Nursing Faculty Advances Culturally Responsive Care Through Scopus-Indexed Research

Center for Innovation, Research and Planning

St. Paul University Quezon City proudly recognizes the achievement of its Nursing Department for contributing to the international body of scholarly knowledge through the publication of the research entitled ***"From Blame to Understanding: Filipino Parents' Explanatory Models of Childhood Congenital Anomalies and the Role of Culturally Responsive Nursing"*** in Genetics and Molecular Research, a journal indexed in Scopus.

The publication represents a significant accomplishment for the Nursing Department, reflecting the faculty's commitment to producing research that is not only academically difficult but also responsive to the cultural, social, and healthcare realities of Filipino families.

At the center of the study is an important and deeply human question: How do Filipino parents understand and explain childhood congenital anomalies? Beyond the clinical and genetic dimensions of congenital conditions, the research recognizes that parents may interpret these experiences through cultural beliefs, personal experiences, family narratives, and broader social understandings of illness and disability.

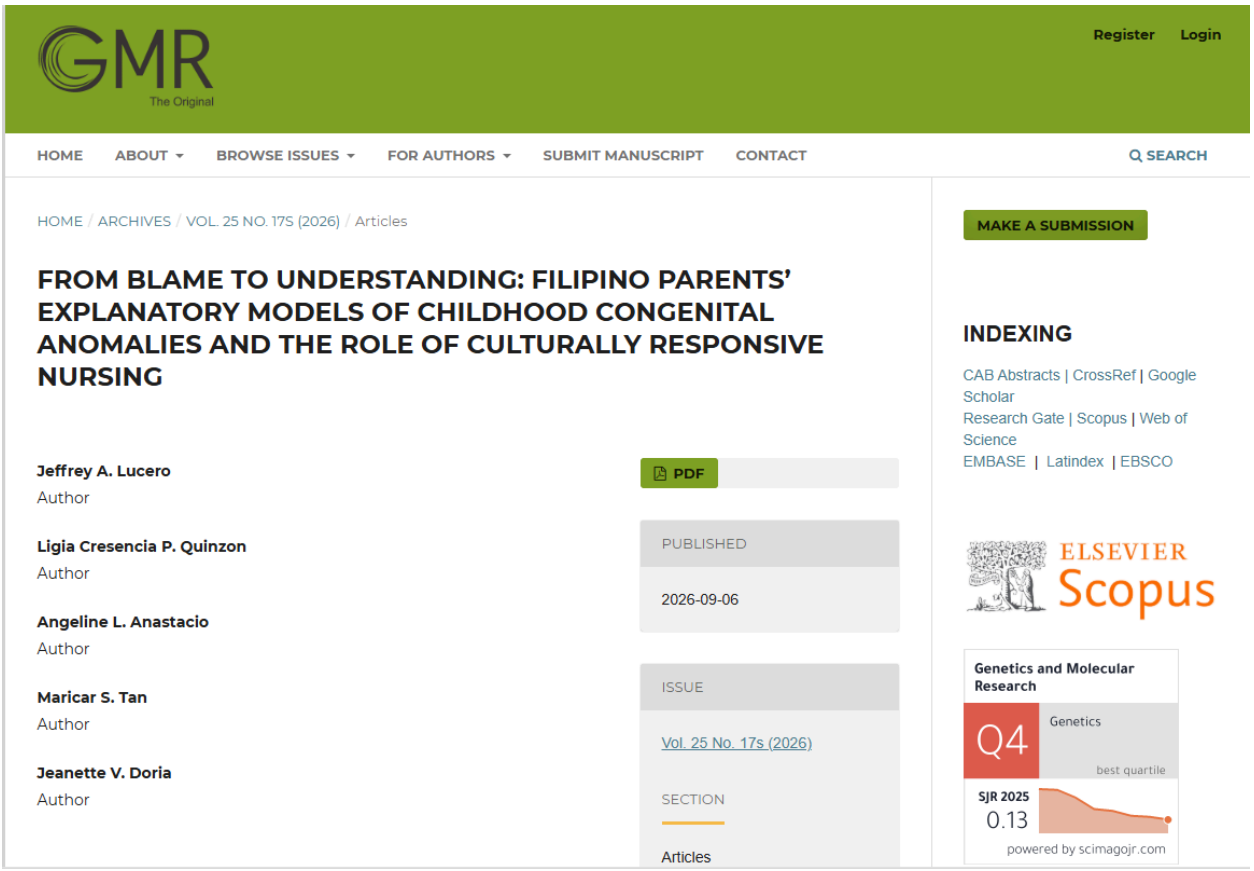
The study's movement "from blame to understanding" highlights the importance of approaching families with empathy, cultural sensitivity, and evidence-based understanding. Rather than viewing parental explanations simply as misconceptions that need to be corrected, culturally responsive nursing encourages healthcare professionals to first understand the beliefs and perspectives that shape how families' sense of their child's condition. This perspective has important implications for nursing practice. Nurses are often among the healthcare professionals who spend the most time with patients and their families. Their role extends beyond providing clinical care to include communication, education, emotional support, advocacy, and the development of therapeutic relationships. Understanding the cultural context in which families interpret illness can contribute to more meaningful and effective nursing interventions.

The publication also demonstrates the growing importance of culturally responsive healthcare in an increasingly diverse healthcare environment. Effective healthcare is not solely about providing technically appropriate interventions. It also requires recognizing the values, beliefs, experiences, and social contexts that influence how patients and families receive and respond to care.

For the Nursing Department, this achievement underscores the value of faculty research in strengthening both academic scholarship and professional practice. Such research provides opportunities to generate knowledge grounded in Filipino experience while contributing to broader international discussion on genetics, congenital anomalies, family health, and culturally responsive nursing.

Publication in a Scopus-indexed journal further demonstrates the quality and scholarly relevance of the research. It provides the faculty researcher and the University with an avenue to

share locally grounded insights with the international academic community and contributes to strengthening the institution's research visibility.

More importantly, the study exemplifies the kind of research that can bridge science and humanity. While genetics and congenital anomalies involve complex biological and medical dimensions, the experiences of families cannot be understood through scientific explanations alone. Parents also need healthcare professionals who listen, understand, communicate with sensitivity, and recognize the cultural meanings attached to their experiences.

This accomplishment is more than a publication milestone. It reflects SPUQC's commitment to research excellence, culturally responsive practice, and compassionate healthcare, particularly in the Nursing Department.