

EDITORIAL

THE GENIUS BEHIND GUIDELINES

Carmina A. Delos Reyes, MD Editor-in-Chief, PIDSP Journal

Medical guidelines are documents containing recommendations which can be used in clinical practice. They are intended to help physicians make informed decisions on diagnostic or treatment dilemmas and help achieve the best outcomes for patients.

Medical guidelines are not made overnight. Members of the guidelines development committee, composed of a multidisciplinary panel of experts from key groups, are carefully chosen to produce a high quality scientific document. This is achieved through a transparent, evidence-based decision-making process that is labor intensive and rigorous. This ensures that guidelines are sound, credible and at par with international standards.

The process starts by defining the topic and scope for guideline development. Key issues and questions regarding the topic are drafted. Review of questions, literature search, evidence reviews, and committee discussions are done. Available medical evidence are summarized, and grading of evidence is made, until a draft recommendation is developed. Draft guidelines are then reviewed by stakeholders until a final guideline is produced and published.

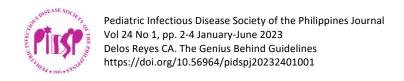
In this special issue, we bring you outputs from this guideline development process - four relevant documents on COVID-19, Pediatric Community Acquired Pneumonia (in collaboration with the Philippine Academy of Pediatric Pulmonologists), Leptospirosis, and Pediatric Immunization (prepared by the National Institutes of Health-Institute of Clinical Epidemiology and funded by the Department of Health).

The guideline development process is imperfect. Some shortcomings include paucity of evidence on certain questions, presence of potential conflicts of interest among members of the committee, limitations in funding, and even time. The major advantage is access to a summarized wealth of evidence on a specific topic to enhance physician expertise, improve healthcare quality, and reduce healthcare cost. Guidelines can also influence health policies so that underrecognized health concerns and services can be made available to the majority.

Guidelines should be used with the best interest of the individual patient in mind. They help to improve patient care quality. The complex medical decision making process done by the physician however, should not be limited by simplistic algorithms suggested by guidelines.

Correspondence:

Dr. Carmina A. Delos Reyes Email: pidsp2009@yahoo.com



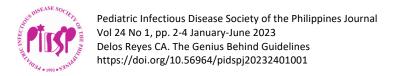
DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

In the interest of transparency, we are providing disclosures of potential conflicts of interest, current positions and professional affiliations of the members of the PIDSP Editorial Board 2022-2024:

Editor in Chief	Current Positions/Affiliations
Dr. Carmina A. Delos Reyes, MD	1. Consultant, Division of Infectious and Tropical Diseases in Pediatrics, Department of
	Pediatrics, University of the Philippines Philippine General Hospital and Clinical Associate
	Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of the Philippines College of Medicine
	2. Residency Training Officer, Amang Rodriguez Memorial Medical Center
	3. Co-Chair, Research Committee, Pasig City General Hospital
	4. Chair, Education Committee, Philippine Foundation for Vaccination
	5. Member, Philippine Guidelines on Pediatric Health Examination (PHEX 3) CPG on Pediatric Immunization
	6. Member, National Antibiotic Guidelines Committee
	7. Member, Philippine Pediatric Society Committee on TB Handbook in Children
	8. Active Consultant, Marikina Valley Medical Center, Metro Antipolo Hospital and Medical Center
	No potential sources of conflict to declare
Dr. Arlene S. Dy-Co, MD	Section Head, Pediatric Infection Diseases, National Children's Hospital
	2. Active Consultant, World Citi Medical Center and St. Luke's Medical Center, Quezon City
	No potential sources of conflict to declare

Advisor	Current Positions/Affiliations
Dr. Cecilia Maramba-Lazarte, MD	1. Director, Institute of Herbal Medicine, National Institutes of Health, University of the
	Philippines Manila
	2. Professor 12 and Assistant Chair for Research, Department of Pharmacology and
	Toxicology, University of the Philippines College of Medicine
	3. Clinical Professor, Division of Infectious and Tropical Diseases in Pediatrics, Department
	of Pediatrics, University of the Philippines Philippine General Hospital
	4. President, Philippine Association of Medical Journal Editors
	5. Chair, Adverse Event Committee, Research Ethics Board, University of the Philippines
	Manila
	6. Member, Health Technology Assessment Core Committee
	7. Member, National Antibiotic Guideline Committee
	8. Member, Board of Directors, Daniel dela Paz Foundation
	9. Member, Board of Directors, University of the Philippines Medical Foundation
	10. Member, Board of Trustees, Health Alternatives for Total Human Development Institute,
	Inc.
	No potential sources of conflict to declare

