University Graduate School of Medicine in Japan and took her subspecialty training in Clinical Genetics at The Hospital for Sick Children, University of Toronto, Canada.

Her most recent awards are the Dangal ng Bayan of the Civil Service Commission for her significant and sustained contributions in the field of genetics in the country in 2018 and the Metrobank's Outstanding Filipinos in 2019.

She is also the current Director for the Health Program of the Philippine Genome Center.

### Abstract

The University of the Philippines Manila, National Institutes of Health (NIH) serves as an institutional home of a network of researchers and research institutions in the Philippines. Throughout the years it has constantly strived to increase institutional support for the many research projects that are conducted under its wing. In keeping up with the needs of the present climate of clinical research, a National Clinical Trials and Translation Center (NCTTC) at the NIH was organized.

The NIH NCTTC will be the major resource for health research and capacity building, creating new knowledge that will elevate the standards of health care for Filipinos. It has the following important objectives:

- (1) to provide a central hub for the clinical trial operations of multicenter or multinational clinical research;
- (2) to increase Filipino participation in locally and internationally significant clinical research;
- (3) to encourage Filipino researchers by offering opportunities to conduct research on new drugs, devices, and inventions into the realm of human clinical research; and
- (4) to translate research findings into relevant policy, technology and products for improving health outcomes of the Filipinos. An academic clinical research center is in a unique position to provide academic leadership, clinical trial management capabilities including site monitoring, data management, statistical analysis, safety monitoring, and most importantly clinical expertise. It also encourages collaboration with other disciplines within the academe for a more robust knowledge translation.