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MEDIA RELEASE

Diverse Geriatric, Primary Care and Mental Health focus at the 12th Singapore Health and Biomedical Congress (SHBC)

Also Record Attendance, Three Satellite Conferences, and New Tracks

1. Are we headed in the right direction for Singapore’s mental healthcare? How do you tell how frail a senior citizen really is? And watch a demonstration of how acupuncture can help to treat pain and stroke.

2. These diverse and fascinating topics – and more – are part of the packed two-day programme for the Singapore Health and Biomedical Congress (SHBC) 2013. The National Healthcare Group (NHG) is holding SHBC this Friday and Saturday 27-28 September 2013 at the Max Atria in Singapore EXPO. This is the 12th year that NHG is hosting this important scientific meeting for the healthcare and research community. Over the years, SHBC has grown from strength to strength, and today it has become the largest healthcare scientific meeting in Singapore.

3. NHG Group CEO Professor Chee Yam Cheng added: “What is more heartening is that the participants are not just from NHG but they also hail from healthcare institutions across Singapore as well as Malaysia, Thailand, Japan and Australia. This certainly bodes well for SHBC’s growing international influence.”

4. Besides a record of some 3,000 delegates, this year’s SHBC also boasts many firsts, including

- Three satellite conferences together with the main Congress i.e. Primary Care Forum 2013, Singapore Mental Health Conference and Dermatology Update 2013.
- NEW! Integrated Geriatric Medicine + Rehabilitation Medicine Track.
- NEW! Complementary Integrative Medicine Track.

6. The **Scientific Competition** is part of SHBC 2013’s efforts to provide a platform for medical professionals and researchers to showcase their work, thereby recognising outstanding scientific and medical research. This year’s highest ever number of entries came from an equal mix of doctors, nurses, allied health professionals, researchers and scientists from Singapore healthcare and academic institutions as well as overseas. A total of 47 Gold, Silver and Bronze awards will be presented on 27 September.

7. SHBC Guest of Honour, Minister for Health Mr Gan Kim Yong will present the prestigious Singapore Clinician Investigator Award to five winners:
   - Gold – Dr Lim Chwee Ming, Consultant, Otolaryngology, National University Hospital,
   - Silver – Dr Colin Tan, Consultant & Clinician Scientist, Ophthalmology, Tan Tock Seng Hospital
   - Bronze – Dr Angela Chow, Senior Consultant, TTSH
   - Bronze – Dr Cheong Kai Xiong, Ophthalmology, TTSH
   - Bronze – Dr Geoffrey Tan Chern Yee, Psychiatry Resident, Institute of Mental Health

8. In conjunction with the main Congress, SHBC 2013 will for the first time concurrently host **three satellite conferences** – Dermatology Update 2013, Primary Care Forum 2013 and the Singapore Mental Health Congress.

**New Conference Tracks**

9. To celebrate Tan Tock Seng Hospital’s 40 years of Rehabilitation Medicine and 25 years of Geriatric Medicine in Singapore, Geriatric and Rehabilitation will come together and host an Integrated Geriatric Medicine + Rehabilitation Medicine Conference to share and gain insights into key developments in Geriatric Rehabilitation in anticipation of Singapore’s twin challenges of a rapidly greying
population and people being less mobile as they get older.

10. For the first time, SHBC will also feature a Complementary Integrative Medicine track to educate participants on the mechanisms and role of acupuncture in the treatment of pain and stroke.

11. All in all, this year’s SHBC promises to be two days packed with learning, sharing and networking opportunities for its 3,000 delegates.

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About NHG
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 nine primary healthcare polyclinics, acute care hospital, national specialty centres, and business divisions. Together they bring a rich legacy of medical expertise to our philosophy of patient-centric care.

NHG’s vision of “Adding years of healthy life” is more than just about healing the sick. It encompasses the more difficult but infinitely more rewarding task of preventing illness and preserving health and quality of life. With some 12,000 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 other stakeholders, community advisors, volunteer welfare organisations and others in this Care Network together with our patients, their families and caregivers to deliver integrated healthcare services and programmes that help in Adding Years of Healthy Life to all concerned. More information is available at: http://www.nhg.com.sg

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