

# *A Minute with Ms Enny Kiesworo*

## *Research Leadership in SingHealth Duke-NUS AMC*



**Ms Enny Kiesworo,**  
*Group Director, Research (Corporate  
Admin and Technology Development),  
SingHealth*

**Q1) AMRI was originally known as the Clinical & Translational Research Institute (CTRI) under Office of Clinical Sciences in Duke-NUS. Were there areas that you felt CTRI have done well, or could have done better?**

**Ms Kiesworo:** CTRI has definitely done very well in identifying the need for talent development of clinician scientists. CTRI has built a strong foundation to answer to those needs, for e.g., through well-organised seminars, and understanding the challenges of our clinicians who aspired to be clinician scientists. They did an incredibly good job under the leadership of Prof John Rush who was very experienced, dedicated and committed to grooming our clinician scientists. The CTRI team continued to dedicate their efforts under Prof Wong Tien Yin's leadership and over the last 10 to 12 years, I've noticed a significant growth in the number of our clinician researchers. We see a larger pool of people who interested to learn a lot more about how to do research and took the challenging (but could be very rewarding 😊) path to be a clinician researcher. It's all thanks to the good seeds sowed and solid foundation built by CTRI.

**Q2) Would you have considered our AMC's talent development efforts to groom future clinician researchers to be successful and effective? If not, in what way do you think we can do better?**

**Ms Kiesworo:** While I think we have done very well in terms of grooming future clinician researchers, it does take a lot of effort and support from all levels and directions to develop one successful clinician researcher. So, I don't think we could ever say that whatever we have done is enough – the more support that you render to all of these aspiring young clinician researchers, the better we would be at developing a stronger and more nurturing clinician researcher ecosystem. It is an ongoing effort to do better and learn faster.

With the dynamic nature of our research ecosystem, we have to continuously adapt, adjust and refine our efforts to groom and nurture our clinician researchers. We should constantly aim to do better and maintain a healthy pipeline of research talents. It should be a very interacting ecosystem – for those who have benefited from getting all of these support when they are successful, we hope they can give back through mentorship, and continue to inspire junior clinicians to become clinician researchers. It would require a lot of guidance, sharing and collaborations within the AMC and beyond. We have to recognise that we are all part of this ecosystem.

**3) As an administrator, what would be your advice to our research administrators in the AMC, and what advice do you have for young research administrators who are new to this area of work?**

**Ms Kiesworo:** Love what you're doing! Research Administration is a very unique field that requires a serious commitment and certain degree of passion. You would have to love the people you're working with, and be a part of their journey that is often filled with ups and downs. Personally, I find myself loving my work more each day, because of the challenges that I face – besides celebrating the success of researchers, I feel the pain that they feel and work with them to find solutions to resolve any problems on their research journey. I think taking pride in and appreciating what you're doing, is actually very important to allow our AMC to carry out successful research and develop successful researchers.

To new research administrators, you are an integral part of our research ecosystem. You are a very important link of various research sections, where you would oftentimes act as the glue for all the parts in the ecosystem. Knowing your purpose and value as a research administrator would help develop your passion towards what you do.

*We are honoured to interview Ms Kiesworo and share her message with our research community in commemoration of AMRI's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. For more commemorative content or to learn more about AMRI, please visit <https://www.singhealthdukenus.com.sg/research>*