Touching Hearts and Lives...
Through The NUH Endowment Fund
Our Charity

Since 1985, our hospital’s very own charity, the NUH Endowment Fund, has been actively raising funds to help fulfil its vision of “adding years of healthy life to the people of Singapore.”

Over the years, the Fund has played a major role in providing financial assistance to indigent care, supporting and financing areas of medicine that have potential to make a difference to many lives.

Care For Needy Patients

“Relieving the financial and emotional burden of needy families”

We recognise that being seriously ill can pose a tremendous financial burden on the patients and their families. Our charity actively tries to lighten their burden through funding medical treatment and related costs, where other avenues may not provide sufficient support.

Medical Research

“Conducting cutting edge medical research to come up with breakthrough cures for illnesses that threaten lives”

The threat of diseases striking us down – our children and our family – are hard realities we cannot escape from nor ignore. When it hits closer to our hearts or happens to our loved ones, we will ask if better treatment or care is available. The Fund actively supports Medical Research in looking into the causes, prevention and treatment in diseases, in the hope of bringing better treatment, cures or even ways to lower costs of treatment to improve the quality of life for our community.

Medical Education

“Building up a valuable resource to provide quality patient care”

With medical and technological advances, our medical professionals need to regularly upgrade their skills and knowledge to ensure they keep up to date with new knowledge. Through a continuous process of improvements, patients can receive the best care and treatment. Our charity constantly promotes the development and upgrading of medical professionals to build up a valuable resource to provide quality specialised care to patients.

Sub-Funds/Programmes

To further our quest to save more lives, various sub-funds to address specific needs have been set up in the past years. These include the Cancer Fund, Zachary Liver Fund, Pediatric’s Aid Programme and Nursing Fund, just to name a few.

Through the strong support, care and concern of our donors, we have been able to establish and support many vital programmes in the recent years for the benefits of certain groups of indigent patients and their burdened families. Some of the new programmes include:

- **The Will To Live** – helping chronically ill patients in times of need
- **KID’S HEART Fund** – saving children with Congenital Heart Disease (CHD)
- **Blood and Marrow Transplant for Kids** (or **BMT 4 Kids**) – saving children with Blood Disorders and Cancer
- **Adding Years To Life** – helping very young and elderly patients and their families

In early 2004, we have also established a new sub-fund through Mr. William Dearstyne’s generous donation of S$750,000. With that, the **William Dearstyne/J&J Endowment Fund** has been set up to support continuing medical education, through the Cardiac Fellowship Programme.

“The NUH Endowment Fund is a very special charity that goes beyond helping needy patients with their medical treatment costs. In supporting Medical Research and Medical Education through the Fund, we are all helping to improve the quality of life for our fellow citizens and the community in Singapore.”

A/Prof Lenny Tan & Dato’ Loh Ah Joo, Chairman & Co-chairman, Organising Committee, Charity Golf 2004
Charity Events

Charity events like gala dinners and golf tournaments are part of our annual charity events that help generate funds to support our causes. In 2001, the Fund had the privilege of being the beneficiary of the Singapore River Buskers’ Festival Charity Dinner. Held at The Fullerton in November 2001, the gala event contributed $310,000 to the Fund. Other fundraising events in recent years included the Future of Medicine Charity Golf tournaments held in 2001, 2002 and 2004, which raised a total of more than $1.5 million.

To help needy paediatric cardiac patients, a few of our doctors became ‘supermodels’ for an afternoon at a Charity Fashion Show luncheon organised by the Australian New Zealand Association of Singapore (ANZA) in 2001. Through the event, our doctors gave the NUH Endowment Fund a boost of $18,000 – a classic display of our core values – Compassion and Social Responsibility.

This year as our hospital celebrates 20 years of growth, we will be organising two charity events – the Charity Treadmill Challenge and ‘Future of Medicine’ Charity Golf.

At our Charity Treadmill Challenge, our doctors and staff amidst their busy work schedules, will take turns to run continuously on the treadmills for 6 hours! We aim to raise at least $200,000 to help our needy patients and their families.

In late 2005, we will be having a swinging good time once again with avid golfers as we organise our annual ‘Future of Medicine’ Charity Golf, an event well enjoyed by supporters and donors who always look forward to having fun on the greens for a good cause.

