

SPEAKER PROFILES

The Last Decisions: Medico-legal Perspectives on End-of-Life Care • 17 to 18 October 2026

ORGANISING COMMITTEE



Adj A/Prof Vishalkumar G Shelat
Organising Chairperson
Associate Director, SMA Centre for Medical Ethics and Professionalism (CMEP)

Vishalkumar G. Shelat is a general surgeon practising at Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Singapore, where he also serves as Director of Surgical Science Training Centre and Clinical Educator Lead (Medical) and. His work focuses on general surgery, hepatobiliary and pancreatic surgery, and clinical ethics. He's completed several fellowships and holds various certifications, including one in surgical ethics from Washington University St Louis and a fellowship in the International Society for Quality in Healthcare. He's also contributed to various professional organizations, including the Academy of Medicine, Singapore, and international surgical societies. He currently serves as Associate Director of SMA CMEP. His is widely published with over 280 publications and H-index of 50. He participates in medical ethics committees and has been the recipient of several awards and honours, including American College of Surgeons National Surgical Quality Improvement Program and Lee Kuan Yew Scholarship from Public Service Commission. He has been affiliated with Singapore Medical Association Centre of Medical Ethics and Professionalism since 2015.



Ms Mar Seow Hwei, Senior Partner, Dentons Rodyk

Seow Hwei is a Senior Partner in the Litigation and Dispute Resolution practice at Dentons Rodyk. She has over 20 years of experience in handling medical malpractice claims and has a keen interest in medicolegal issues. She regularly advises and represents healthcare institutions, doctors and dentists in medical defence matters, including litigation, disciplinary proceedings and coronial inquiries. In recent years, she successfully defended, at trial and on appeal to the Appellate Division of the High Court, a public hospital and its doctors in a medical negligence suit, as well as a community hospital in a medical malpractice claim in the High Court.



Dr Peter Chow, Deputy Director, SMA Centre for Medical Ethics and Professionalism (CMEP)

Dr Chow Chiu Leung Peter is the Senior Consultant Geriatrician in Changi General Hospital. He obtained his MBChB in Hong Kong and finished basic and advanced training in Singapore. He is interested in medical law and ethics, and dementia. He had spent a year in Scotland and obtained a LLM in Medical Law and Ethics from the University of Edinburgh. Since then, he has been involved in the teachings in the Centre of Medical Ethics and Professionalism SMA.

He is the Chairperson of the Clinical Ethics Committee in CGH reviewing ethical dilemma referrals. Having read medical humanities and narrative medicine, he is also the Co-lead in Bioethics for the SingHealth Duke-NUS Medical Humanities Institute organising education activities and conferences. Since 2023, he Co-Chairs the Expert Workgroup for Drafting of Guidelines on Appropriate Use of National Electronic Health Records for the Ministry of Health, Singapore.

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EMCEES



Mr Malcolm Tan
Consultant and Lawyer, City Law LLC

Malcolm joined the Singapore Legal Service in 1993 and was called to the Singapore Bar in 1994. As a public officer, he served in many roles – including as a Deputy Public Prosecutor and State Counsel, as a District Judge and as a Deputy Registrar of the then Subordinate Courts (now known as the State Courts), and as an Assistant Official Assignee/Public Trustee and Assistant Official Receiver where he dealt with, inter alia, bankruptcies, corporate insolvency matters and trusts.

Whilst in the judiciary, he served mainly as a criminal court judge. He also served as Singapore's State Coroner for several years, in which role he presided over numerous inquiries into iatrogenic deaths, including the post-surgical separation deaths of a pair of conjoined twins who were joined at the head. He was a contributor to the 1st and 2nd editions of the publication "Sentencing Practice in the Subordinate Courts".

He is currently a lawyer in private practice. He has delivered many talks locally and internationally on diverse topics running the gamut from the administration of criminal justice, insolvency, and medico-legal issues to risk management and youth protection.

