

Nominee: **Dr. Ma. Daisy Pedroso Tabuena**

Category: Award for Excellence in Clinical Practice

Batch 91

My Testimony as a Patient

I am ANGELO TRIBUNAL, 45 years of age, male, single, and a resident of DECA HOMES 2 PAVIA, ILOILO CITY.

I am honored to write this testimony in support of Dr. Ma. Daisy Pedroso Tabuena for the Award for Excellence in Clinical Practice. As a patient dealing with lumbar stenosis, I faced significant challenges—pain, mobility limitations, and uncertainty about my condition. Dr. Ma Daisy has been more than just a physician; she has been a guiding light in my treatment, offering not only expert medical care but also unwavering support and encouragement.

Her deep knowledge and skill in managing spinal conditions have been instrumental in my recovery. Through her careful evaluation, personalized treatment plan, and commitment to patient well-being, I was able to regain function and significantly improve my quality of life. Beyond her technical expertise, what sets Dr. Ma Daisy apart is her compassionate approach—she listens attentively, explains thoroughly, and ensures that her patients feel empowered in their health decisions.

My Journey: A Testimonial for Dr. Ma Daisy

For over a year, I endured excruciating pain with every step and every restless night. My struggle began in 2021, during the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic. I experienced persistent lower back pain, relying on temporary relief from pain medication, never fully addressing the underlying issue.

I have known Dr. Ma Daisy for more than two decades through my work in the pharmaceutical industry. I always admired her as a neurologist, though I never considered that she could help with my condition. My visits to her were initially professional—focused on promoting my medical brands. But through these interactions, she saw something I hadn't even fully recognized myself. She noticed my posture was off, particularly in my hip, and gently asked if I had been experiencing discomfort.

It surprised me that she noticed something beyond neurological concerns. When I finally shared my health struggles, she was immediately invested in helping me.

Without hesitation, she urged me to undergo an electromyography (EMG) to determine the correct diagnosis.

I hesitated at first—it was an unfamiliar procedure and came with financial considerations. But Dr. Daisy reassured me, emphasizing that for her, being a doctor was more than a profession—it was a commitment and a calling to help patients at all costs.

Her words and unwavering dedication convinced me to proceed. She saw my pain not just as a medical case but as a personal mission to alleviate my suffering. Knowing her expertise and kind heart, I trusted her guidance and took the step toward healing.

Dr. Ma Daisy's commitment to her patients goes beyond treatment—it's about genuine care, advocacy, and the relentless pursuit of solutions for those in need. I wholeheartedly support her nomination for the Award for Excellence in Clinical Practice.

Service Beyond Duty: Dr. Daisy's Commitment to Care

Following a series of tests, Dr. Daisy's prognosis was precise, affirming the severity of my condition while offering a clear path forward. She didn't just diagnose the issue—she made it her mission to help me manage the pain and improve my quality of life.

From the very beginning, she treated me with both expertise and deep empathy. She prescribed the necessary medications but, more than that, she instilled hope, assuring me that with the right treatment, I could regain control over my health. Her care extended beyond medical prescriptions—she personally facilitated my PWD card to ensure I received the support I needed, followed up on my progress, and remained actively engaged in my recovery journey.

I realized that more than just a doctor, she became a genuine friend—someone deeply

invested in my well-being. Her sincerity, passion, and commitment to service set her apart, making her more than just a healer but an unwavering advocate for her patients. Dr. Daisy embodies the true essence of clinical excellence, and I wholeheartedly support her nomination for the Award for Excellence in Clinical Practice.

Overall Perception of Dr. Ma. Daisy Tabuena as a Neurologist and Attending Physician

Dr. Ma. Daisy Tabuena is an exceptional neurologist whose expertise, dedication, and compassionate approach set her apart in the field of clinical practice. Her ability to diagnose and manage complex neurological conditions with precision demonstrates her deep knowledge and unwavering commitment to patient care.

As my attending physician, Dr. Tabuena has been more than just a medical expert—she has been a source of guidance, reassurance, and unwavering support throughout my health journey. Her thorough approach to diagnosis, coupled with her willingness to go beyond standard medical care, showcases her dedication to truly improving the lives of her patients.

What distinguishes Dr. Tabuena is her ability to combine technical excellence with genuine human connection. She listens attentively, provides clear explanations, and ensures her patients feel confident in their treatment plan. Her advocacy for patient well-being goes beyond prescriptions and procedures—she personally follows up, offers encouragement, and ensures that every aspect of care is addressed with sincerity and compassion.

Her passion for service, commitment to excellence, and ability to make patients feel heard and valued truly make her an outstanding neurologist. Dr. Tabuena is not just a healthcare provider; she is a true advocate for her patients, making a lasting impact through her unwavering dedication to the medical profession.

Testimony



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My Testimony as a Patient

I am Alma P. Cardos, 45 years old, a married woman, and a resident of Allen Northern Samar .