Special Projects

Works of Heart Project

We believe that the Arts provide a good way of raising funds and awareness.

We have set up a special ‘Art Gallery’ within the hospital premises where public can purchase art works donated by our doctors, nurses, well-meaning patients and local artists. Displayed at various areas around the hospital, the paintings are available to the public when they make specific sums of donations to the Fund to support medical advancement through research and medical education.

Friendship Cranes Project

Recognising the importance of the nurses’ role in patient care, the Fund raised more than $58,000 towards establishing specialty training degree programmes for nurses through the ‘Friendship Crane’ Project. As part of our celebrations for Nurses Day in 2002, all the departments came together to fold paper cranes and appealed for pledges to dedicate to our nurses.

Amounts Raised At A Glance...

- A Walk-A-Jog for our liver patients in March 2000 marked the official launch of the NUH Endowment Fund – Zachary Liver Fund. The aim was to raise funds for and increase awareness of liver disease in children. With overwhelming support from over 600 liver patients, their families, friends and NUH staff, we raised a total of $68,000.
- An inaugural Charity Gala Dinner was also held in November 2000 at the Ritz Carlton. Attended by more than 550 donors and supporters of the Fund, the gala event raised more than $450,000.
- The Fund raised $58,000 for its ‘Works of Heart’ Project in 2002.
- The Fund raised $450,000 during ‘Future of Medicine’ Charity Golf 2004 held on 24 Oct at the Sentosa Golf Club.
- Mr William Dearstyne made a generous contribution of $150,000 in 2004 to support continuing medical education.
Where Donors’ Contributions Are Channelled...

The generosity and compassion of our donors have made a tremendous impact to the lives of many. The philanthropic support of the NUH Endowment Fund and its programmes have helped established a lifeline to help alleviate the physical and emotional suffering of many needy patients.

Many important projects have been and are being supported, particularly those that address specific diseases and problems that are common in our Asian or Singapore community. They help bring answers to the questions that doctors face when treating patients (e.g. understanding disease patterns, preventing diseases, or looking for better treatment for patients). Additionally, the Fund actively finances programmes that upgrade the skills of our medical professionals to ensure the best continuous delivery of clinical care to our patients.

Here, we look back with pride on the admirable fruits of our donors’ commitment towards saving lives. Together with our patients and their families, we salute their tremendous steadfast support.

In the area of Medical Research...

We helped to set up:
- The Clinical Trials Unit (CTU)
- The University Tumour Bank
- The Cancer Registry and DNA Bank

And facilitated numerous research projects, including areas that look into:
- The effects of certain drugs on patients with superficial bladder cancer
- Gene mutation in Chinese Colorectal Cancer patients in Singapore
- The use of robotics in endoscopic neck surgery
- The early detection of certain viral diseases that may be lethal in transplant recipients
- The effects on plasma levels, and clinical efficacy of different doses of certain anaesthetics.
- Gene therapy in human breast cancer
- Gene expression in preventing abnormal growth of cells
- Depression in the elderly
- Molecular genotyping to breast cancer and drug metabolism
- Evaluating genes that predict the effects of chemotherapy
- Pharmacogenetics in Childhood Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia
- Allergies in school children
- Orthopaedics
- The area of kidney failure, articular chondral defects, breast cancer, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics.

In the area of Medical Education...

We helped to set up the Skills Training And Research (STAR) Laboratory in 2002 to provide a conducive environment for intensive medical research to perform experimental surgery, testing of surgical instruments, research on cadavers and small animals, as well as undergo skills training.

We also supported:
- And organised annual scientific meetings to facilitate the exchange of medical knowledge and medical research amongst doctors and clinician scientists.
- Training programmes and medical workshops in Cardiac surgery and arm and shoulder surgery.
- Training courses and congresses for our doctors to share, gain better knowledge and also to keep up with advances in Neurology, Orthopaedic Research, Diabetes, Endocrinology, and Metabolism, as well as Radiation Research.
- Oncology Nursing Congresses for our nurses to learn more about latest cancer treatment, cancer nursing research, share experiences and develop their clinical skills in Oncology nursing.
- A medical technologist on an attachment scheme at the Johns Hopkins Graft Engineering Laboratory to learn new techniques in bone marrow manipulation.
- Medical education in microsurgery, oncology nursing, liver transplantation, endocrine surgery, spinal and paediatric orthopaedic.

