

Child Protection Unit, University of the Philippines

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University of the Philippines
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<http://www.childprotection.org.ph/>
<http://www.cpu-net.org.ph/>

The health profession has worked to increase the number of trained child protection specialists and multi-disciplinary child protection units (CPUs). The Department of Health established a system of nation-wide regional CPUs, currently totaling thirty-nine. The National Bureau of Investigation and the Philippines National Police also opened centers for medico-legal evaluation. These CPUs, their child protection specialists, and other hospital-based child protection practitioners largely operate in isolation from each other, with few established relationships among them - each facing the challenges of child abuse and neglect single-handedly, everyday.

VPA focal person



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Dr. Bernadette J. Madrid is the Director of the Child Protection Unit of the University of the Philippines Manila - Philippine General Hospital. She is a Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics at the UP College of Medicine. She is also the Executive Director of the Child Protection Unit Network, an NGO that supports the training of Child Protection Professionals and the development of Child Protection Units in the Philippines. She is a past president of the Philippine Ambulatory Pediatric Association. She has been awarded as one of the Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service in 2001 for her work in child protection and one of the 5 Most Outstanding Philippine Doctors for 2004. She is a member of several government committees that cuts across health, social welfare, law enforcement and the judiciary. She has testified in Senate and Congressional Hearings on child welfare legislations as well as in the Supreme Court Committee on Revision of the Rules of Court regarding video testimony of children. Part of her present undertaking is the training of Child Protection Experts nationwide and the adoption of a common medico-legal terminology and database. Dr. Madrid is actively involved in the integration of child abuse prevention in the undergraduate and graduate medical curriculum.

Dr. Madrid has published several articles on domestic violence and child abuse and neglect (CAN). She has been a resource person and lecturer for the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific as well as UNICEF on Child Sexual Abuse and Child Sexual Exploitation. She has chaired

previous regional consultations by the World Health Organization on the WHO World report on Violence and Health and the Health Sector Response to Sexual Violence. She is presently a member of the Executive Council of the International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect and Chair of the Asian Forum.