Health human resources in Southern Philippines Medical Center, a 1,200-bed-capacity, tertiary government hospital

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In November 2009, through Republic Act 9792, Davao Medical Center was renamed Southern Philippines Medical Center (SPMC). This act also provided for the increase in the bed capacity of the hospital from 600 to 1,200 beds. The set of implementing rules and regulations for the legislation subsequently specified the increase in the number of health human resources in SPMC to cope up with the hospital’s growing number of clients.

Currently, SPMC has a total of 4,737 personnel, composed of 3,329 employees with plantilla positions and 1,408 employees with non-plantilla positions, and deployed to the different divisions of the hospital. Roughly a third of the total personnel are administrative staff, and two thirds are medical and allied medical staff. The Medical Center Chief (MCC) oversees the operations of the whole hospital. Five administrators directly assist the MCC in hospital management: the Chief of Medical Professional Services, the Chief Nurse, the Chief Administrative Officer, the Financial and Management Officer, and the Chief of Allied Professional Services.

Due to the increasing bed occupancy rates and the pressing need to increase health human resources in SPMC, an increase in the institution’s bed capacity from 1,200 to 1,500 is presently being proposed through House Bill 7061. Once the bill is passed into law, it is expected that additional plantilla items will be created in order to meet the greater operational demands of a bigger hospital.

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