In the area of Caring For Needy Patients...

- The Children’s Aid Programme (CAP) disbursed a total of $120,000 to 84 chronically ill children since CAP’s official launch in 1990.
- Our Zachary Liver Fund (ZLF) helps children with liver conditions with their treatment and medical costs. One of our memorable cases was making the liver transplant operation possible for baby Siti Suhaila in 1999.
- Through combined fundraising efforts and the warm-heartedness of both the local and expatriate communities through the Fund, Abid Hossain was able to undergo a bone marrow transplant (in 2002) that cost between $80,000 to $150,000.
- With some $11,000 from our Fund, little 6-year-old Vivianti was able to undergo medical treatment for tuberculosis in 2002. The family’s financial burden in carrying the costs of the necessary medical treatment was considerably lightened.
- The fund supports 11-year-old Hirdir, who suffers from Thalassaemia Major (a blood disorder) and Arthritis, through the ‘Adding Life to Years’ programme by providing financial assistance of more than $1,000 a month for his expensive non-standard medication.
Story of Rekindled Hope

“My son had only days to live... but for the warm hearts of everyone, he now has a second chance for a healthy life. Thanks, NUH Endowment Fund, for giving my son a new lease of life!”

~Mr Jahangir Hossain

Unlike any 6-year-old who can lead an active life running around and enjoying the simple joys of childhood, Abid Hossain could not enjoy the same pleasures. In July 2001, he was diagnosed as suffering from Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia – a form of blood cancer rare in children. “We first noticed last July that Abid was losing a lot of weight. At night, he would develop fits and it was very worrying to see him clenching his teeth and shaking. After several blood tests and investigations, we were told that he was suffering from Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia. His blood count was abnormal. In early December, his blood platelet started to reduce in number. Doctors told us that our son would not live for more than 3 days,” said Mr Jahangir Hossain. The bad news shook us. As parents, how can we let our son die without trying to look for help? So we took him to another doctor for a second opinion.

After numerous transfusions, his condition improved a little. Then in mid December, we learnt that his body was not able to produce blood platelets to keep him alive. The only chance of a cure for him was a bone marrow transplant as alternative therapies were not available or not proven on children. We desperately searched for help from various hospitals. Finally in December 2001, the doctors informed us that they have found Abid a hospital which could do the transplant. We were relieved to hear that Abid was ‘fit’ to undergo the bone marrow transplant operation and thankful that our 13-year-old daughter was found to be a suitable ‘bone marrow’ donor for her little brother.

These past months, Abid had to receive yet more injections and transfusions as part of the treatment. This, as well as the expenses of running around to look for help, had exhausted all our life savings. We were desperately in need of financial help to save our son’s life. The bone marrow transplant can cost from $80,000 to $150,000, if complications arise. My family and I prayed hard and hoped desperately that someone would help save my little boy and give him a chance to continue living. As parents, how can we give up hope?

Fortunately, the NUH Endowment Fund was able to help. Through its fundraising efforts and the warm heartedness of both local and expatriate communities, the transplant took place in January 2002. Today, Abid is a bubbly and active boy. “We are very grateful to everyone who have donated generously through the NUH Endowment Fund and also to those who have donated blood to help save my son’s life,” Mr. Hossain expressed.

“The NUH Endowment Fund is about bringing HOPE. HOPE that the Future of Medicine will one day mean we can prevent, not just cure life threatening diseases.”

~ Dr Jannie Tay, Chairman, NUH Endowment Fund Charity Dinner 2000

Organising Committee
Thank You for Helping to Further Our Quest to Save More Lives

At NUH, we recognise donors’ generosity for championing the causes of caring for needy patients, and supporting medical research and medical education.

