

SurgeOn



**SURGERY ACP
SURGING
FORWARD**

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SURGERY ACP SURGING FORWARD

We warmly welcomed Changi General Hospital (CGH) as part of the SingHealth Duke-NUS Academic Medical Centre family officially on 1 Jan 2018. We are now a stronger ACP, in an even better position to provide Singaporeans with quality surgical care where they need it, when they need it.

In Oct 2017, CGH faculty participated in the Surgical Strategy Forum, coming together to develop strategic plans for the next two years. The conversations and interactions were lively, engaging and collaborative. It was encouraging to see faculty from SGH, KKH, SKH, CGH and NCCS sharing their expertise, perspectives and experience as we seek to bring Surgery ACP to greater heights for the benefit of our patients and community.

Moving forward, there will be more opportunities to cross-learn, share and enhance best practices. We are in a position to lead and play a significant role in advancing patient care to meet Singapore's evolving healthcare needs, aligned with our vision of Defining Tomorrow's Medicine.

Our journey continues and the future looks exciting. Let us continue to stay focused, harness our diversity and strength to tackle the challenges and embrace the opportunities to do the very best for our patients!



Philanthropy



Surgery ACP aims to bring together expertise of all surgical specialties to provide leading-edge care through research, education and innovation, to where it matters most: **Our Patients.**

We continue to innovate and transform, staying relevant to meet our nation's healthcare needs to provide the best care and outcome for our patients. Generous donations had and will continue to help us advance in our mission and commitment to provide the best to our patients.

For example, there is an ongoing clinical trial by our surgeons at the Department of Urology for patients suffering from urinary stone disease. The trial looks at modifying one's diet to prevent the painful condition from recurring. At the Department of Otolaryngology, our surgeons have recently introduced a novel treatment for Obstructive Sleep Apnea (OSA) called hypoglossal nerve stimulation (HGNS). The list goes on.

With the gifts, we can hold more clinical trials and build more simulators to advance our surgical skills. With more resources, you can free up your time to concentrate on your patients and passion. **There is no gift too small – many little drops make an ocean! Let's do our part in giving back, to help our patients who are facing financial difficulties and to invest in research and education to advance healthcare.**

HIGHLIGHTS FROM MEET-YOUR-MENTOR SESSION WITH MEDICAL STUDENTS

Mentorship is one of the most important catalysts of success but also one of the most elusive. Good mentors are pivotal for developing good surgeons, educators, scientists and most importantly, future surgical leaders.

Recognizing the value of mentorship, Surgery ACP has set up various initiatives and programmes where mentors commit time and energy to develop and nurture mentees. Recently, a Meet-Your-Mentor session for Duke-NUS and YLLSoM medical students was organized. Research mentors from various surgical disciplines were invited to share their

research experience with the students. Dr Teo Jin Yao, Director of Resident and Student Research Mentorship, also shared the specific point of contacts and list of projects available in various surgical departments.

Many medical students found the session fruitful, giving them a better insight into a life as a surgeon and pursuing surgery as a career. The session also gave them more opportunities to talk to the mentors individually.

If you would like to know more about research in Surgery ACP, please contact the Research Admin Team.





INAUGURAL SURGERY ACP QUALITY IMPROVEMENT FUND

Congratulations to the following teams on being awarded the Surgery ACP QI fund!

"This project aims to create simple techniques for maintaining adequate oral hygiene in patients who have undergone resection for oral cancer. They can be easily implemented in the ward without the need of dental instruments or trolleys. Standard oral assessment allows for collection of baseline data on oral condition, early identification of oral complications and assessment of intervention. It will also allow nurses to perform oral care effectively and timely."

Mohamed Amir Amzah Bin Mohamed Ali



"Being presented with the full range of surgical options can be overwhelming and daunting, especially to a patient who has to cope with the news of a breast cancer diagnosis. As such, the SingHealth-Duke NUS Breast Team has designed an information booklet to help educate our patients, alleviate their anxiety and to improve the communication between the surgeons, breast care nurses and our patients."