4 years ago I experienced weakness and dumbness in my lower extremities. At nalaman ko na Bone Cancer na pala ito. Para sa akin mahirap magkaroon ng ganitong sakit, hindi ako maka lakad, at maka hinga sa araw araw in almost 4 months. Lahat na napuntahan namin sa aming lugar upang mag pa check-up per parang wala parin. And we decided to go to Iloilo City dahil ang husband ko ay from Tapaz, Capiz.

Pagpunta namin ng Iloilo ni refer kami sa West Visayas State University Medical Center, at na admit ako noong December 6, 2021 almost 1 week kung saan nakilala ko si Dr. Ma Daisy Tabuena na isang magaling na doctor, masasabi ko na isa siyang doctor na may panindigan at pagmamahal sa kanyang mga pasyente. Hindi ako nahirapan na lumapit sa kanya pag meron akong mga concerns, dahil approachable siyang doctor, she gives me hope during myhard times because of my condition. Akala ko nga dati na hindi na ako makakalakad pero God's always have own ways to fulfill his purpose that is why si Dr. Tabuena ang binigay sa aking doctor to help me fully recover. At ngayon in God's grace, almost 4 years na akong naka recover at bumalik na sa dati ang aking pag kilos na parang hindi lang ako nag kasakit .

Malaki ang pasasalamat ko sa Western Visayas State University Medical Center at sa mga Nurses at Doctors lalo na kay Dr. Daisy Tabuena, sana marami pa kayong matulungan na kagaya ko especially to those patients who lost hopes because of their condition. And I know and I am truly honored to recommend that Dr. Ma. Daisy Tabuena whose remarkable expertise as a Neurologist and Internist to be one of the awardees in clinical practice. To God be the Glory.

Thank you, and God bless.

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My Testimony as a Patient

Ako po si Gng. Rona Canindo, isang pampublikong guro sa Batad at ang aking mga anak ay nag-aaral dito sa City.

Naging maayos naman ang pag-aaral ng 2 kong anak na lalaki. Isang umaga ng Nov. 21 ng mag-message ang panganay na anak ko na si Angel na nabungi daw ang ngipin niya dahil nauntog sa glass door sa Strata Building kung saan siya pumapasok na part time. Dahil sa nagwoworry po ako sa impact ng pagkabangga niya sa glass door, pumunta po ako dito sa city at pinatingnan ko po siya sa Dr. sa Medicus. Nov.22 po ng madaling araw, tinatawagan po ako ng kanyang kasama na pinauwi po siya dahil sa masama ang pakiramdam niya at suka ng suka. Pinaki-usapan ko ang aking neighbor na dalhin sa ospital ang anak ko dahil hindi na makatayo at suka ng suka. Na-admit po siya sa IDH at na-opera po sa tiyan noong Nov.24 dahil appendicitis ang diagnosis ng mga Dr. dahil nagsusuka at masakit ang tiyan. Sa kabila ng 1st operation at pagtanggal ng appendix, hindi po tumitigil ang sakit sa tiyan at pagsusuka. Kinausap po kami ng surgeon niya at sabi bubuksan po nila ulit ang tummy dahil baka po my adhesion. Sobrang natatakot po kami dahil 2-weeks pa lang nabuksan ang tiyan niya at bubuksan ulit. Dahil gusto naman gumaling ang aming anak, pumayag kami na buksan ulit ang kanyang tiyan. Pero kahit natapos na ang 2nd operation, hindi pa rin tumitigil ang pagsusuka nya. Lalong lumala ang kalagayan ng anak ko dahil nlalagnat na siya ng mahigit 40degrees celcius at parang dis-oriented na siya. Naki-usap na kami na lilipat kami ng ibang ospital. Dec.21 nakalipat kami ng ospital. Naka schedule na siya ulit para sa 3rd operation sa Dec.28 pero Dec.25 palang nagsasabi na siya sa amin na hindi na sya makakita at hindi na siya makatayo nawawalan na daw siya ng lakas. Hindi na sya halos dumidilat at halos nawalan na kami ng pag-asa. Kinausap kami ng surgeon na kukuha na ng Neuro Doctor at ni rekomenda nla si Dr. Ma. Daisy Pedroso-Tabuena. Dec.28 ng pumunta si Dra.Tabuena at sinimula niyang gamutin ang aming anak. Sinabi po niya na may swelling sa brain ang aming anak. Madaming test ang pinagawa at pagkatapos ng 2 araw, nagsimula ng dumilat ang aming anak. Natigil na rin ang kanyang pagsusuka. Unti- unting nakakita kami ng liwanag na gagaling ang aming anak. Habang buhay akong magpapasalamat sa DIYOS na binigay NIYA sa amin si Dra. Tabuena sa panahon ng magkaroon ng health crisis ang aming anak. Nawa marami pang matutulungan si Dra. Tabuena na gumaling at humaba ang buhay.