We recognise and salute our donors’ and supporters’ unstinting efforts in helping us to improve the quality of life for our patients and the community through our Roll of Honour. Donor organisations and individuals who went beyond monetary support are acknowledged as our ‘Champions for Life’ for their valued contributions. Through our ‘Hearts of Gold Circle’ honour roll, we also extend our heartfelt appreciation to selfless individuals who came forward despite their busy schedules to help organise our charity events such as gala dinners and golf tournaments over the years.

Help Us Continue to Touch More Hearts and Lives

Words can never fully express the deep appreciation we feel for our donors’ support. Without them, the NUH Endowment Fund would not be able to sustain its life-saving programmes nor extend assistance to the needy patients and their families this far. However, we know that more can be done to bring hope to more lives. We are confident that our donors will continue to lend our charity the much needed helping hand, to touch the hearts and save the lives of many more in the years to come.

For more information about the NUH Endowment Fund and its programmes, please contact Mrs Eunice Toh at 6357 2490 or email: Eunice_Toh@nhg.com.sg

Fundraising is always challenging, yet critical. No government, no matter how generous, is able to support all the research and education needed to answer all the questions and problems that doctors face when treating our patients.

~ Prof John E.L. Wong, Chairman, Medical Board, NUH (2000)
Our Glorious Moments
Our Awards & Achievements

1997
• Became a member of the Singapore Quality Class (SQC)

2001
• Awarded the Singapore H.E.A.L.T.H. Award (Silver)
• Achieved the People Developer Standard (PDS)
• Received the Singapore Sports ACE Award 2001
• Department of Diagnostic Imaging presented with ISO 9001:2000 certification

2002
• 1st hospital to achieve 3 ISO certifications – ISO 9001, ISO 14001 & OHSAS 18001 in 12 months
• Clinched the Gold Award at the 5th Asian Innovation Award
• Presented with Singapore H.E.A.L.T.H. Award 2002 (Silver)
• Winner of Enterprise Challenge Award - Enterprise Award
• Received the Singapore Sports ACE Award 2002

2003
• Presented with Singapore H.E.A.L.T.H. Award 2003 (Gold)
• 14 Staff clinched the Excellent Service Awards (EXSA) 2003

2004
• 1st hospital in Singapore to achieve Joint Commission International (JCI) Accreditation
• 1st hospital to achieve the People Excellence Award
• 1st hospital in Singapore to be awarded the Singapore Service Class (S-Class) in 2004
• 103 staff clinched the Excellent Service Awards (EXSA) 2004
• Clinched 2 awards at the Asian Hospital Management Awards 2004 (Most Outstanding Project in Quality Medical Care category and Technical Service Improvement category)
• Presented with Singapore H.E.A.L.T.H. Award 2004 (Gold) for the 2nd consecutive year. Our Senior Specialist in Staff Wellness, Suhanah Alwi, was also awarded the H.E.A.L.T.H. Promoter Award
• Clinched 2 prestigious awards – the 7th Asian Innovation Award (Gold) for the 5th year running and the IES Prestigious Engineering Achievement Award 2004 (by Surgery doctors and team from NUS)
• Won the Merit Award for the Most Innovative Use of Infocomm Technology (Public Sector) at the National Infocomm Awards 2004
• Renewal of People Developer Standard (PDS)
• Our CEO, Mr Chua Song Khim, was conferred the Medal of Commendation by NTUC
• Awarded the IPRS PRISM Award 2004 – Certificate of Excellence for ‘Best Employee Communications’

2005
• Renewal of Singapore Quality Class

2006
• Achieved the Family Friendly Employer Award 2004

From top to bottom: Family H.E.A.L.T.H. Award 2003 and Family Friendly Employer Award 2004
Our Numerous FIRSTs in the areas of service, medical excellence, clinical competency and people development...

1985
October
FIRST baby born in NUH on 14 Oct 1985 at 10.21pm – Baby Munir.

1986
October
The FIRST cardiac catheterisation was carried out at the newly-opened Invasive Cardiovascular Laboratory.

December
The latest generation Lithotripter was installed; and the FIRST Extracorporeal Shock Wave Lithotripsy was successfully performed.

NUH successfully performed its FIRST open-heart surgery.

NUH was the FIRST hospital in Asia to have successfully used frozen embryos.

1988
March
NUH was the FIRST in this region to establish an Orthopaedic Diagnostic Centre (ODC) under the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery.

