## **Dr Ian Christian Gonzales**



Dr Ian Christian Gonzales, MD, PHSAE, is a public health physician and field epidemiologist with ten years of experience in public health at the sub-national and national level. He currently serves as the Chief of the Public Health Surveillance Division, Epidemiology Bureau, Department of Health, Philippines.

Dr Gonzales began his career as a resident physician at a tertiary government hospital in 2015. From 2017-2021, he worked at a sub-national (regional) office of the Department of Health where he managed various public health programs including health emergencies, non-communicable diseases, and infectious diseases. He led various task forces and incident management teams in response to internally displaced populations due to disasters and conflicts, as well as epidemics of dengue, measles, vaccine-derived poliovirus, and COVID-19.

In 2021-2023, Dr Gonzales completed the 2-year advanced course of the Philippine Field Epidemiology Training Program (FETP). After his fellowship, he joined the Epidemiology Bureau to teach and mentor FETP fellows in outbreak investigation and response. In his current role, he oversees the implementation of the Philippine Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response (PIDSR) system. Dr Gonzales also leads innovation and health systems strengthening activities, such as enhancements of the information system and data mart, revision of national surveillance guidelines, piloting of new surveillance systems, and ensuring that surveillance data guides decision-making in disease prevention and control.

Dr Gonzales earned his bachelor's degree in Psychology in 2010 and Doctor of Medicine degree in 2014, both from Xavier University–Ateneo de Cagayan.