



## **College of Clinician Scientists**

The College of Clinician Scientists (CCS) brings together some of the top scientific minds in medicine in Singapore. It first began as the Chapter of Clinician Scientists in 2012 under the Academy of Medicine, and grew rapidly to become a self-standing College in 2016. Its members come from the other colleges under Academy of Medicine, and there are strict criteria for inclusion into the CCS.

Clinician scientists bring considerable experience in the development of research programmes, collaborations between academia and the biomedical- and pharmaceutical industries, and unique expertise in establishing guidelines in clinical-academic research and the training of future clinician-scientists.

The College was formed with the vision of providing a collective identity for clinician-scientists, of advising relevant authorities on scientific matters relating to clinical medicine, and to be a scientific and academic voice of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore.

### **Annual General Meeting**

The 5th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the College was held on 28th May 2021, via Zoom. The meeting was attended by 20 Fellows.

### **Galloway Memorial Lecture and Best Poster Award (currently ongoing)**

The Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine (SMCM) is the biennial meeting of the Academy of Medicine, bringing together academicians, specialists and medical professionals from Singapore, Malaysia and around the region. This meeting addresses important, and major healthcare issues. The meeting discusses the changing trends in medicine and healthcare, and also pertinent trends in acute and chronic diseases that affect our society, our countries, and humanity.

The prestigious eponymous Sir David Galloway Lectureship, established since 1959, is under the stewardship of the College of Clinician Scientists. We are actively selecting the winner of the lecture, which will be held during the upcoming SMCM Congress in July.

The Congress will be held from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> July 2022, and the Sir David Galloway Lecture will be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2022.

The College of Clinician Scientists will also be managing the selection and judging of the Best Poster Award at the Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine. 46 submissions have been received as at the deadline, 1st June 2022. The results are scheduled to be announced on 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2022.

### **Seah Cheng Siang Memorial Research Award**

The Seah Cheng Siang Memorial Research Award is another prestigious, eponymous award, established in 2020, named after the eminent clinician and a Past Master of the Academy of Medicine, Professor Seah Cheng Siang. This year, Dr Huang Zhongwei was awarded the 2021 Seah Cheng Siang Memorial Research



Award of SGD\$20,000 for his research project titled “dlg circRNA and proteins are implicated in reproductive ageing in women and associated with reproductive outcomes”.

The next call for this award will start in August 2022.

### **INEX-OSCAR Award (currently ongoing)**

A novel strategy to encourage young clinician scientists to do competitive research in their respective fields has just been launched by the College of Clinician Scientists.

The INEX-OSCAR (**OutStanding CS-in-TrAining Research**) Award has now been established by the College of Clinician Scientists in the Academy of Medicine, Singapore. The award is open to clinician-scientists undergoing research training in a formal programme with a local or overseas university.

A total of 19 submissions were received as at the deadline, 15th June 2022, for awards in three possible categories: Basic/Translational Research, Clinical/Health Population Research, and Clinical Innovation. There have been 6, 9, and 4 submissions in each respective category. The results are scheduled to be announced on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2022.

### **Outreach Programmes: Public Education Forums and Continuing Medical Education**

The College of Clinician Scientists are in a unique position to educate medical colleagues, and the larger community about significant changes that are happening in the healthcare field locally, regionally, and globally. The pandemic, and now Monkeypox, highlights the importance of sharing high quality, science- and evidence-based medical knowledge to all who need to hear this. This includes medical professionals who look after patients, and individuals, who daily take greater and greater responsibility for their own health, and the health of their family. Therefore, high quality medical information should reach them all equally fast, and in this day and age of video-conferencing, this is now made more possible than ever before. The College of Clinician Scientists have taken on this strategy of rapid, and anticipatory dissemination of important information to the wider community.

#### **Public Education Forums**

In 2021, College of Clinician Scientists conducted two Public Education Forums. A panel of experts was assembled by the College to address vaccine hesitancy among pregnant and cancer patients. They shared material on the technology and safety of the COVID-19 vaccine in general and vulnerable populations.

The first Public Education Forum was on Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup> October, 2021, and the session was titled “*COVID-19 vaccination in pregnancy: Should I have THE vaccine, and will it harm my baby?*”. The topics discussed at the session included how the mRNA vaccines work to protect against COVID-19, whether they are safe for expecting mothers, and if there was any possibility of the vaccine harming the new born baby. A total of 202 attendees registered for the webinar.

The second Public Education Forum was on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2021, and the session was titled “*COVID-19 vaccination For Cancer Patients: What you need to know*”. 395 attendees registered for the webinar.



### **Continuing Medical Education (Upcoming Webinar)**

The College will be holding a CME programme for medical professionals on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2022, titled “*Managing Monkeypox*”. The three invited speakers are Dr Shawn Vasoo from the National Centre for Infectious Diseases (NCID) Singapore, Dr Dariusz Olszyna from the Division of Infectious Diseases, National University Hospital Singapore and also Professor Asma Khalil from Obstetrics and Maternal Foetal Medicine, St George’s University Hospital, United Kingdom. The topics that are going to be covered on that day includes *Monkeypox Basics*, *Infection prevention issues in Monkeypox*, and *Monkeypox in Pregnancy*.

Having learned lessons from COVID-19, the College has made this session as widely available as possible to medical professionals in Singapore and the region, by bringing onboard, as nominal sponsors (or equivalent), the College of Obstetricians & Gynaecologists (COGS), College of Paediatrics and Child Health (CPCHS), College of Physicians (CPS), College of Public Health and Occupational Physicians (CPHOP) and also the Obstetrical & Gynecological Society of Singapore (OGSS). The webinar is also held in association with The Asia & Oceania Federation of Obstetrics & Gynaecology (AFOG).