

# Historical note: Brugada syndrome “Pre-history”

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## 1914

Bangungut (Ban-gun-gut) syndrome was first described in the Philippines in 1914. In this country it is colloquially and culturally used to describe Nightmares. The disorder was officially recognized as an entity in Manila in 1915, and was described in a medical publication of that city in 1917 by Dr. Maria Mendoza-Guazon, (**Mendoza-Guazon P. Algunas notas sobre bangungut [in Spanish]. Revista Filipina de Medicina Y Farmacia. 1917; 8:437–442**)

## 1917

SUNDS, known as Bangungut (Ban-gun-gut) was first described for the first time by Professor Maria Paz Mendoza-Guazon as early as 1917.

It has been 104 years since the first description of SUNDS. She was the first Filipina to receive a high school diploma, the first woman to graduate from the UP College of medicine, the first Filipina professor at UP, the first Filipina winner of the Zobel Prize, and the first person in the world to “discover” bangungot currently known as Brugada Syndrome.

She wrote: *“In this country, The victims are male adults (average age 33 years old), who are in apparent good health, and after eating a heavy meal at night, would wake up in the middle of the night, with symptoms of rising (“bangun”) and/or moaning (“ungul”), witnessed agonal respiration (moan, “bangun”) or difficulty in breathing (groan, “ungul”).*



**Maria Paz Mendoza Guazon**, a medical practitioner, educator, scientist, writer, social reformer, feminist, philanthropist and civic leader, was the first woman doctor of the Philippines and the first woman in the history of the University of the Philippines College of Medicine. She was an outstanding socio-civic leader and the founder of several women's organizations as well as an educator. In 1912, she was the first woman to graduate from the U.P. College of Medicine. Dr. Mendoza-Guazon excelled in her researches in pathology and was known for her philanthropic work. Maria Paz Mendoza Guazon was born on May 10, 1884 in Pandacan, Manila. She was also the founder of the National League of Filipino Women, and was the first woman member of the Board of Regents of the University of the Philippines. In 1951 she awarded a gold medal and an Award of Merit in 1963. She is a member in many organizations. She received three distinctive awards last year. The Philippine Federation of Private Medical Practitioners gave her the Distinguished Senior Physician Award on March 3, 1966. On April 30, 1966, she received the Presidential Merit Award. On May, 1966, she was conferred the degree of Doctor of Humanities (Honoris Causa) by the Centro Escolar University. She also earned an honorable mention from the Premio Zobel in 1930 for her work *Notas de Viaje*.