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BIOMEDICAL**
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Honouring the "Magicians" in our Midst

It was a magical moment for National Healthcare Group (NHG) educators, trainees and colleagues as they were dazzled by roving street magic performances, an instant photo booth, and freshly dispensed yogurt at this year's magic-themed NHG Teachers' Day celebrations held on 21 August 2018.

A record number of 189 National Healthcare Group (NHG) clinical educators across all disciplines – Medical, Nursing, Allied Health and Pharmacy- were commended for the "magic" that they have created for training, and educating their students and junior staff.

19 recipients became the pioneers to receive the inaugural NHG Teaching Award for Senior Doctors; introduced to recognise veteran medical clinicians for their efforts in shaping medical education through their influence in clinical training programmes and curriculum development.

Woodlands Health Campus (WHC) also made history with Mr Ram Peruvema, a Principal Physiotherapist and Head of Physiotherapy, becoming the first WHC educator to receive an NHG Teaching Award for Allied Health Senior Educators.

Associate Professor Nicholas Chew, Group Chief Education Officer, NHG, who gave his opening address, paid tribute to the NHG educators who dedicate their time to "improve the lives of patients through educating future healthcare providers".

"I'd like to thank all teachers here today, for your passion and dedication in inspiring the professionals

for tomorrow's healthcare. Your knowledge equips them with skills to re-invent healthcare and improve the lives of patients and the community," he said.

And in a surprise segment, Ms Yvonne Ng, Senior Director, NHG Education, and Professor Lim Tock Han, Deputy Group Chief Executive Officer (Education and Research), NHG, took to the stage to present A/Prof Chew with a framed photo collage of his time as Designated Institution Official (DIO) and Cluster Education Director for pre-professional education, as a token of appreciation for his invaluable leadership.

A/Prof Chew who had stepped down from these two roles, and was appointed Chairman of Medical Board (WHC) last year, took the opportunity to congratulate and thank Associate Professor Wong Teck Yee and Dr Faith Chia for succeeding him in both the roles of Cluster Education Director and DIO respectively.

"I look forward to your leadership in the coming years, to bring education to greater heights in NHG," he said.



A/Prof Nicholas Chew (centre), receiving the photo collage from Ms Yvonne Ng (left) and Prof Lim Tock Han (right)



The recipients of the inaugural NHG Teaching Award for Senior Doctors

LKCMedicine Medical Library's 'Systematic Search Services' Open to All NHG Staff



Stumbled upon a roadblock in your research, can't find relevant evidence, unable to progress in your database searches? Nanyang Technological University (NTU) Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine's (LKCMedicine) Systematic Search Service (SSS) may be the answer.

Launched in June 2018, SSS aims to assist researchers embarking on a systematic review to craft complex searches that would better identify and summarise published research. This service is available to the LKCMedicine community, as well as staff from the National Healthcare Group.

While literature reviews summarise evidence on a particular topic using informal methods, systematic reviews provides an overview of a focused question that identifies, selects, synthesises and appraise all evidence relevant to the topic.

Ms Yasmin Lynda Munro, Senior Assistant Manager, LKCMedicine Medical Library, who helms the SSS shared that the Medical Librarians provide one-to-one consultation sessions with clients, and provide advice and support in formulating a research question for the systematic review, constructing a search strategy, translating the search syntax across various databases, performing a systematic search or update for all relevant research and bibliographic data management.

Adjunct Assistant Professor Dr Tan Cher Heng, Senior Consultant (Diagnostic Radiology), Tan Tock Seng Hospital, who used the service for his meta-



A Medical Librarian conducting a consultation session on systematic reviews at LKCMedicine Medical Library

analysis said, "I met with the Medical Librarians to share my project scope. After understanding the research question and agreeing on the search terms, the Librarian completed the search on PubMed, EMBASE and Cochrane, and compiled a list of abstracts for review. After my team identified the list of articles for full-text, the Librarian assisted in extracting them and sending them to me. The whole process took no longer than a month!"

While it is possible to perform a systematic search without any assistance, Ms. Munro recommended collaborating with an information specialist such as a Librarian to shorten the duration of the search, whilst also offering a more objective and independent perspective in constructing the search strategy.

A TED more Expertise to Tap on

By Ms WONG XIU MIN

The Khoo Teck Puat Hospital (KTPH) Trainee Engagement Day (TED) took place on 2 August 2018 at the Yishun Community Hospital. Since its inception in 2017, TED traditionally caters to junior doctors from the Yishun Campus. This time, however, the invitation was extended to a wider spectrum of healthcare professionals, including nurses and final-year medical students.

This was also the first time that Health Outcomes and Medical Education Research (HOMER) and the Learning Design and Technology (LDT) team from National Healthcare Group (NHG) Education were invited to share their expertise.

"We introduced HOMER and LDT to encourage our learners to collaborate with us, and to expose them to digital tools which can help them as learners, or in the future when they become educators," said Dr Ong Chin Fung, Associate Designated Institutional Official, NHG Residency.

"We hope they (participants) can partner with their faculty and fellow colleagues to take on research in medical education and co-create knowledge that can improve our training."