He serves on several committees of the Law Society of Singapore, including the Continuing Professional Development Committee which he chairs.

He is also a Council Member of the Medico-Legal Society of Singapore, in which role he has facilitated and organised numerous medicolegal seminars and workshops.



Dr Charmain Heah
**Associate Director, SMA Centre for Medical Ethics and Professionalism (CMEP);
Council Member, Medico-Legal Society of Singapore (MLSS)**

Dr Charmain Heah is a Senior Consultant Emergency Physician at Tan Tock Seng Hospital. She also serves the hospital as Director of the Clinical & Patient Engagement Office, overseeing complaints of a clinical or medicolegal nature.

Dr Heah's roles put her at the intersection of clinical care, communication and conflict resolution. She is deeply committed to supporting doctors through the stressful experience of a complaint; at the same time, she recognises the importance of validating patients' perspectives and experiences. Her work focuses on finding a fair and principled balance between defending clinical decisions and validating patient concerns, with the ultimate aim of achieving a fair and compassionate resolution for all parties.

Dr Heah also holds a Master of Laws in Healthcare Law & Ethics, and continues to advocate for greater empathy on both sides of the clinical encounter.

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PLENARY SPEAKERS



Prof Richard Huxtable

Director and Professor in Medical Ethics and Law, Centre for Ethics in Medicine, University of Bristol

Richard Huxtable is Professor of Medical Ethics and Law and has directed the multidisciplinary Centre for Ethics in Medicine at the University of Bristol since 2015.

Richard engages extensively with the public and professionals. He led the team that won the University's Engagement Award 2016 for public engagement on end-of-life ethics. He has served as a member or chair of the boards of the UK Clinical Ethics Network, EACME (European Association of Centres of Medical Ethics), and the Institute of Medical Ethics. He has also served on various local, regional, and national ethics committees, including those of the British Medical Association, Royal College of General Practitioners, and ALSPAC, as well as funding panels for the Wellcome Trust and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

Richard has provided advice and guidance on medical ethics and law to the General Medical Council and Resuscitation Council, among others. He has frequently consulted on assisted dying, giving evidence to committees in England, Ireland, and the Isle of Man, and has served as an advisor to Citizen's Juries convened by the Nuffield Council on Bioethics and the Jersey Government.



Prof Philip Choo

Emeritus Consultant, Tan Tock Seng Hospital

Professor Philip Choo is currently the Senior Advisor for the NHG Board of Advisors. Prior to that, Prof Choo served as Group Chief Executive Officer (GCEO) of the National Healthcare Group (NHG) from 2015 to 2023, and as Chief Executive Officer of TTSH and Deputy CEO of NHG from 2011 to 2014.

Prof Choo is internationally recognised as an accomplished Geriatrician with over 30 years of experience and a key driving force in the growth of geriatric capability in public healthcare. He was awarded the TTSH Doctor of the Year in 1996.

During his term as GCEO NHG, Prof Choo successfully steered NHG in fostering better management of population health and in strengthening the mandate to transform care for residents in Central and North Singapore. He is the architect of NHG's River of Life (ROL) framework of care, with a focus on preventive care through addressing the physical, psychosocial, and socio-economic determinants of health. Prof Choo serves on several Boards including Ren Ci Hospital, Ang Mo Kio-Thye Hua Kwan Hospital, Assisi Hospice and AWWA, and chairs the Medical Advisory Panel appointed by MHA for the Singapore Prison Service.

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— Day 1 —



Prof Lalit Kumar Radha Krishna

Senior Consultant, National Cancer Centre Singapore

Prof Lalit Krishna is a Senior Consultant at the Division of Supportive and Palliative Care, National Cancer Centre Singapore. He holds a Masters in Medical Ethics and Medical Education, an MD in Palliative Medicine, a PhD in Medical Ethics, and a PhD in Medical Education.

