

PROFESSIONALS IN HEALTHCARE

The A-Team

Bridging long-term care between hospitals and patients

BY RATNA RAMLI

More often than not, patients who have been discharged from hospitals do not keep up with proper post-recovery care as advised by their doctors. This could be due to a lack of knowledge or simply the lack of motivation to continue with post-recovery care such as going for regular therapy sessions.

SingHealth Community Hospitals (SCH) – which was set up in 2017 – has formed a team of Allied Health Professionals to tackle the problem. The priority in general hospitals is to stabilise the patient's condition, whereas the focus in community hospitals is to rehabilitate and manage patient's long-term healthcare.

Forming the team are experts from various fields, such as physiotherapist, occupational therapist, speech therapist, pharmacist, podiatrist, dietitian and medical social worker, across SCH's community hospitals – Bright Vision Hospital (BVH), Sengkang Community Hospital (SKCH) and Outram Community Hospital (OCH).

As Singapore's first cluster of community hospitals, SCH provides healthcare services for sub-acute, rehabilitative and palliative care, a chronic sick unit and outpatient day rehabilitation centre. With BVH, SKCH and OCH working closely with general hospitals, this allows patients to enjoy a seamless transition between different healthcare



(From left) Lee Chern Yih pharmacy services manager; Yip Hui Ming speech therapist; Derserri Chee occupational therapist; Edward Chan senior dietitian; Lisa Tee senior physiotherapist; Koh Chee Wai medical social services manager. PHOTO:TED CHEN

settings and enjoy convenient access to an integrated suite of healthcare services.

"We believe patients are more than just their medical conditions. They have other needs to be addressed in order for them to recover and integrate well into their community. We have to consider factors like what their lives were like before admission, family background, personal preferences and psycho-emotional issues," says Ms Lisa Tee, senior physiotherapist at BVH.

Working alongside doctors and nurses, the Allied Professional Health Team is involved in finding out a patient's background and his needs so that the team can provide holistic post-discharge care. Approaching each patient with the view that he is a unique individual – and with empathy – the team aims to provide

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MS DERSERRI CHEE
occupational therapist
SKCH

a personalised care that can aid the patient's recovery.

"We always ask our patients, 'What matters to you?' and not 'What's the matter with you?' This helps us to understand what they need and not what we think they need," says Ms Derserri Chee, occupational therapist at SKCH.

SCH believes in providing patients – especially the elderly – a homely, conducive and supportive environment to help them relax and recuperate at their own pace.

Said Mr Lee Chern Yih, Pharmacy Services manager at OCH: "At community hospitals, we have more time to educate patients at a pace that is easier for them to digest information. They are also equipped with the skills and knowledge to care for themselves after their discharge."

Bridging Care. Building Communities.



Bright Vision • Outram • Sengkang

Come on board and let us bridge care and build communities together

At SingHealth Community Hospitals, we don't just treat the disease. We place our focus on our patients' personal health goals. We are looking for like-minded individuals who share our philosophy and want to be a part of a truly person-centric care environment. Be part of an exciting team that has been newly formed, to oversee the largest cluster of community hospitals in Singapore under the SingHealth group!



Thoughtful & Compassionate Care



Unhurried & Personalised Services



In a Homely Environment

Medical

Associate Consultant / Consultant

You will be expected to undertake considerable responsibilities in addition to those of a junior doctor to render holistic and seamless medical care and management of patients. Besides being responsible for patient care, you are expected to provide leadership to all level of staff, including teaching and training. You will act as a mentor in the provision of guided, structured training programmes for junior doctors.

Senior / Staff Registrar

You will carry out the clinical and administrative duties of the Department. As you are an experienced doctor with higher professional qualification, you are expected to undertake greater responsibilities in the area of patient care and provide guidance to a team of junior doctors in the various aspects of clinical care.

Resident Physician

You will be performing the duties and responsibilities at the junior level including calls and roster duties. You will be assigned for the immediate response to the total management of the patients, under the in-charge of the senior doctors.

