



National Institutes of Health
University of the Philippines Manila



20th FERCAP International Online CONFERENCE

December 7-9, 2020
Hosted by the National Institutes of Health
University of the Philippines Manila

Conference Announcement and Call for Abstracts

Theme: Ethical Issues During Epidemic Outbreaks

Conference Schedule

December 7-8, 2020 Monday – Tuesday	Conference Proper
December 9, 2020 Wednesday	FERCAP Recognition Program

The outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic caught the scientific community and the global community by surprise. No one was prepared for to deal with the public health emergency that it brought about. Since this was a novel disease, scientists had to discover the nature of the Covid-19 virus as different from previous ones, its origin and its manifestations on infected persons to be able to develop effective drugs to treat it, effective vaccines to prevent it and public health measures to contain it. There was a race among countries to develop scientifically sound and ethically compliant protocols to control its spread. It created a global public emergency that needed global surveillance and monitoring as individual countries shared their experiences and best practices with each other. At the same time, the pandemic wreaked havoc on the global economy with hundreds of thousands of the population losing their jobs and inevitably causing an economic recession.

The FERCAP conference will seek to describe the effects of epidemic outbreaks like Covid-19 on the health systems, the emergency measures that were adopted, the various types of scientific and medical initiatives that emerged, the public health measures that were enforced, the ethical issues the containment measures engendered and lessons learned from the Covid 19 experience.

Call for Abstract Submission

***Presentation abstracts** (approximately 300 words) may be submitted to atoynavarro@yahoo.com and/or crisrina.torres@yahoo.com on or before October 31, 2020 on any of the suggested topics below:

- International/ national policies, regulations, guidelines and practices related to ethical issues during an epidemic outbreak or a public health emergency
- Addressing ethical challenges in various types of researches during an epidemic
 - Genetic analysis of the virus/ laboratory research
 - Animal studies
 - Stages of drug development
 - Diagnostic tool development
 - Vaccine development
 - Use of blood, plasma and other biologic to treat Covid-19
 - Traditional/ complementary medicine
 - Conducting clinical trials during a pandemic
 - Public health research during a public health emergency
 - Socio-behavioral issues to contain the epidemic
- International collaboration in product development during a pandemic
- Health promotion during an epidemic outbreak
- Publication/ scientific integrity of published articles
- Ethics in surveillance and data analytics
- Best practices of research ethics committees during an epidemic
 - Ethical issues involved in reviewing investigational new product applications for Covid19
 - Reviewing multi-country clinical trials during epidemic outbreaks
 - Data privacy issues during a public health emergency.
 - Data and benefit sharing during Covid-19 pandemic
 - Use of online platforms for ethics review
 - Improving quality of ethics review of protocols
 - Reviewing various types of informed consent (individual vs. administrative consent, broad consent, electronic informed consent, etc.)