



University of the Cordilleras' study on antimicrobial properties of local plants gets funding from DOH



UC Health Researchers, Dr. Godfrey G. Mendoza (3rd from left) and Jocelyn E. dela Vega (3rd from right) from the University of the Cordilleras (UC) College of Nursing receive the research grant from representatives from the DOH-CAR, CHED-CAR, and DOST-CAR.

A study by faculty members from the University of the Cordilleras (UC) – College of Nursing has been selected to be a recipient of a research grant from the Department of Health - Cordillera through the Cordillera Regional Health Research and Development Consortium (CRHRDC).

The study entitled “Isolation and Characterization of Antimicrobial Secondary Metabolites in *Tagetes Erecta* (Marigold) and *Lantana Camara Linn* (Lantana)” by UC CON faculty Dr. Godfrey G. Mendoza and Jocelyn E. dela Vega aims to screen and analyze the bioactive components in the two plants to identify their potential antibacterial properties against staphylococcus

DOH & CRHRDC promote investments in health research in the country in line with the thrusts of the Cordillera Regional & the National Unified Research Agenda 2017-2020.

UC's study funded by the CRHRDC aims to discover antimicrobial properties in local plants that may be used to develop a potential alternative topical treatment for skin infections.

aureus and streptococcus pyogenes species.

An expected outcome of the study – which is under drug discovery and development – is to combine the flowering plants' identified anti-

microbial properties with other herbal plants to produce a topical treatment for bacterial skin infections. Marigold and lantana are widely-available in Baguio City and in the Benguet Province

and are known to be used for at-home remedies. Due to the plants' accessibility, the research also proposes product development to serve as an alternative to other commercialized topical products.

The grant is part of the CRHRDC's program to fund studies that are aligned with the Cordillera Regional Unified Health Research Agenda 2017-2020 and the National Unified Health Research Agenda of the Philippines 2017-2020 which “promotes investment in health research in the country” through the National Health Research System and the Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Council for Health Research and Development.