June
Opening of Oncology Centre – Singapore’s FIRST ambulatory care facility for cancer patients.

November
FIRST NUH-NUHEU Collective Agreement Signing Ceremony witnessed by the late Mr Ong Teng Cheong (then Second Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of NTUC) and Dr Kwa Soon Bee, then Chairman, NUH.

1989
April
World’s FIRST baby conceived through the MIST (Micro-Insemination Sperm Transfer) was born at NUH.

1990
March
Doctors from the Department of Ophthalmology developed the FIRST known software programme for colour vision testing in the world – a fully automated Farnsworth 100 hue test.

May
Doctors from the Cardiac Department successfully treated a patient with blocked arteries using a new non-surgical procedure called Atherectomy. This procedure was the FIRST of its kind in Asia, with the exception of Taiwan.

September
Singapore’s FIRST liver transplant was successfully performed.

1991
January
The Stress Clinic was started by the Department of Psychological Medicine to help patients cope with stress through preventive and rehabilitative measures – the FIRST such programme introduced in Singapore hospitals.

April
NUH was the FIRST hospital in Asia Pacific region to integrate the inpatient, outpatient and emergency modules of the Patient Care System (PCS).

The world’s FIRST successful birth of twins using co-culture.

June
Introduction of Coma Arousal Programme for coma patients suffering from head injuries – the FIRST such defined programme available at local hospitals. The FIRST Head Injury Support Group was introduced the following year.

1993
March
Quadruplets made history in Singapore and NUH. Alois, Bryce, Cosmas and Dion Hoo were born to Mrs Edna Hoo, making them the FIRST quadruplets in Singapore in more than 50 years.

September
NUH set the standard for Ocular Imaging as the FIRST hospital in Southeast Asia to utilise a High Resolution Image Net System for on-the-spot fluorescein and indocyanine-green angiography.

1995
January
Singapore’s FIRST Paediatric Cadaveric Transplant.

Conducted the region’s FIRST Allergy Testing to Local Pollen, Ferns & Fungal Spores.

March
Region’s FIRST published report on the use of University of Wisconsin Cold Storage solution in tissue preservation in major limb replantation.

July
Region’s FIRST Digital Replantation Surgery under Local Anaesthesia.

August
Singapore’s FIRST Liver Transplant using a reduced graft – Asia’s FIRST Purified Stem Cell Rescue.
September
The Department of Diagnostic Imaging became Asia Pacific region’s FIRST Centre of Excellence for Computer Tomography.

November
FIRST Minimally Invasive Coronary Artery Bypass Surgery performed in the region.

1996
January
The Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology scored another region’s FIRST with the reported birth of two sets of twins from frozen embryo donations.

June
Singapore’s FIRST living-related liver transplant was successfully performed. 18-month-old Teo Wen Rui received a liver graft from his mother, Madam Poh Siew Kuan.

September
Our Department of Hand and Reconstructive Microsurgery performed the region’s FIRST cross-hand transplantation.

December
After eight failed attempts to conceive under the conventional IVF programme, a woman gave birth to a healthy baby girl under a new refined technique pioneered by the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology. It marked the FIRST time that a zona-free blastocyst has been implanted in a woman on Day 5 of fertilisation.

1997
Liver transplant Team performed Southeast Asia’s FIRST ‘split liver’ transplant. Cardiothoracic surgeons at NUH were the FIRST in Singapore and Asia to perform open heart surgery on a ‘beating heart’.

Dr Kong Hwai Loong, Department of Medical Oncology, was the FIRST Singaporean to be conferred the Merit Award by the American Society of Clinical Oncology for his research on gene therapy.

1998
December
The Liver Transplant Programme scored another first on 15 Dec when one of its patients with Von Willebrand’s disease (a disease of the clotting system) became the world’s FIRST living liver donor.

2001
October
NUH and SGH jointly performed world’s FIRST successful cord blood transplant on Thalassaemia Major patient.

2002
March
NUH and National Neuroscience Institute successfully performed the FIRST long bypass to the brain in Singapore.

July
Doctors from our Department of Ophthalmology and The Eye Institute, NHG, were the FIRST in Singapore to use Accommodative Intraocular Lens in cataract surgery.