Editorial Board Member	Current Positions/Affiliations
Dr. Mary Ann Bunyi, MD	 Deputy Executive Director of Education, Training and Research Services; Active consultant and trainor of the Pediatric Infectious Disease section, Philippine Children's Medical Center Immediate past president of Pediatric Infectious Disease Society of the Philippines Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, College of Medicine, Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila Member, Advisory Board of Pfizer for Ceftazidime-avibactam, conjugated pneumococcal
	vaccine and conjugated meningococcal vaccine
	5. Speaker for Sanofi Philippines for some vaccine products
	No potential sources of conflict to declare
Dr. John Andrew Camposano, MD	1. Medical Specialist – Western Visayas Medical Center, Western Visayas Sanitarium
	2. Visiting Consultant – West Visayas State University Medical Center, Medicus Medical
	Center, Holy Mary Women and Children's Medical Center
	No potential sources of conflict to declare



Dr. Mary Antoinette Cuady-Madrid,	1. Active Consultant, Section of Pediatric Infectious Disease, Philippine Children's Medical
MD	Center 2. Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology and Parasitology, College of Medicine,
	Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila
	3. Ceftazidime/avibactam Pediatric Use Advisory Board (Medical Affairs), Pfizer
	No potential sources of conflict to declare
Dr. Xenia Catherine Fabay, MD	Clinical Documentation Consultant, AE & Associates, LLC
Dr. Actila Catherine Fabay, MD	2. Contractor for The Medical Group-Kaiser Permanante, Encounter Information Operations,
	Diagnosis Validation Team, Oakland, California
	No potential sources of conflict to declare
Dr. Elizabeth Gallardo, MD	1. Professor, Department of Pediatrics and Microbiology and Parasitology, Saint Louis
Dir Enzadetir Ganarad, MB	University, School of Medicine, Baguio City
	2. Member, Pediatric Residency Training Committee, Saint Louis University - Sacred Heart
	Medical Center, Baguio City
	3. Part of speakers bureau of Pfizer vaccines, Sanofi-Pasteur, Pediatrica and MSD vaccines
	No potential sources of conflict to declare
Dr. Fatima Gimenez, MD	1. President, Pediatric Infectious Disease Society of the Philippines
,	2. Training Officer, Philippine Children's Medical Center
	3. Chair, Immunization Committee, Philippine Pediatric Society
	4. Co-chair, Infection Control Committee, Philippine Children's Medical Center
	5. Board of Trustees, Catholic Physicians Guild of the Philippines
	No potential sources of conflict to declare
Dr. Jonathan Lim, MD	Vice chair, Dept of Pediatrics, Chong Hua Hospital
	2. Alternate Member, Chong Hua Hospital Institutional Review Board
	No potential sources of conflict to declare
Dr. Sarah Makalinaw, MD	1. Member, Research Committee, Institute of Pediatrics; Peer Reviewer, The Medical City
	Journal; Member, TB Council, The Medical City
	2. Co-Chair, Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee; Member, Research Ethics and Review
	Committee; Member, Research Committee, Department of Pediatrics, Victor R. Potenciano
	Medical Center
	3. Chair, Infection Prevention and Control Unit; Chair, Surveillance Committee; Co-Chair,
	Antimicrobial Stewardship Committee; Member, Research Committee, Department of
	Pediatrics, Rizal Medical Center
	4. Co-Chair, Committee on Library, Website and Online CME; Member of the following Committees of the Pediatric Infectious Disease Society of the Philippines:
	i.Membership and Awards
	ii.External Affairs and Advocacy
	iii.Subcommittee on Research Programs, Research Committee
	iv.Constitution and By-Laws
	5. Co-chair, Committee on Website; Member, Webinar Committee, Philippine Foundation for
	Vaccination
	No potential sources of conflict to declare
Dr. Francesca Mae Pantig, MD	1. Visiting Medical Consultant, Department of Pediatrics; Member, Antimicrobial Stewardship
,	(AMS) Committee; Member, Infection Control Committee and STD/HIV-AIDS Committee,
	Angeles University Foundation Medical Center
	2. Active Consultant, Department of Pediatrics; Chair, Infection Control Committee; Head,
	Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) Committee, Dr. Amando L. Garcia Medical Center, Inc.
	3. Active Consultant, Department of Pediatrics; Chair, Infection Control Committee; Member,
	Antimicrobial Stewardship (AMS) Committee, AC Sacred Heart Medical Center
	No potential sources of conflict to declare
Dr. Paul Sherwin Tarnate, MD	Clinical Research Investigator, COVID-19 Vaccine Clinical Trials
	2. Vaccine Study Group, Institute of Child Health and Human Development, National Institutes
	of Health, University of the Philippines Manila
	No potential sources of conflict to declare