ODISSeA
Organ Donation Innovative Strategies for Southeast Asia

NEWSLETTER

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ABOUT ODISSeA

The ODISSeA project is a regional program initiated by Donation and Transplant Institute (DTI) and University of Barcelona. It is an Erasmus+ project funded by European Commission with the aim to develop and implement an education program in two universities in each of the following countries: Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, and Thailand to train health professionals in clinical approach, management and dissemination strategies about organ donation in order to empower their professional competences and consequently enhance the donation activity in their countries.

KICK-OFF MEETING



From 19th – 22nd March 2019, the leaders and organisers of the ODISSeA program from University of Barcelona and Donation and Transplantation Institute (DTI), Spain together with the University of Zagreb, Croatia met for the very first time with representatives from participating universities from Philippines, Myanmar, Thailand, and Malaysia during the *'Kick-off meeting'* held at The Water Insular Hotel, Davao, Philippines.

Participants from both Europe and South East Asia (SEA) dressed in their colourful traditional costumes, were introduced to each other during the ice-breaking session in a welcome dinner organised by the host, Dr. Maria Theresa Bad-ang from Ateneo de Davao University.

During the introductory session the following day, Dr. Martí Manyalich, President of DTI Foundation, explained origin of the program and it's objectives. The program would set the network of highly qualified professionals and support the establishment of sustainable, efficient organ donation systems in SEA.

Representatives from each university then presented the summary of their respective institution and the organ donation and transplantation situation in their country.

Dr. María Paula Gómez, the Project Director of ODISSeA and her team explained each working package (WP) in the program which includes preparation, development & implementation, quality control, dissemination and management. Working groups were established to enable effective individual discussion with the local universities from each country on documentation and regulations of each WP. Towards the end of the meeting, we discussed on the scientific committee selection tasked to review our curriculum content. We ended the meeting with a signing of the ODISSEA constitution.





It was a productive meeting and many issues were resolved. Bravo to all participated members who have diligently invested time and energy to bring this marvelous work to success. Last but not least, many thanks to Ateneo De Davao University for hosting this remarkable 3-day event at the beautiful beach city.

CONSORTIUM

SPAIN: Universitat de Barcelona; DTI Donation & Transplantation Institute

ITALY: dinamia Consultoria Social; Alma Mater Studiorum Università di Bologna

CROATIA: University of Zagreb School of Medicine

MALAYSIA: University of Malaya; Universiti Teknologi MARA

THAILAND: Mahidol University Wisdom of the Land; มหาวิทยาลัยธรรมศาสตร์ Thammasat University

PHILIPPINES: Pontifical and Royal University of Santo Tomas The Catholic University of the Philippines; Ateneo de Davao University Strong in Faith that Does Justice

MYANMAR: University of Medicine (1) Yangon; University of Medicine Mandalay

TRAIN THE TRAINERS

The 'Train the Trainers' course were held from the 13th May 2019 until 17th May 2019 at Vilar Rural de Saint Hilari Sacalm, Spain which was around 40 minutes bus ride from Barcelona. The participants of the course from all the South East Asian universities gathered at the El Prat Barcelona International Airport prior to our bus transfer for our week-long training. The training program was led by a stellar cast of trainers from the EU including intensivist, anaesthesiologists, transplant coordinators, nursing practitioners, nephrologist and other expert physicians. Not to mention were the educationist and the project quality managers to help us with the educational elements and the management of our training program. The evening on our arrival started with a pleasant and casual welcome dinner hosted by our trainers. This served as an excellent recap to our purpose of this project and rekindle the friendship that we have formed when we were in Davao, Philippines during the '*Kick-off meeting*' earlier in the year.

On the first day of the training, we were divided into groups combining different specialties from different countries. The course objectives were outlined, and ice breaking activities went underway. After a short lecture on a trainer's role, we were immediately put into our respective hands-on stations in *Donor Detection & Evaluation, Brain Death & Donor Maintenance, Family Approach and Organ Retrieval & Allocation*. The day was summarized and ended with an evening of exciting social activity with the trainers, where we had a friendly karaoke competition.





The second day of training continued with the stations from the day before. After lunch, the theory and hands on station then focused on *Donation After Brain Death, Donation After Circulatory Death and Living Donation*. We discussed on the educational perspective of our respective educational donation programs and had an idea of the educational methodology to deliver our program content. The tiring and busy day splendidly ended with a dance competition!



The third day of the training completed the stations from the previous day. We then discussed on the postgraduate program components, role and online training. We also discussed on the models and development for our respective local seminar. These proposals were then presented by each University.

The fourth day of the training was completed by discussion on the objectives and the models of awareness event for our educational program. Proposals for awareness events were discussed by each university. We were then briefed on the need for '*on the job improvement*' projects namely encouraging the trainers in each university to take active steps in identifying potential organ donor in their own hospital. We also touched on the financing and the logistics for our planned international evaluation seminars. We then left the beautiful Vilar Rural for Barcelona where we were treated to a traditional flamenco show and a wonderful traditional Spanish dinner.

Prior to our departure on our last day of training, we manage to visit the Hospital Clinic in Barcelona. We were given a guided tour on the transplant coordination office, emergency room services, intensive care unit services and tissue typing lab. We were briefed on the hospital-based organ procurement system, kidney & liver transplantation programs and lab services for pre and post-transplant testing. The closing ceremony was graced by Consul Chona Abiertas, Honorary Consul of Philippines in Barcelona, and we bid our goodbyes after receiving our certificate of completion of training.

MILESTONES

- Starting call (online) — 24 January 2019
- Kick-off meeting in Davao — 19-21 March 2019
- Curriculum development — April-September 2019
- Assessment Seminar — July-August 2020
- Assessment Seminar 2 — July-August 2020
- February-March 2019 — Diagnosis Survey
- 13-17 May 2019 — Train the Trainers in Barcelona
- January 2020–September 2020 — Postgraduate Degree in Organ Donation
- July-August 2020 — Midterm meeting
- October/November 2020 — Final Meeting in Mandalay