

It is with distinct honor and pride that we publish our first Special Issue on Obstetrics and Gynecology of the Acta Medica Philippina. The issue marks not only the continuous evolution of our field but also celebrates a significant milestone in our Department's history. This year marks the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary since the merging of the once separate Department of Obstetrics and Department of Gynecology.

The issue showcases our commitment to the advancement of reproductive health. It reflects our vision to be at the forefront of service, training, education, and research, both nationally and globally. Each article within this issue addresses pressing reproductive health concerns of our society and contributes to the global body of knowledge.

As the Department celebrates 60 years of growth and advancement, this issue pays tribute to our forebearers, whose vision and dedication have laid the foundation for our continued pursuit of excellence in research. May this also serve as an inspiration to our colleagues to continue engaging in research as a means of service by producing socially relevant studies ultimately contributing to national health policy development. As a testament to our commitment to promote research, the Institute of Reproductive Health was created and approved by the Board of Regents last November 30, 2023.

I extend my deepest gratitude to all the contributors, reviewers, editors, and editorial staff who have made this Special Issue possible. I especially thank Dr. Bernadette Octavio, Special Editor of this issue and to our Department Coordinator, Dr. Melissa Amosco. The dedication and hard work of everyone has not only enriched this publication but have also significantly contributed to the advancement of our field.

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