To Dr Ler Lian Dee, Research Analyst, HOMER, her intention was to allow medical professionals to gain a better understanding on what HOMER is doing with regards to healthcare professions education research. She added: "People are more familiar with clinical research, so we hope to raise awareness that healthcare professions education research exists, and that healthcare professionals and trainees are welcome to collaborate with us.



Dr Ler Lian Dee (left) sharing HOMER's offerings to a participant



NHG Education Learning Design & Technology Team

Mr Ben Lee, Assistant Manager of LDT, shared similar intentions of raising awareness for LDT and its expertise. He stressed that being familiar with digital tools can help trainees enhance work-based training and learning which "will benefit both the educator and learner".

Mr Lee and his team conducted a demonstration at the LDT booth to introduce some technology-enabled tools such as Powtoon and Canva, to the TED participants.

"We want to introduce useful technological tools that can assist educators who may have limited resources to engage their trainees, whilst showcasing the work that LDT has done outside the hospital setting," he shared.

Associate Professor Tham Kum Ying Honoured with NTU Nanyang Education Award (College)



Photo credit: NTU Singapore

From left: Prof Ling San, Provost and Vice President (Academic), NTU; A/Prof Tham Kum Ying; Prof Subra Suresh, NTU President.

Associate Professor Tham Kum Ying, Education Director, Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH), and Assistant Dean (Year 5), Nanyang Technological University (NTU) Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine (LKCMedicine), was awarded the Nanyang Education Award (College) at the annual NTU Nanyang Awards held on 11 September 2018.

The Nanyang Education Awards (NEA) grouped into three categories: University, College and School, recognises the dedication and achievements of NTU faculty who displayed teaching excellence, and enriched their students' learning experiences.

"I'm very happy to receive this award, it's a recognition not just for my work but the whole team at LKCMedicine as well as Tan Tock Seng Hospital and NHG (National Healthcare Group). A lot of work was done together with Tan Tock Seng Hospital and NHG

to get the school going," said A/Prof Tham, who is a second time recipient of the NEA, having first won the School-Level NEA in 2015.

"This award is very meaningful to me and the school (LKCMedicine) because I'm pretty sure the students trust us and are willing to 'risk' their careers (laughs) based on what we've designed and put together in terms of their education," quipped A/Prof Tham. "It is also a way to recognise the trust that they have in what we are doing with them and for them."

A/Prof Tham shared that she was honoured to be the first local LKCMedicine faculty to win the College-level award after former Senior Vice-Dean Professor Jenny Higham, who won the inaugural University-level (Gold Award) NEA in 2014. "I hope that this will pave the way for many more of my colleagues to follow."



Getting A Sense of the Community

More than 100 new medical Residents -junior doctors- and 80 faculty, management associates and education administrative staff from the National Healthcare Group (NHG) Residency conducted a community sensing survey at eight HDB blocks in Woodlands over two weekends in July, as part of NHG



NHG Residents conducting the sensing survey on-site in Woodlands

Residency's annual Community Engagement Day (CED).

A joint collaboration between Woodlands Health Campus (WHC) Community Transformation Office (CTO) and the NHG Residency Office, this year's CED aimed to provide the newly-enlisted Residents the opportunity to interact with the community through the sensing survey, whilst also getting an outlook of the current healthcare utilisation rate within the Woodlands cluster; which will influence the type of healthcare services offered at the upcoming WHC, targeted to open in phases from 2022.

In her opening address, Dr Faith Chia, Designated Institutional Official, NHG Residency, shared that the CED will help the newly-enlisted residents "understand what NHG and WHC are doing beyond the hospital to the community... and to appreciate how we together with social services and community-based providers can create a much more comprehensive system to care for our patients and population".

"We also want to interact as individuals and healthcare professionals with the people... in a different community that you are used to growing up or seeing, so that you'd know what it's like, and what our patients are going through."

Mr Eh Liqi, Senior Executive, WHC CTO, who facilitated the CED hopes that it will help lay the foundation for future interactions with the community,



NHG Residents, Faculty and Administrative staff preparing for the 28 July engagement session.

and for healthcare providers to work together with patients as active participants of care. He added that: "The Community Engagement Day is a good opportunity for them [Residents] to learn and reflect about the challenges faced in our community. It helps us examine different aspects of the population, and how they manage their social, financial and health issues."

Sharing the same sentiment, Dr Jessica Lim, Resident (NHG Family Medicine Residency Programme) said that such visits will help young doctors like herself see "the person more holistically".

"It [the CED experience] will change your practice, you begin to realise that you are not just treating one aspect of the body, you are treating the person as a whole," she said.

Dr Lim added that especially in primary care,

many of the misconceptions and the root issues that the patients suffer from may not surface, due to the limited consultation time.

"I feel like we (as doctors) should really try to change and shape the future healthcare... we don't just want to treat 'that' acute problem; we hopefully want to achieve the understanding of the person as a whole," Dr Lim said.

Dr Teresa Wong, Senior Resident (NHG Anaesthesiology Residency Programme), and President of the NHG Resident Council who coordinated the visits, saw it as a platform to "kill two birds with one stone"; where the new Residents get the opportunity to bond, and "learn about the community that they will be serving eventually, to get some insight, [and] see these patients as humans and not patients".