Dr Sim Yirong (centre)

"This is a collaborative effort between the departments of Hepatopancreatobiliary and Transplant Surgery, Infectious Disease, Pharmacy and Clinical Quality which aims to reduce the use of antibiotics for routine elective cholecystectomies and hepatectomies. We hope to encourage the culture of judicious use of antibiotics and to spread mindset amongst our healthcare staff."

Dr Koh Ye Xin (2nd from left)



"Patients undergoing elective surgery may be admitted one day prior due to medical reasons, or at times simply to address concerns on actual-day bed availability. Inpatient hospitalization not based on medical grounds is not an optimal usage of hospital resources. Our team aims to increase the utilisation and improve the workflows within our Same Day Admission System to optimise operating capacity and hospital resources."

Dr Jason Lim Wei-Min (1st from left)

CELEBRATING ACHIEVEMENTS

Members of Surgery ACP continue to shine at various national and organizational awards. A warm congratulations to all!

NATIONAL MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL 2018



CLINICIAN SCIENTIST AWARD – SENIOR INVESTIGATOR
PROF PIERCE CHOW
 Senior Consultant
 Division of Surgical Oncology, NCCS



TRANSITION AWARD
ASST PROF JOHNNY ONG
 Associate Consultant
 Division of Surgical Oncology, NCCS

SINGAPORE HEALTH QUALITY SERVICE AWARDS 2018

Launched in 2011, SHQSA is a nationwide platform to honour healthcare professionals who have demonstrated remarkable commitment in delivering quality care and excellent service.



SUPERSTAR AWARD – CLINICIAN
ASST PROF CHAN YEW MENG
 Senior Consultant
 Otolaryngology, SGH



STAR AWARD
A/PROF YONG WEI SEAN
 Senior Consultant
 Division of Surgical Oncology, NCCS

SINGHEALTH EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2018

The SingHealth Excellence Awards and GCEO Excellence Awards recognize individuals for their dedication and exemplary contributions to healthcare leadership, education, research and administration



DISTINGUISHED RESEARCHER AWARD
A/PROF GOPAL IYER
 Head & Senior Consultant
 SingHealth Duke-NUS
 Head and Neck Centre



DISTINGUISHED YOUNG LEADER AWARD
ASST PROF AMOS LOH
 Consultant
 Paediatric Surgery, KKH

GCEO EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2018



OUTSTANDING CLINICIAN RESEARCH AWARD
A/PROF LEE SER YEE
 Senior Consultant
 HPB/ Transplant Surgery, SGH

ACP PROGRAMME GRANT FY2018 CYCLE 1

This funding supports programmes that will seed development and facilitate advancement of the ACPs' academic medicine (AM) strategic goals.

EDUCATION SUPPORT

To encourage development of healthcare education programmes or initiatives which are sustainable and in line with AM priorities.



A/PROF CHEW MIN HOE
 Head & Senior Consultant
 General Surgery, SKH



DR TAN CHOON CHIEH
 Consultant
 General Surgery, SKH



ASST PROF WONG TING HWAY
 Senior Consultant
 General Surgery, SGH



DR CHOK AIK YONG
 Associate Consultant
 Colorectal Surgery, SGH

CLINICAL INNOVATION

To promote transformative innovation in healthcare delivery, and to cultivate a spirit of entrepreneurship in this area in line with AM priorities.



DR SEAN LAM
 Senior Manager
 Health Services Research
 Centre, SingHealth

NURTURING CLINICIAN SCIENTIST SCHEME

To nurture and spur junior clinicians onto gaining competencies and experience to be competitive for external research grants, leading to a sustainable research career.



DR KENNETH CHEN
 Associate Consultant
 Urology, SGH



Residents' Corner!