Nursing

Assistant Director, Nursing

You will be assisting the Director, Nursing to oversee a cluster of three Community Hospitals in SingHealth. You are responsible for a variety of nursing administrative responsibilities to ensure smooth operation and delivery of quality care in SingHealth Community Hospitals.

Senior Nurse Manager

You will be responsible for the planning, coordination and supervision of all patient care related activities in the wards to ensure the smooth operation and delivery of safe and quality care at SingHealth Community Hospitals. These responsibilities include roles in leadership, clinical quality management, resource management, quality improvement, innovation and others.

Nurse Clinician (Outram Community Hospital)

You will be responsible for all activities related to patient care in the ward. You will ensure that the ward is operating with optimal resources and patient care is of high quality, safe and cost-efficient. You will also supervise the nurses' clinical patient care activities and ensure that they uphold professional standards and code of ethics.

Nurse Educator

You will be responsible for the overall training activities of the nursing unit in the hospital, which includes identifying, planning and implementing training activities for the nurses and the nursing support group. This is to ensure that they are well-equipped with the essential knowledge and skills, to effectively deliver high standards of patient care. You will also maintain an environment of evidence-based nursing through research and work improvement processes.

Senior / Staff Nurse

You will be an integral part of the care team providing nursing care that caters to rehab and sub-acute patients. Working in a homely environment where there is lesser segregation of duties amongst staff groups, you will provide quality nursing care and services in alignment with SCH's philosophy of unhurried personalised care. You will facilitate the continuity of care for patients throughout their hospitalisation and transition to home and community.

Senior / Enrolled Nurse

You will be an integral part of the care team providing personalised and specialised nursing care to rehab and sub-acute patients. Working in a homely environment where there is lesser segregation of duties amongst staff groups, you will provide nursing care, treatment and patient education activities to an assigned group of patients.

Allied Health

Senior / Speech Therapist

You will assess and manage communication and swallowing disorders in adults, and collaborate with a multidisciplinary team to provide quality care. You will also provide education to patients, caregivers and healthcare professionals. For the senior position, you will contribute to the implementation of initiatives and programmes for quality patient care, delivery of clinical education and engage in quality improvement/research activities.

Senior / Occupational Therapist

You will provide occupational therapy services to patients for their optimal recovery and educate caregivers about their condition and care. You will work closely with a multidisciplinary team to provide patients with seamless, high-quality care.

Senior / Physiotherapist

You will provide physiotherapy services to patients for their optimal recovery and educate caregivers about their condition and care. You will work closely with a multidisciplinary team to provide patients with seamless, high-quality care.

Therapy Assistant

You will be responsible for assisting therapists in all activities of therapy treatment to ensure safe patient handling and care. You will contribute to the smooth operation of the department.

Social Work Assistant

You will work closely with the Medical Social Workers (MSW) in conducting home visits, to obtain collateral information and ascertain the patient's home physical and familial environment. You will assist MSWs in the interviews and assessments of patients and their family members for appropriate service referrals received by the department, conduct intake interviews for MSWs and perform means-testing for patients seeking subsidies for community hospital services, as stipulated by the Ministry of Health.

Pharmacy Technician

You will assist the Pharmacy team in the provision of pharmaceutical care at the hospital, including the dispensing of drugs under the general supervision of pharmacists. You will assist in drug stock management and laboratory work, and will be responsible for the safe, accurate and timely distribution of pharmaceutical drug supplies. You will also provide pharmacy services, which requires you to interact with patients, caregivers and other healthcare providers.

To apply, visit www.singhealthch.com.sg/careers or scan the QR Code or email your resume to schrecruitment@singhealthch.com.sg

SingHealth Community Hospitals oversees the management of three Community Hospitals under the SingHealth cluster – Bright Vision Hospital, Sengkang Community Hospital and the new Outram Community Hospital coming up in 2020.

