

WHAT'S MY LINE?

2026



Joyce Er
Advanced Practice Nurse

PHOTO: SPH MEDIA

'I help to bring hospital care into homes'

From developing care programmes to mentoring younger nurses, she is reshaping how Singaporeans receive healthcare

Over 26 years in nursing, Ms Joyce Er's career has taken her across acute hospital settings, specialised oncology services and, more recently, into shaping how care can be delivered beyond hospital walls.

Today, the 48-year-old is a nursing lead for education and training at NUHS@Home – a service that provides hospital-level care in patients' homes – and an Advanced Practice Nurse at Alexandra Hospital. She shares more about her journey and how the profession has evolved.

Q You have been in nursing for almost three decades. How did your career journey begin, and how has it evolved?

I started my nursing career in 1999 after completing my diploma in nursing at Nanyang Polytechnic. At the time, I was deciding between becoming a nurse and a teacher. There was strong demand for nurses then, and conversations with my parents helped affirm my decision.

My early years were spent at KK Women's and Children's Hospital, where I rotated through obstetrics and gynaecology, as well as paediatric medical, surgical and intensive care units.

Since then, I have also completed my Bachelor of Nursing at the University of Sydney, joined the National University Hospital's Cancer Centre and later became part of the gynaecological oncology team.

In 2019, I moved to Alexandra Hospital, where I continue to work in acute general medicine and lead nursing research and evidence-based practice. Then, in 2023, I took on an additional role at NUHS@Home focusing on developing nursing services, education and training for home-based acute care.

What has stayed with me over the years is the human connection – that is what continues to bring me joy.

Q What does your current role at NUHS@Home involve, and how is it different from traditional nursing roles?

My role at NUHS@Home is more focused on training and education as well as service development. I help to bring hospital care into homes.

Many nursing skills have traditionally been hospital-based, so a key part of my work involves developing training programmes to prepare nurses for this home-based model.

I work closely with nurses to understand their challenges, identify learning gaps and ensure care is aligned with best practice, supported by technology where appropriate.

Q What are some of the key skills required to be successful in nursing?

Agility, critical thinking and the courage to step into new roles are increasingly important in nursing today. My advice is to approach nursing with openness and a willingness to keep learning. It is a profession that offers growth, purpose and the opportunity to make a meaningful impact on patients and communities.



Scan here to find out more about how Ms Er is supporting home-based care.

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