UROLOGY BOOT CAMP

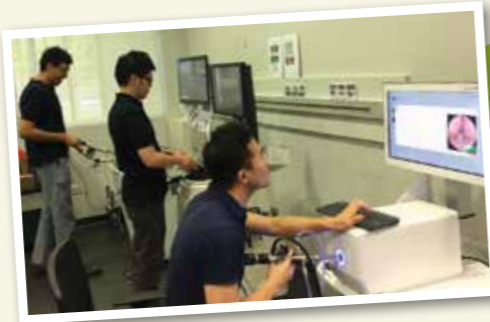
To prepare junior residents for a smooth and painless transition to senior residency, Urology Residency organised a boot camp to increase their awareness on responsibilities and expectations of a senior resident.



"I have learnt more about how residents can come together as a family and teach each other, thereby improving the collective knowledge of the group. I learnt more about resources for research as well as strategies for managing burnout."



"An informal interactive course where residents can learn from each other in a safe and non-judgmental setting."



"Access to simulator and potential research topics."

By Urology Residency :
A/Prof Weber Lau, A/Prof Henry Ho, Dr Raj Tiwari,
Dr Lim Yong Wei, Dr Thomas Chan, Dr Edwin Aslim, Dr Du
Jingzeng, Dr Jay Lim, Dr Kenneth Chen & Dr Jonathan Teo

GENERAL SURGERY RETREAT



It was smiles and laughter all round at the first GS Residency Retreat in Mar 2018. Prof Chay Oh Moh, SingHealth's first female Emeritus Consultant, graced the event as the Guest-Of-Honour. In her opening speech, she commended A/Prof Cheow Peng Chung and all GS faculty for their efforts in growing the programme into its current stature and urged all residents and faculty alike to keep up the good work.

The programme then presented A/Prof Cheow, who relinquished his role as Programme Director in Jan 2018, with three tokens of appreciation: a poster board with thank you notes from residents and administrators, a tea set and caricature cake bought by residents and a Waterman Pen engraved with Prof Cheow's name (from Surgery ACP).

A/Prof Cheow voiced his gratitude for the opportunity given to him to take up the directorship and the pride he had in successfully guiding the programme through uncertain times, while chief residents took turns to express their appreciation for A/Prof Cheow.

Next up was our new Programme Director, A/Prof Tan Ngian Chye, who acknowledged that he had big shoes to fill but was nonetheless pumped up to steer the programme towards greater heights!

Dinner commenced and residents and faculty mingled freely, engaging each other in rousing banter as they wine and dined, indulging in the sumptuous buffet spread that was catered for the night.

As the night drew to a close, Academic Chair, A/Prof Tan Hiang Khoo, shared his reflections on how far the programme has come and expressed his wish for a more cohesive and robust GS programme in the years to come.

A group photo taken under the shimmering GS Retreat alphabet balloons, which signified a bright future ahead for the programme, served as precious memories of the night for all.



NEPAL SHORT REFLECTIONS

By Isabelle, ENT Residency

I am thankful for the opportunity to serve in mobile clinics in Nepal in 2017 with Touch International. Having served in a number of such clinics before, I have come to the point of wondering whether they really made a difference. Was it just touch and go? Did it really help make life better for the local community? This time as I came to serve, I found myself not being able to do much - no ability to follow up on chronic diseases, no way to list patients for surgery, no "stronger" medications to provide. And these people walked for 2-3 hours, or even half a day just to consult me.

So I decided to give all that I can for each one of them. To hear their stories, to give medication where I can, and to say a silent prayer especially for those

who have chronic pains and there was nothing I could do. Thereafter the locals shared with me that the mobile clinics really made a difference. For these people usually hide their pain and suffering, but this gave them an avenue to come out into the open to share - and that is where healing begins.

The local youth also shared that they were encouraged to see us serving their people, and that has inspired them to want to pursue further studies in order to be able to implement initiatives to improve the lives of their fellow citizens.

And so I choose to continue to serve, whether it's locally or overseas, one heartbeat at a time.

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