

Editorial

p(arazo)-value<0.000

Leahdette O. Padua, MD



In Memoriam

Mercedita A. Parazo

31 January 1950 - 7 September 2013

The conduct of research cannot be done without statistics. Without statistics, the researcher will be left with a pile of information that he cannot use to make a conclusion. In fact, statistics is involved in the many aspects of research: from the conceptualization of the study; determination of its feasibility; selection of the tools to be used in data collection; the analyses of data; and drawing of conclusions. For most of us researchers in this institution, Ma'm Merci played a significant role in our researches ($p < 0.000$).

If we likened research to a team sports, we can liken Ma'm Merci to a coach, eagerly and patiently guiding us researchers. Standing by the sidelines, she was proud of researchers who have presented and/or won in various research competition. Her contributions correlated well with our success ($r = 1.00$). For some of us, we got to know her in the last two minutes of her game. Even so, she had left an imprint in our lives, not just in doing research, but life in general.

To some of us, she is like one of the pillars of research in our institution. Now that she is gone, it seems like the center, particularly the research division, had lost that pillar. The likelihood that we can find someone with the same passion, patience and wisdom is close to nil ($LR < 0.001$).

There have been countless researchers who have made their mark and made our Institution proud. But there will always be one Ma'm Merci. To quote one house staff, "Ma'm Merci is like a null hypothesis, because there is no alternative."