Lalit's research centres on holistic approaches to Palliative Care, Professional Identity Formation (PIF) and Ethical Frameworks in Healthcare. Through extensive publications in peer reviewed journals, he has contributed to new understandings in personhood at the end of life, continuous sedation ethics, and mentorship and professional identity in medical education. He has also presented internationally and co-authored position statements that shape palliative care policy and practice, particularly within multi-ethnic contexts.



Dr Hum Yin Mei, Allyn

Centre Director, Palliative Care Centre for Excellence in Research and Education (PaLC), Tan Tock Seng Hospital

Dr Allyn Hum is dually accredited in Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine. Alongside her role as a clinician in the Departments of Geriatrics and Palliative medicine in Tan Tock Seng Hospital in Singapore, she is also the Director of the Palliative Care Centre for Excellence in Research and Education (www.palc.org.sg). Her research feeds into the educational endeavors undertaken at PaLC, and include the use of prognostic models to integrate early palliative care in cancer and non-cancer. Allyn is currently working to develop seamless models of care for advanced illnesses (including dementia) in Singapore with the use of predictive AI in electronic health records. She is currently, also the academic director of the Holistic Palliative (HoPE) degree, the first Masters in Science in Palliative medicine developed in conjunction with LKCMedicine, NTU for the Asia Pacific region.



Adj Prof Chin Jing Jih

Deputy Group Chief Executive Officer (Clinical & Academic Development), NHG Health

Adjunct Professor Chin Jing Jih is the Deputy Group Chief Executive Officer (Clinical and Academic Development) of the National Healthcare Group (NHG Health), where he is responsible for strategic efforts to develop and advance clinical care, research, and education. He previously served as Chairman of the Medical Board at TTSH (2019–2024), and continues to serve as Senior Consultant in the Department of Geriatric Medicine at Tan Tock Seng Hospital.

Prof Chin served in the SMA Council from 2002 to 2020 and was President of SMA from 2012 to 2015. He has a longstanding interest in clinical ethics and professionalism, and contributed many years as Executive Director of the SMA Centre for Medical Ethics and Professionalism, as well as Chairperson of the SMA Ethics Committee. In 2006, he initiated and curated the SMA course on clinical ethics, professionalism, and medical law, which has since been mandatory for all specialist trainees. He currently chairs the MOH Healthcare Ethics Capability Committee and is Deputy Chair of the MOH Bioethics Advisory Committee.



Dr Sarah Townley

Deputy Medical Director at Medical Protection, and a Board Member for the MPS Foundation

Dr Sarah Townley, MBChB MRCGP DLM MFFLM Cert CII, is the Deputy Medical Director at Medical Protection, and a Board Member for the MPS Foundation. Prior to joining MPS in 2009, Sarah studied medicine at Leeds University, and then worked as a General Practitioner, with particular interests in intermediate care, mental health and medical student education.

During her time at MPS Sarah has undertaken various roles including Medicolegal Consultant and Underwriting Policy Lead. As a Medicolegal Consultant she provided medicolegal and ethical guidance, and supported members with complaints, inquests, clinical negligence claims, regulatory, disciplinary and criminal cases. As the Medical Underwriting Policy Lead, she had a very varied role which included creating and reviewing underwriting policy, assessing best practice developments in medicine globally, reviewing cases and claims to identify emerging themes and leading medical stakeholder engagement on underwriting matters.

Sarah has also gained her Diploma in Legal Medicine, Membership of the Faculty of Forensic and Legal Medicine and CII Certificate.



Mr Edmund J Kronenburg

President, Medico-Legal Society of Singapore; Managing Partner, Braddell Brothers

Edmund is the Managing Partner of Braddell Brothers, with over 28 years' experience as a civil and corporate litigation / arbitration counsel, also actively sitting as arbitrator. His diverse practice includes commercial and corporate disputes as well as medical and healthcare law, and he represents the Singapore Medical Council in disciplinary hearings and private clients in medical negligence cases; this has resulted in several landmark cases. He is consistently recognised in leading legal directories, including Legal 500, Chambers & Partners, Asialaw, Benchmark Litigation, Lexology Index and is consistently on ABLJ's "Singapore A-List: Top 100 Lawyers".

