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MOVEMENT DISORDER SOCIETY
OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC.

(an affiliate of IPMDS)

STATEMENT ON IMPLANTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES

Electronic implantable devices like deep brain stimulators are used in the surgical management of patients with Parkinson's Disease and Dystonia. These devices are powered by lithium batteries, which has a potential to explode during incineration and may cause harm to personnel and damage to incinerators. The Movement Disorders Society of the Philippines (MDSP) recommends the following precautions:

1. If the family members decide that cremation will be the burial option for the deceased, explain the dangers of incineration with the implantable device. Explain the implantable pulse generator after pronouncement of death at the patients' hospital bed prior to post mortem care.
2. The physician tasked to remove the device is advised as follows:
 - Using a scalpel, make an incision over the skin usually on the right, but maybe found on the left in some cases. This will expose the capsule enclosing the device
 - Nick and open the capsule until it is possible to bring out the device. With a scalpel or scissor, detach the device by cutting through the leads
 - Cover the incision with gauze
 - Immerse the device in a sealed container containing virocidal solution
 - Dispose of the device per Hospital Infection Control Committee Policies
 - Universal precaution for scalpel or sharp-related injuries should be exercised
3. Implantable pulse generators (IPG) **ARE NOT RECOMMENDED** to be reused in COVID and other diseases.
4. Should there be any inquiries regarding the device, please contact the attending movement disorders neurologist or the neurosurgeon who performed the surgery.