



New Community Health Centres to Strengthen Primary Care Services

By Agency for Integrated Care

The new Community Health Centres (CHCs) mushrooming around the island-state are part of the Ministry of Health (MOH)'s efforts to transform Singapore's primary care landscape and to enhance community-based chronic disease management.

The first CHC was established at Blk 866 Tampines Street 83 in 2010. This was followed by the opening of another two CHCs this year – at Bedok South Avenue 3 (in Siglap Community Centre) on 1 April, and at Block 229 Jurong East Street 21 on 1 November.

Besides providing core services such as diabetic foot screening, diabetic retinal photography and nurse counselling, the Bedok South CHC offers mental health counselling while the Jurong East CHC provides physiotherapy sessions. The mental health counselling and physiotherapy services were added based on feedback from GPs as well as the community.

For GPs, these additional services mean that there will be even better support in their management of chronic conditions in the community. Many of the GPs interviewed by the Agency for Integrated Care earlier this year indicated that they have already embraced the CHCs and gave these centres the thumbs up. They are also looking forward to the further implementation of such community-based

nursing and allied health support to strengthen the team-based care for the chronic disease management of their patients.

We strongly invite GPs practising in the neighbourhoods where the CHCs are located to refer your patients with chronic diseases to these centres for their nursing and allied health needs.

If you wish to make an appointment or an enquiry, please contact:

- **Eastern CHC (Tampines)**

Tel: 6782 6885, fax: 6782 9591

- **Eastern CHC (Bedok South)**

Tel: 6449 5419, fax: 6243 8916

(Both CHCs are operated by SingHealth Polyclinics and owned by Eastern Health Alliance.)

- **Jurong East CHC**

Tel: 6244 6688, fax: 6896 1832

(Operated and owned by SATA CommHealth.)

Alternatively, you can visit <http://www.easternhealth.sg> or <http://www.primarycarepages.sg> for more information. **SMA**