Edmund serves as Honorary Legal Advisor to the Academy of Medicine, Singapore, is currently President of the Medico-Legal Society of Singapore, and is a teaching faculty member of the SMA Centre for Medical Ethics and Professionalism. He has also taught cross-examination and trial advocacy at the National University of Singapore, Faculty of Law since 1998.



Assoc Prof Michael Dunn

Associate Professor and Director of Education, Centre for Biomedical Ethics (CBmE), Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, NUS

Dr Michael Dunn is an Associate Professor and the Director of Education at the Centre for Biomedical Ethics, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore. He has published widely in bioethics, but much of his current research examines ethical and legal uncertainties arising in contemporary health and social care practice. Here, he has a particular interest in the care of people with chronic illnesses, mental illnesses, and disabilities. He has authored over 100 peer-reviewed articles, written/edited 6 books, and secured more than S\$8 million in competitive research funding. An experienced educator, he leads NUS Medicine's five-year undergraduate programme in ethics, law and professionalism for medical students. He serves on national ethics committees and journal editorial boards, and worked at Oxford University's Ethox Centre for over a decade before relocating to Singapore in 2021. He received his undergraduate and postgraduate degrees from Cambridge University in the UK.



Mr Melvin See

Senior Partner, Dentons Rodyk

Melvin See is a Senior Partner in Dentons Rodyk's Litigation and Dispute Resolution practice group.

One of his areas of practice is medical malpractice where he defends against claims brought against doctors, dentists, hospitals and clinics. He also advises on regulatory issues encountered by these health care providers. In this area, he appears routinely before the State Courts and Supreme Court for lawsuits seeking compensation; the Coroner's Court for investigations into patient mortality; Disciplinary Tribunals of the Singapore Medical Council for disciplinary inquiries into professional misconduct; and the Court of Three Judges for appeals from disciplinary decisions.

Melvin is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (FCIArb) and a Certified Mediator of the Singapore International Mediation Institute (SIMI). He is also a member of the Advisory Committee of the Professional Conduct Council that gives guidance to lawyers on ethical issues.



Dr Neo Han Yee

Chair, Programme Evaluation Committee, Palliative Medicine Residency Programme, Tan Tock Seng Hospital

Dr Neo Han Yee is the incumbent Head and Senior Consultant at the Department of Palliative Medicine in Tan Tock Seng Hospital. He obtained his specialist board accreditation for Geriatrics Medicine in 2012 and subsequently pursued a second specialization in Palliative Medicine. In 2013, he was awarded a Health Manpower Development Plan to further his interest in Clinical Ethics in Hawaii. Upon his return, he joined the TTSH Clinical Ethics Committee, where he now serves as its chairperson.

Dr Neo is also an Adjunct Assistant Professor with Lee Kong Chien School of Medicine, where he teaches Clinical Ethics and Palliative Medicine modules. His research interests include palliative care for chronic dyspnea, prognostication in advanced lung diseases, palliative rehabilitation, and palliative healthcare service integration. In recent years, Dr Neo has been proactively engaged in regional palliative care education and holds a visiting professorship at the Peking Union Medical College Hospital.



Ms Lin Jingyi

Principal Medical Social Worker, Tan Tock Seng Hospital

Jingyi is a Principal Medical Social Worker at Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH). She graduated from NUS with a BSocSci (Hons) majoring in social work and also holds a Masters of Law (LLM) in Medical Ethics and Law from the University of Hong Kong.

Her clinical focus is on patients with neurological conditions across ICU, inpatient, outpatient and community settings, working closely with the multi-disciplinary team to facilitate healthcare decision-making on extent-of-care and end-of-life matters.

