

NAST Initiative on Universal Health Care

DR. ERNESTO O. DOMINGO

National Scientist and Focal Person on Universal Health Care
National Academy of Science and Technology, Philippines



2012

- **Roundtable Discussion on Universal Health Care**
- February 21, 2012

The Roundtable Discussion was conducted to generate status report on the implementation of the Department of Health's response to Universal Health Care and to identify support policy direction of the program.

2013

- Joining the roster of awardees for the 2013 Ramon Magsaysay award is National Scientist Ernesto O. Domingo from the Philippines.
- NS Domingo continues his research and service to the nation by acting as adviser and consultant to major research projects and his advocacy of universal health care. He is a founding member of the Universal Clinical Health Care Advocacy Group conducting studies on the reforms needed to achieve universal health care for Filipinos.

2014

- NAST supported three (3) Roundtable Discussions on Universal Health Care.
 - Project: **Health System Shapers**
 - Consultants: NS Ernesto O. Domingo and Dr. Juan Antonio D. Ricarte, UP-NIH Universal Health Care Study Group
 - Project Duration: September 1, 2014 – December 30, 2014

Objectives:

- To gather all the different sector of the society, including individuals, individuals or groups that are involved in shaping and reforming the health system.
- To align the target goals of these sectors and link them with the government efforts;
- To forge a white paper on UHC for 2016 and beyond.

2015

- **Roundtable Discussion on Universal Health Care**
- February 23, 2015 | Casino Español, Manila
- Health System Shapers (HSS) is a multi-stakeholder collaboration, which aims to attain Universal Health Care (UHC) or *Kalusugang Pangkalahatan* (KP). It is a partnership among DOH, NAST PHL, UP-NIH, Universal Health Care Study Group (UHCSG), Asian Institute of Management Dr. Stephen Zuellig Center for Asian Business Transformation, Pharmaceutical and Healthcare Association of the Philippines (PHAP), and the GT-Metro Foundation, Inc.
- The first in the series of sectoral discussions, this RTD provided a platform to discuss the sectors' visions and roles in the promotion of UHC. It was attended by representatives from partner institutions and organizations, as well as representatives from the print and broadcast media sector.

2016

- The recommendation to declare that all Filipinos are covered by UHC/KP was part of the **38th Annual Scientific Meeting (*Theme: Looking Back and Looking Forward*)** as a major strategy to address one of the basic needs of the Filipino people.

2016

38th ASM RESOLUTIONS (13-14 July 2016)

- **Human Resources. Strategy 1: *Primary Health Care as the Fundamental Format for Universal Health Care / Kalusugang Pangkalahatan (UHC/KP)***
- For the President of Philippines to declare that all Filipinos are covered by UHC/KP effective immediately.
- Establish a global UHC/KP fund derived from the pooling/co-mingling of at least 3 major sources of health funds namely, Philhealth, Sin Taxes and PAGCOR and possibly from local government funds. Expenditure and allocation of the fund is based on a regular assessment of the services needed as determined by the DOH.
- Promote better health and nutrition by actively campaigning for diversified and balanced diets, requiring more open spaces and parks in communities and schools, strengthening the anti-smoking and liquor campaigns, and intensifying the war on prohibited drugs.

2016

- **Policy forum on Reconfiguring Primary Health care within the Context of Kalusugan Pangkalahatan / Universal Health Care**
- **Date:** 6 June 2016
- NS Ernesto O. Domingo reported that NAST recognized the importance of primary health care (PHC) in what is now *kalusugang pangkalahatan*. The goal of a policy forum is to find its way to a resolution.
- Recommendations were generated at the end of the Policy Forum.

2019

- Last February 20, 2019, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte signed the Universal Healthcare Act that will provide all Filipinos access to health products and services and will automatically enroll them to the National Health Insurance Program (NHIP).
- The law ensures that all Filipinos will have a guaranteed access to various health services and affordable health products.