

# Regional Unified Health Research Agenda

The Philippine National Health Research System, with its goal to enhance health status through research, generates the National Unified Health Research Agenda (NUHRA) as one of its core areas, alongside ethics, utilization, resource mobilization, system monitoring and evaluation, and capacity building. While the NUHRA serves as the country's template for health research and development efforts, the Regional Unified Health Research Agenda (RUHRA) is more relevant to regional problems and gives direction at the regional level.

The RUHRA presents the identified health research priorities. It should guide researchers and funders alike in the development of more relevant health research in the region for the next six years.

## REGIONAL UNIFIED HEALTH RESEARCH AGENDA 2017-2022

## Caraga Administrative Region



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## Regional Consultation

The Regional Health Research and Development Consortium of each region was included in the identification process of health research priorities through the conduct of a consultation. The regional consultation for Caraga was held on 5-6 June 2017 facilitated by the Alliance for Improving Health Outcomes, Inc. The consultation was attended by 28 participants. Their input, together with technical papers and situationers defining the national and regional status of health research, was considered in the formulation of the NUHRA and RUHRA.

The research priorities and perceived needs of each representative were raised through small focus group discussions, with participants grouped into three categories: health-related agencies, education-related agencies, and science and technology-related agencies. The three groups came up with suggested research topics which were grouped under 14 general themes. These themes were prioritized using criteria with designated scoring weights established by the stakeholders. The themes were ranked using the following criteria:

- magnitude of the problem at 25%,
- relevance and urgency at 20%,
- applicability at 15%, and
- capacity or feasibility at 10%.

## Regional Health Research Priorities



### Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)

Researches on water quality and hygiene issues in the region



### Adolescence, sexuality, and reproductive health

Researches on the increasing rate of teenage pregnancy and other reproductive health issues



### HIV/AIDS

Researches on the increasing incidence of human immunodeficiency virus



### Disaster risk reduction and management

Researches on health emergency issues during natural and/or man-made disasters



### Substance abuse

Researches on substance abuse issues and effectiveness of interventions



### Non-communicable diseases

Researches on the increasing morbidity and mortality rates due to non-communicable diseases



### Food quality and safety

Researches on food quality, food preparation, and low number of certified food processors in the region



### Health in mining

Researches on the effects of mining on health of miners and the communities surrounding mining sites



### Tropical infectious diseases

Researches on endemic diseases that continue to persist in the region



### Child health and nutrition

Researches on malnutrition in children



### Solid waste management

Researches on various solid waste management issues in the region



### Health service delivery

Researches on effectiveness of health policies and service delivery



### Tuberculosis

Researches on the increasing incidence of multi-drug resistant tuberculosis



### Government health financing

Researches on health financing issues of the local government unit