Testimony by:

Rona Canindo

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**My Journey with Guillain-Barré Syndrome & the Exemplary Role of My Attending Physician,
Dr. Ma. Daisy Pedroso -Tabuena**

I. Introduction

On the morning of December 13, 2014, I woke up with what I believed were typical flu symptoms—nasal congestion, a dull headache, and general fatigue. I went about my day, thinking it would pass. However, by afternoon, I began to feel a strange tightness in my throat, as though something was preventing me from fully swallowing. I assumed it was just inflamed tonsils and dismissed it. Around 5:30 p.m., as I climbed the stairs to the second floor of our home, I nearly slipped—one of my feet suddenly felt weak. Still, I convinced myself it was nothing. But by 9:00 p.m., as I prepared for bed, I realized I had lost sensation when I scratched my back and was uncomfortable as I shifted positions. By 10:00 p.m., I told my wife, “Something is definitely wrong. I need to go to the hospital.” We arrived at St. Paul’s Hospital in Iloilo City close to midnight. Initial tests were inconclusive, but I insisted on being admitted for observation. When asked to name my attending physician, I requested Dr. Ma. Daisy Pedroso-Tabuena, a trusted high school classmate and fellow native of our hometown. Early the next morning, I told my wife I needed to use the toilet. That was when panic set in—I realized I could no longer stand on my own, much less clean myself. My body was deteriorating rapidly. Around 8:00 a.m., Dr. Ma. Daisy Pedroso-Tabuena entered my room. After a brief greeting, she began assessing my symptoms. I still recall her words: “*Pangita ka sponsor mo, mahal ni nga sakit.*” I smiled, thinking she was joking. But when she began giving urgent instructions to the nurse—each ending with the word “stat”—it became clear this was serious. She immediately ordered confirmatory tests. Not long after, I was transferred to the Intensive Care Unit (ICU). I write this narrative in honor of Dr. Ma. Daisy Pedroso Tabuena, whose exemplary care guided me through one of the most critical and terrifying moments of my life.

II. Diagnosis and Hospitalization

The confirmatory tests validated Dr. Ma. Daisy Pedroso -Tabuena’s clinical suspicion: I had Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS), a rare and unpredictable autoimmune disorder where the immune system attacks the nerves. The decline in my condition was swift and overwhelming. Just two days earlier, I had full control of my body. Now, I couldn’t walk, sit, or even lift my legs. While I could still see, hear, and move my hands, my respiratory muscles were beginning to fail. Nurses constantly monitored my oxygen saturation—and soon, my greatest fear was realized: I

had to be intubated to breathe. It was, without a doubt, the most traumatic experience of my life. I was confined for a total of 21 days, 19 of which were spent in the ICU. I celebrated Christmas 2014 in the ICU and welcomed the New Year of 2015 from a hospital room. I was initially treated with plasmapheresis for two sessions but was eventually shifted to intravenous immunoglobulin (IVIG) therapy. Remarkably, within two days, I began to show signs of improvement. Slowly, I regained movement in my hands and feet.

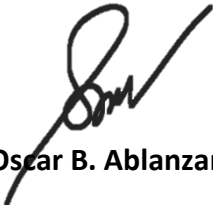
III. Dr. Ma. Daisy Pedroso-Tabuena's Role

In hindsight, I believe it was divine providence that led me to choose Dr. Ma. Daisy Pedroso-Tabuena as my attending physician. GBS is a complex condition requiring neurological expertise—and I was blessed that one of the most qualified specialists was someone I already trusted. At a time when survival felt uncertain, Dr. Ma. Daisy's calm, confident presence gave my family and me renewed strength. She was at my bedside nearly every day—sometimes staying well beyond her regular hours—not just as a doctor, but as a steady source of hope. She was meticulous and detail-oriented, ensuring timely coordination with the hospital team. She carefully explained procedures and treatment plans in words my wife and I could grasp, always encouraging us to have faith and remain strong. Her dedication made us feel that we were not alone. Knowing that GBS was a rare and unfamiliar condition for many, I appreciated how Dr. Ma. Daisy seemed to go the extra mile to study and manage my case. Her combination of clinical excellence, poise under pressure, and genuine empathy was central to my recovery.

IV. A Grateful Tribute

Today, I share this personal journey not only as a survivor of Guillain-Barré Syndrome but as a grateful patient of Dr. Ma. Daisy Pedroso-Tabuena. Her medical expertise, compassion, and unwavering dedication were instrumental in saving my life. She is a true example of what it means to be both a healer and a professional. I wholeheartedly support her nomination as Outstanding Alumna of the West Visayas State University College of Medicine. She represents the very best of her alma mater—someone who heals not only with knowledge but also with heart.

Testimony by:



Oscar B. Ablanzar

