



189 HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS APPRECIATED FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE *Outstanding educators recognised at NHG Teachers' Day Awards 2018*

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For Immediate Release

The National Healthcare Group (NHG) recognised 189 healthcare educators across all disciplines at its annual Teachers' Day Awards ceremony held today. Healthcare professionals - medical, nursing, Allied Health and pharmacy - were commended for their contributions to nurturing and mentoring of students and junior staff.

To date, NHG has over 1,944 dedicated healthcare teachers across various disciplines. They include the 386 new healthcare educators appointed since the start of 2018, of which the majority are doctors. Geriatric, family and general medicine are among the top specialties with the highest number of new teaching appointments. This aligns with the national focus on primary care and an increasing shift towards community-based care for Singapore's fast ageing population.

A new category, ***NHG Teaching Award for Senior Doctors***, was introduced this year to recognise and thank veteran clinicians for their pivotal role in shaping medical students through curriculum development, and enhancements to clinical training programmes to meet evolving healthcare needs.

Associate Professor Wong Teck Yee, Cluster Education Director (Pre-Professional Education), NHG, and Academic Director, NHG College, said, "We introduced the Senior Doctor's category as we recognise that there are many experienced and dedicated senior clinicians who have contributed in many different roles and ways over the years. The junior and even senior colleagues among us are most appreciative of their mentorship and tutelage."

SOME HIGHLIGHTED WINNERS

Associate Professor Wu Huei Yaw, Senior Consultant at Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH), who pioneered palliative care for patients with end-stage organ failure, was presented the ***NHG Teaching Award for Senior Doctors***. A/Prof Wu spearheaded Programme IMPACT, which focuses on offering home-based palliative care to patients with end-stage heart, kidney and lung diseases. His commitment and dedication go beyond patient care, and he is well-respected for his inspiring leadership and mentorship to younger nurses and doctors involved in the Programme. A/Prof Wu was also involved in the establishment of The Palliative Care Centre for Excellence in Research and Education (PaC) to boost research efforts for end-of-life care in Singapore. A tripartite collaboration between NHG, Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and Dover Park Hospice (DPH), PaC also seeks to develop more effective prognostic tools for non-cancer patients

at the end-of-life. As part of collaborative efforts between TTSH and Singapore International Foundation (SIF), A/Prof Wu will be leading a team of doctors to Kunming, China to educate the medical professionals in Kunming on palliative care.

Associate Professor Chua Sze Hon, Deputy Director of the National Skin Centre (NSC), received the **NHG Education Leader Award**. A/Prof Chua has helmed the training and education of junior doctors at NSC since 2003. He also leads the dermatology undergraduate programme at the Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine (LKCMedicine). NHG is the school's primary clinical training partner. At the national level, A/Prof Chua was responsible for the restructuring and implementation of the National Dermatology Senior Residency Programme in 2013, where he introduced the novel concept of Master Assessor into its assessment matrix.

Ms Peggy Tan, Principal Radiographer with the National Healthcare Group Diagnostics (NHGD), was also honoured with the **NHG Education Leader Award**. With 23 years of radiography experience, Ms Tan has mentored more than 70 radiographers and hundreds of students to become clinical trainers in their own fields of profession. In addition, Ms Tan was one of the first few trainers to be certified by BreastScreen Singapore (BSS), the national breast cancer screening programme. She plays an active role in developing the training curriculum of the BSS programme, ensuring all BSS trainers are equipped with the required skills and expertise to perform health screening for breast cancer. Her contributions have helped NHGD achieve an annual 10 per cent increase in screening rate, facilitating early detection for suspected breast cancer patients.

Dr Jasmyn Angon, Resident Physician from Khoo Teck Puat Hospital (KTPH), clinched the **NHG Teaching Award for Junior Doctors** for advocating stroke and neurology education at both hospital and cluster levels. Dr Angon oversees the acute stroke activation service at KTPH, which seeks to reverse otherwise permanent neurological injury resulting from acute cases. She is instrumental in guiding her younger colleagues in the assessment, treatment and management of stroke patients, providing the latter with timely and appropriate care.

Summing up the NHG Teachers' Day Awards for 2018, A/Prof Wong said, "NHG remains committed to providing the best clinical care for its patients. We also want to ensure that the right values, knowledge and attitudes are taught and role-modelled to our younger clinicians. NHG educators play an important role in this respect – knowledge is becoming more accessible but values and attitudes are best shaped by observing, reflecting, asking and internalising. Our educators can contribute in shaping the minds of their learners. By recognising them, we celebrate their achievements and the value they bring in addition to their professional work."

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For more information, please contact:

Nathalie Ng

Executive, Group Corporate Communications

National Healthcare Group

Tel: 6496 6229 / 9615 5410

Email: nathalie_tm_ng@nhg.com.sg

About the National Healthcare Group

The National Healthcare Group (NHG) is a leader in public healthcare in Singapore, recognised at home and abroad for the quality of its medical expertise and facilities. Care is provided through an integrated network of six primary care polyclinics, acute care and tertiary hospitals, national specialty centres and business divisions. Together they bring a rich legacy of medical expertise to our philosophy of integrated patient-centred care.

NHG's vision is 'Adding Years of Healthy Life'. This vision goes beyond merely healing the sick to the more difficult and infinitely more rewarding task of preventing illness and preserving health and quality of life. With some 18,000 staff, NHG aims to provide care that is patient-centric, accessible, seamless, comprehensive, appropriate and cost-effective.

As the Regional Health System (RHS) for Central Singapore, it is vital for NHG to partner and collaborate with stakeholders, community advisors, and voluntary welfare organisations. Together with our patients, their families and caregivers, we aim to deliver integrated healthcare services and programmes that help in Adding Years of Healthy Life to all concerned.

More information is available at www.nhg.com.sg