August
Dr Denise Goh, Department of Paediatrics, was the FIRST Singaporean to be certified in genetics by the American Board of Medical Genetics.

September
Dr Caroline Chee (The Eye Institute and Department of Ophthalmology) was the FIRST surgeon in Southeast Asia to perform the micro-incision vitreoretinal surgery.

October
Our Department of Orthopaedic Surgery successfully carried out a new surgical procedure using an artificial disc (ProDisc) for the FIRST time in Singapore.

December
We are the FIRST hospital to achieve triple ISO certifications – ISO 9001 (Quality Management System), ISO 14001 (Environmental Management System) and OHSAS 18001 (Occupational Health & Safety Management System).

2004
January
The Heart Institute (THI) launched the FIRST Adult Congenital Heart Programme in Singapore and Southeast Asia (spearheaded by THI @ NUH).

July
Our efforts in putting patients first and commitment to serving our customers better through service excellence have received recognition. We are the FIRST hospital to be awarded the prestigious Singapore Service Class.

September
We are the FIRST hospital in Singapore to attain the Joint Commission International (JCI) Accreditation. This signifies that our clinical care and processes meet globally accepted standards in quality and safety of patient care. We were awarded the prestigious People Excellence Award 2004, the highest accolade given to organisations for people excellence. We are the FIRST hospital to achieve this prestigious recognition for outstanding people development practices.

October
Our nurse from The Cancer Institute @ NUH, Dora Lang, was honoured with the nation’s FIRST Oncology Nursing Excellence Award by the Singapore Society of Oncology and supported by Norvatis (Singapore).
I would like to thank the hospital, especially the Intensive Care Unit, for the excellent care they recently provided to my father who is still in the hospital receiving care. The politeness, courteousness, and the standard of nursing care provided are exemplary. The co-ordination of care and concern shown by Dr G Desai, Consultant in Neurosurgery, is refreshing. I am especially aware of this as I am the Chairman for Local Community Hospital. I wish the hospital and the university all the best in its endeavour to build its reputation for the National University Hospital.

25 Nov 2002
V P. Sivasubramaniam
Chairman, Local Community Hospital.

This is to acknowledge with thanks the remarkable different and outstanding medical services provided by your hospital under your efficient management. I was admitted for a considerable length of stay in Ward 46, Bed 7. However, as a patient there, the attention and care of the specialist doctors, Dr Choong B T, who I am in consultation with, and the kind care of the medical and nursing staff on the ward had made my stay a surprisingly short time compared with what I had thought of. From the psychological point of view, this no doubt added a plus point to the medical treatment. I hereby wish to send my utmost gratitude to you and those mentioned above.

Looking forward to seeing your role-playing in the development of our country to become a regional medical service centre.

Sep 2003
R D. T.

Exceptional care and helpfulness from Ward 31, in particular, Sister Eliza, SN Yong Jieng and Ping Ping. Besides ensuring care for the patients, they helped to arrange and fulfill all queries from the family. They have clearly demonstrated the organisational excellence of NUH and definitely proven your mission statement, ‘patients care is paramount’.

Dec 2002
Mr T. C.

My mother LYS was admitted to NUH on 1 Dec 1996. She was admitted to ICU and later to Ward 56. We would especially like to express our gratitude to the doctor-in-charge, Dr Erwin Lee for his careful attention. He is really a good and efficient doctor. In addition, we would also like to thank all the doctors, nurses and medical staff in the ICU and Ward 56. They have been most helpful and efficient. Our family finds NUH very good hospital. The facilities and services are all of a very high standard. The way the hospital treats their patients is also many times better than many others.

Jun 1997
MBC
Bouquets
Well done... thank you

Load off my chest:
On Feb 21, I was rushed to the A&E department of the National University Hospital (NUH) with chest pain, cold and clammy hands and fear. Dr Tan Swee Wan and the staff attended to me immediately. Within an hour, most of my symptoms improved. I was discharged on Feb 22 to 23. During my stay at the ICU, Dr Lee Hong and Dr Mok Wai Ching, all the nurses and staff members, attended to me with the best of their skills. I was discharged on Feb 23 and the staff had performed their utmost best to ensure my comfort and recovery. A grateful patient. The staff at NUH, who looked after me, were very caring and efficient. I wish to express my gratitude to the staff at NUH, all the doctors and staff at the intensive department, with special thanks to those mentioned above, who attended me during my illness. I was discharged on Feb 23.

