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MEDIA RELEASE

SENIOR LEADERSHIP CHANGES AT THE NATIONAL HEALTHCARE GROUP

The **National Healthcare Group (NHG)** announced today that **Professor Philip Choo Wee Jin**, Group Chief Executive Officer (Group CEO), after nine outstanding years at the helm of one of Singapore's three public healthcare groups, will pass the leadership baton to **Mr Joe Sim**.

Mr Joe Sim is currently the Group Chief Operating Officer (Group COO) of IHH Healthcare, one of the largest private healthcare networks across Asia.

The change will take effect from **1 January 2024**.

Visionary Healthcare Leader and Distinguished Geriatrician

Professor Philip Choo was appointed Group CEO of NHG in 2015. He is one of Singapore's pioneering geriatricians with over 20 years of experience and a key driving force in the growth of geriatric capability in public healthcare. His foresight led to setting up the largest geriatric facility in Singapore and the launch of *The Centre for Geriatric Medicine* at Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH) in July 2014. Prof Choo was also the CEO of TTSH and Deputy Group CEO of NHG (Regional Health) from 2011 to 2014.

As Group CEO, Prof Choo has ably steered NHG to progressively shift from episodic illness care to the holistic management of our population in all dimensions of health – physical, psychosocial, and socio-economic – guided by the *River of Life (ROL)* framework, which he designed. This preventive care approach is strongly advocated by NHG as the regional health manager for more than 1.5 million residents in Central and North Singapore, and closely aligns with the national *Healthier SG* initiative. Under Prof Choo's leadership, NHG reorganised and aligned its population health efforts and clinical care delivery into the Accountable Care Organisation (ACO) and Integrated Care Organisations (ICO) - ACO-ICO model to help achieve its goals of better health outcomes, improved patient experience, lower cost of care, and enhanced care integration in the community.

During Prof Choo's tenure as Group CEO, the cluster welcomed the National Centre for Infectious Diseases (NCID), and several NHG polyclinics. He also oversaw the development of the new National Skin Centre (NSC) which will be launched in October this year, and Woodlands Health, slated to open progressively from end 2023. Under his leadership, NHG made leaps in its digital transformation journey, including the successful implementation of the Next Generation Electronic Record (NGEMR) system, resulting in more harmonised care systems and processes across NHG, resource optimisation, and seamless care for patients and residents.

Under Prof Choo, NHG's research and education pillars were further strengthened. He instituted strategic partnerships and collaborations with numerous organisations across all industries, and cemented the alliance between NHG and NTU Singapore's Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine (LKC Medicine) to advance academic excellence, translational research and clinical practice in the areas of mental health, infectious diseases, metabolic-vascular conditions, ageing/rehabilitation, population health, and dermatology.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Prof Choo galvanised the NHG Family to support the national response to the pandemic, mounting organisation-wide efforts to meet the scale, complexity, and urgency of the crisis. He oversaw the development and operation of the first COVID-19 Treatment Facility (CTF) @ Tampines for infected but stable patients. This facility, in addition to others that opened later, helped augment the nation's hospital capacity and ensured better overall management of patient load.

Upon relinquishing his Group CEO appointment, Prof Choo will be appointed to the NHG Board of Advisors as Senior Advisor and will focus on the development of training and leadership programmes for healthcare leaders in the Regional Health System, coaching and mentoring, and guiding clinical leadership in support of NHG's organisation development efforts. He will continue as Senior Consultant, Geriatric Medicine at TTSH.

Mr Tan Tee How, Chairman of NHG said, "As Group CEO during a challenging 9-year period, Professor Philip Choo has ably led NHG with vision and passion. His advocacy for population health management and relationship-based community care, and his championing of new models of care, have inspired fellow healthcare professionals in NHG and beyond. His exemplary leadership is also characterised by compassion and humility. On behalf of NHG, I would like to extend heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to Prof Choo for his significant contributions, and unwavering commitment and dedication to public healthcare."

Succeeding Prof Choo as the new NHG Group CEO is **Mr Joe Sim**.

Dynamic Healthcare Leader with Diverse Experience

Mr Joe Sim is currently the Group COO of IHH Healthcare, one of the largest private healthcare networks across Asia. Mr Sim joined IHH in June 2017 as the Chief Executive Officer of Malaysia Operations Division, overseeing the operations and providing strategic direction and leadership for IHH's integrated healthcare businesses in Malaysia, which includes a network of 15 Gleneagles and Pantai hospitals and ancillary services such as Pantai Integrated Rehab and Pantai Premier Pathology.

Prior to joining IHH, Mr Sim was Deputy Chief Executive of the National University Health System (NUHS), another public healthcare cluster in Singapore. He was also the CEO of the National University Hospital (NUH) from 2009 to 2016, and Adjunct Associate Professor with the NUS School of Medicine and NUS School of Public Health. He began his healthcare career in NHG in 2002, during which he held various positions including Chief Corporate Development Officer.

Mr Sim has gained diverse experiences in both the public and private sector. He began his career with the Singapore Administrative Service, holding various key portfolios at the Ministry of Finance, Community Development Council and Ministry of Defence. He graduated with First Class Honours in Bachelor of Arts in Electronic and Information

Science from Cambridge University and holds a Master in Public Administration from Harvard University.

Mr Tan Tee How, Chairman of NHG added, “Mr Joe Sim brings with him strong understanding and a wealth of experience in healthcare management, including seven years of service with NHG in 2002-08. I welcome Mr Sim’s return to NHG as Group CEO and look forward to his leadership in steering NHG towards realising our vision of ‘adding years of healthy life’ and contributing to the *Healthier SG* national initiative.”

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Glossary of Chinese Terms

<p>Tan Tee How Chairman National Healthcare Group</p>		<p>陈继豪 集团主席 国立健保集团</p>
	<p>Professor Philip Choo Group Chief Executive Officer National Healthcare Group</p>	<p>朱伟仁教授 集团首席执行总裁 国立健保集团</p>
	<p>Joe Sim Group Chief Operating Officer IHH Healthcare</p>	<p>沈恒毅 集团营运总监 IHH 医疗保健集团</p>

About National Healthcare Group

The National Healthcare Group (NHG) is a leader in public healthcare in Singapore recognised for the quality of its medical expertise and facilities. Care is provided through an integrated system of primary care polyclinics, acute care and tertiary hospitals, and national specialty centres. Together, we provide comprehensive and innovative healthcare to address the unique needs of our patients and the population we serve.

As the Regional Health Manager for 1.5 million residents in Central and North Singapore, NHG through its Central, Woodlands, and Yishun health networks collaborates with private general practices, public and community health and social care providers to keep residents well and healthy.

The 22,000 healthcare professionals in NHG are committed towards building healthier and resilient communities and Adding Years of Healthy Life to the people we serve.

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