## **EDITORIAL**

## Tools and Guides for Research in Family and Community Medicine

Research in Family and Community Medicine focuses on improving health outcomes, enhancing healthcare delivery, and addressing the broader determinants of health at individual, family and community level. It encompasses wide topics in clinical, behavioral, and social sciences, and it often involves collaboration with various stakeholders, including patients, other healthcare providers, and community organizations. It aims to improve the quality of care provided to patients by exploring a wide range of topics, including preventive care, chronic disease management, and healthcare delivery models.

In the PAFP, research is promoted by the Knowledge Management Standing Committee. The committee is the umbrella for all activities related to research (knowledge generation) and publication (knowledge dissemination). The PAFP has a Committee for Research Agenda and Grants Management which is responsible for setting the research agenda of the organization and providing small grants to research proposals aligned to prioritized agenda. The Research Enhancement and Capacity Assistance Program is the committee responsible for developing and conducting training modules relevant to research generation and utilization. The Clinical Guidelines and Pathways Development committee oversees developing guidelines, pathways and practice standards that are evidence-based. The Filipino Family Physician journal is the online publication for research conducted in family and community practice in the Philippines.

In this issue of our journal, we are presenting some tools, guides and current examples of research in family and Community medicine in the Philippines. The article of Arteza and Medina presents the prioritized research agenda for PAFP for 2024-2028. It is the output of the Committee for Research Agenda and Grants Management that identifies priority areas for investigation to address the most pressing health issues, improve clinical practice, and inform policy decisions. The process involved review of international and national research priorities, current publications, consultations with stakeholders and a series focused group discussion. The final output is the framework and the list of prioritized topics for guiding research efforts, allocating resources effectively, and ensuring that the outcomes are relevant to both patients and family physicians.

Also in this issue is our special theme on papers research methods series. These are the output of the PAFP Medical Writers Group previously under the leadership of Dr. Abigael Andal-Saniano. These papers present simplified approach on how to conduct diverse research methods to address the comprehensive and multidisciplinary nature of Family and Community Medicine. By utilizing these research methods, family and community medicine researchers can generate evidence that informs clinical practice, shapes health policy, and ultimately improves the health and well-being of individuals and communities. By leveraging on the research agenda and these research methods tools, researchers in Family and Community Medicine can conduct high-quality research that advances the field and improves health outcomes at both individual, family and community levels.

The articles in our primary research and review sections are various research methodologies conducted in improve care for various chronic diseases, mental health conditions and lifestyle practices.

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