Simon Lam

Her sincerity and honesty comes right from her heart and her feelings for others is most genuine and unadulterated. While sitting on my wheelchair waiting to be admitted, I was feeling very dejected... she could sense my inner problems and stopped to give me words of encouragement. She was so sensitive, offering me a blanket and examination couch to take a rest. She even went to the extent of providing me a cup of hot Milo. At that point in time, she was just like a guardian angel, offering every encouragement to a man who has lost hope. She is down-to-earth and with such sincerity, it is without doubt that she is able to deliver the most outstanding performance.

Aug 2004
Mr Chan

Care with a smile
My mum completed her ward round and was waiting for an attendant to wheel her back to the ward. A/Prof Lim Yean Teng saw her sitting alone and he took the trouble to wheel her back to the ward himself. Such compassion and empathy are much needed from a doctor.

Dec 2002
Debra

Singapore’s 1st Liver Transplant Recipient

I wish to convey gratitude to all the people of NUH who have been so nice to me and taken such good care of me during my stay.

30 July 2004
Sarinder Kaur
Singapore’s 1st Liver Transplant Recipient

The nurses in my Ward 58 were wonderful and caring. They made my period of illness almost a pleasure. Even when they were very tired, at the end of their shift, they still found time to smile, talk and joke to keep me company. Their service was critical in my recovery.

Feb 2004
Janelle Poon

The mirror in my Ward 58 were wonderful and caring. They made my period of illness almost a pleasure. Even when they were very tired, at the end of their shift, they still found time to smile, talk and joke to keep me company. Their service was critical in my recovery.

Feb 2004
Janelle Poon

Patients at NUH are certainly lucky that they have such nice people to help them through their illnesses.

Jul 1999
MSL, Florida USA
Dr Richard Hu, Minister for Finance & Health, together with Mr Yeo Cheow Tong, Minister of State (Health & Foreign Affairs) and other senior officials visited NUH on 30 Jul 1985.

It was honoured to have Mr Goh Chok Tong, First Deputy Prime Minister, who made a positive assessment of NUH's facilities and services on 24 Jan 1986. He was accompanied by Mr Yeo Cheow Tong, Minister of State (Health & Foreign Affairs) and other senior officials from the Ministry of Health.

Official inauguration of NUH by Mr Goh Chok Tong, First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Defence, on 17 Jun 1996.

Dr Tony Tan (Education Minister) visited NUH on 2 May 1990 to announce the transfer of governance of NUH from MOH to NUS.

The late Mr Ong Teng Cheong, Secretary General, NTUC and Deputy Prime Minister, conducted his NTUC delegation visit to NUH on 20 Mar 1992.

BG Lee Hsien Loong, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade & Industry, shared a light moment on Health Policies with Chairman, CEO and Prof Tock, during his visit with members of the Ministerial Committee on 4 Sep 1992.

On 21 Feb 1994, BG George Yeo viewed the Phase 3 construction site of Kent Ridge Wing 2 during his familiarisation tour of NUH as the new Health Minister.

Guest-of-Honour, BG (NS) George Yeo, Minister for Health and Information & the Arts, graced our event – A ’Decade of Growth’ Dinner & Dance (Jun 1995) with Andy Lau as the special guest star for the night.

Minister for Health, Mr Lim Hng Kiang, visited our general ward on 21 Mar 2001.

Our new one-stop Urology Centre was officially opened by Mrs Yu-Foo Yee Sheen, Senior Parliamentary Secretary of the Ministry of Community Development & Sports, and Mayor of Bukit Timah Community Development Council District, in May 2001.

Prime Minister and Mrs Goh Chok Tong received a warm welcome from Dr Lim Suet Wun (CEO of NUH), Prof John Wong (CMB) and Prof Lee Eng Hin (Chief of Orthopaedic Surgery), at Tanah Merah Country Club during our NUH Endowment Fund ‘Future of Medicine’ Charity Golf held on 27 May 2001.

