

VMMC inaugurates new Cardiovascular Operating Unit

The Veterans Memorial Medical Center held the blessing and inauguration of the newly constructed Cardiovascular Operating Unit (CVOU) on July 28, 2022.

VMMC Director Dominador Chiong Jr and incoming Undersecretary for National Defense Franco Nemesio Gacal, who represented DND Officer-in-Charge Jose Faustino Jr as Guest of Honor and Speaker, spearheaded the hospital event.

The event started off with the ribbon cutting and blessing of the Cardiovascular Unit shortly afterwards the inauguration ceremony was held at the Basilio Valdes Hall.

In his inauguration message, Dr. Chiong shared that the CVOU is the biggest hospital project so far and will enable VMMC to perform open heart surgeries to complement the Heart Institute. He added that before veteran patients with complicated heart ailments requiring surgical procedures were referred to the Philippine Heart Center or to other infirmaries, with the veterans having to shoulder the cost of the procedures themselves. With the launching of the CVOU, VMMC can now perform complex open heart surgeries such as Coronary Artery Bypass Graft surgery (CABG) and treat cardiovascular diseases alongside with the Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory. He added that the CVOU is a huge step in upgrading the hospital facilities of VMMC as part of its modernization program.

Dir. Chiong also promised to continue modernizing the hospital to improve its services for the benefit of the Filipino veterans and their families. "We will continuously find ways to improve our services. We will strive to give the highest standard of clinical care and treatment," he said.

Afterwards, Dr. Dexter Aison, Head of the Department of Surgery presented a comprehensive backgrounder about the Cardiovascular Operating Unit and its medical services.

On the other hand, Usec Gacal reading the speech of DND OIC Faustino, assured that the Department of National Defense will continue to support VMMC in improving the capacity of its dedicated medical staff and modernizing its facilities and equipment to be at par with the best hospitals in the country.

"Sama-sama nating tiyakin ang kalusugan ng ating mga mamamayan para sa isang mas maginhawang Pilipinas," he concluded.

Gracing the event were Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO) Officer-in-Charge, Atty. Rolando Villaflor together with the former PVAO Administrator Usec. Ernesto G. Carolina, former Deputy Administrator Asec. Raul Z. Caballes and other officials of the DND. The officers and members of the Veterans Federation of the Philippines (VFP), Association of Generals and Flag Officers (AGFO) also witnessed the inauguration of the VMMC's CVOU.



Dr. Dominador M. Chiong Jr., (middle) poses with the guests



VMMC key officials welcome guests at the main lobby



VMMC Director and Incoming Undersecretary of DND during the cutting of ribbon



Fr. Emigdio Paredes led the blessing of CVOU.



Blessing of Cardiovascular Operating Unit



Dominador M. Chiong Jr. and incoming Undersecretary for National Defense Franco Nemesio Gacal tour the Cardiovascular Operating



Dominador M. Chiong Jr., Director of VMMC in his welcome remarks.



Dr. Dexter Aison, Acting Head of Department of Surgery in his short briefing on CVOU.



Incoming Undersecretary of DND Franco Nemesio Gacal assures DND's continued support to VMMC's modernization programs



Dr. Dominador M. Chiong Jr. (seated in the middle) poses with the guests.



VMMC Chiefs and Staff



VFP officers poses with incoming Undersecretary for National Defense Franco Nemesio Gacal