Mrs Goh Chok Tong officially opened NUH Women’s Clinic and Delivery Suite on 20 Nov 2001... by ‘delivering’ a baby!

We were privileged to have Dr Balaji Sadasivan, Minister of State (Health & Environment) as our Guest-of-Honour at the ‘Patient Education – Necessity or Nicety’ Conference held in Jul 2002.

* Designations stated are as at time of visits/events.
Guest-of-Honour, Dr Lily Neo, MP for Jalan Besar GRC, Advisor to Kreta Ayer – Kim Seng GROs, Honorary Patron of the Singapore Asthma Association and Chairman of GPC (Health), officially launched “I CAN!” on 1 Dec 2002.

Dr Balaji Sadasivan, Minister of State (Health & Environment), officially opened the CTICU on 18 Feb 2002.

Guest-of-Honour, RAdm Teo Chee Hean, Minister for Education and Second Minister for Defence, officially opened the Shaw-NKF Children’s Kidney Centre on 23 Feb 2002. Other guests included Mrs Goh Chok Tong, Patron, NKF and Mr Shaw Vee Meng, Chairman of Shaw Foundation.

“Total Cancer Concept” – imprinting of hands-on plaster by BG (NS) George Yeo, Minister for Trade & Industry, Mr Nicholas Ho, Children’s Cancer Foundation, NM Laura Tan and Jatin (our patient) during the official opening of Paediatrics Inpatient Cancer Centre on 26 Apr 2002.

The ‘Future of Medicine’ Charity Golf (27 Oct 2002) saw 95 avid golfers, including our special guests – Mr Lim Hng Kiang, Minister for Health and Second Minister for Finance, and Dr Lee Boon Yang, Minister for Manpower, teeing off at Tanah Merah Country Club.

Mr Wong Kan Seng, Minister of Home Affairs, and Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Acting Minister for Community Development, Youth & Sports and Senior Minister of State for Trade & Industry, were among the 100 avid golfers at the NUH Endowment Fund ‘Future of Medicine’ Charity Golf held on 24 Oct 2004.

His Excellency, President S R Nathan graced the presentation dinner that evening.

Guest-of-Honour, His Excellency, President S R Nathan, presented the trophy and prize to our overall champion of the golf tournament, Mr Eric Tan, at the evening dinner.

Mr Lim Boon Heng, Secretary General, National Trades Union Congress (NTUC), accompanied by Mr Lim Swee Say, Deputy Secretary General and some senior members of NTUC, visited NUH as a gesture of appreciation and to extend well wishes to staff working on the first day of Lunar New Year on 9 Feb 2005. Mr Lim Boon Heng presented hongbao and mandarin oranges to our staff on duty.

Mr Khaw Boon Wan, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Transport and Information, Communications & the Arts, caught up with the pioneers of our hospital on Staff Appreciation Day, 8 Jul 2005.

We celebrated our hospital’s 18th birthday with Mr Khaw Boon Wan and Mr Tan Tee How, CEO NHG.
Looking Back … Staying Ahead

It has been 20 eventful years.

Looking back, NUH’s lack of historical baggage (as it was the first restructured hospital in Singapore) was perhaps its greatest asset, next to its people. Had it a set of rules and standards for delivery of healthcare to follow, it may not have moved as fast, or responded as quickly to the pressing demands and expectations of the community as well as the ever changing environment.

Instead, what NUH had were people of great ingenuity. Committed and dedicated people who succeeded not just because they had the knowledge, expertise or resources, but because of their X-Factor – the ‘can do’ and ‘never say die’ attitude.

As we look ahead to continue providing quality healthcare to our patients, we rely on our people, technology and medical facilities. To ensure we remain on track to meet the challenges of the future, we are committed and will continue our efforts to improve our services and upgrade our facilities to better serve and meet the needs of our patients.

The rules are changing by the day. The expectations and demand for healthcare delivery are ever increasing. The stakes are higher. But the NUH-ian spirit of daring to be different, the strong sense of professionalism, people-orientation and partnership – these will remain the vital ingredients for success as NUHians face the future as part of the big (NHG) family!
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