Due to her interest in socio-legal and ethical issues, Jingyi is involved in intraprofessional and interprofessional training to build capabilities in navigating challenges where medical and social needs intersect. She has been a member of the Clinical Ethics Committee (CEC) at TTSH and is now part of the National Transplant Ethics Committee. She is also a teaching faculty member of the SMA Centre for Medical Ethics and Professionalism (CMEP).



Ms Ruby Lee

Co-Director, ProBonoCentre, Yong Pung How School of Law, Singapore Management University

Ruby Lee is Deputy Director and Co-Director of the Pro Bono Centre at SMU Yong Pung How School of Law. Ruby graduated from the National University of Singapore in 1985, was called to the Singapore Bar in 1986, and obtained an LLM at the London School of Economics, University of London in 1990.

Ruby practised for close to 7 years in mid-size firms across a wide range of law, from family to commercial matters, before joining a large multinational corporation as regional counsel in 1993. In 2013, she joined the National University of Singapore to teach legal skills, where she co-founded the NUS Centre for Pro Bono and Clinical Legal Education. She is also an accredited mediator with the Singapore Mediation Centre. She retired from NUS in 2020, and in the same year joined the Yong Pung How School of Law SMU Pro Bono Centre as Co-Director, continuing to work on pro bono cases with students.



Ms Fionna Yow

Advanced Practice Nurse, Tan Tock Seng Hospital

Ms Fionna Yow is an Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) in Palliative Medicine at Tan Tock Seng Hospital. She holds a Master of Nursing from the National University of Singapore, a Bachelor of Science (Nursing) from Curtin University, and an Advanced Diploma in Critical Care Nursing from Nanyang Polytechnic. She has been a licensed Collaborative Prescribing Practitioner since 2021.

With a strong foundation in critical care nursing, Ms Yow transitioned to palliative medicine in 2015. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she contributed to care delivery in the Outbreak Intensive Care Unit. In recognition of her dedication and service, she was awarded the Efficiency Medal at the 2023 National Day Awards.

Ms Yow leads initiatives to integrate palliative care into intensive care settings and is a member of the hospital's ICU-Palliative Care Workgroup. She also serves as Nursing Champion for the National Strategy for Palliative Care Implementation Committee and is a member of the NHG Leaving Well Working Committee and the Asia Pacific Hospice Palliative Care Network (Mandarin Special Interest Group).



A/Prof Anantham Devanand

Executive Director, SMA Centre for Medical Ethics and Professionalism

A/Prof Anantham Devanand is a Senior Consultant at Singapore General Hospital and Head of SingHealth Duke-NUS Lung Centre. He has trained in lung endoscopy at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Centre, Harvard Medical School and Thoraxklinik, University of Heidelberg. His clinical interests include lung cancer, respiratory endoscopy, pleural diseases, smoking cessation, and sarcoidosis.

Prof Anantham is Vice Chair of the National Medical Ethics Committee and serves as Director of the SingHealth Duke-NUS Medical Humanities Institute and Executive Director of the Centre of Medical Ethics and Professionalism at the Singapore Medical Association. He holds a PhD in medical ethics from the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore, with a dissertation focused on medical decision-making in chronic diseases and the regulatory standards of medical advice.



Prof Albert Lee

Emeritus Professor of Public Health and Primary Care, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Medical Ethics and Law, University of Hong Kong Vice President (Asia), World Association for Medical Law

Professor Albert Lee is Emeritus Professor of Public Health and Primary Care of the Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK), Senior Research Fellow of Centre for Medical Ethics and Law and Adjunct Professor (teaching LLM-Medical Law) of Faculty of Law of University of Hong Kong, Vice President (Asia) of World Association for Medical Law (WAML), and Editor-in-Chief of Journal Medicine and Law. Albert is duly qualified as doctor and lawyer awarded Medical Degree and Law Degree from University of London in 1984 and 2015 respectively, and Graduate Diploma in Legal Practice by Australia College of Law in 2020 and admitted as Lawyer in Australia (NSW) in 2021, Barrister and Solicitor in New Zealand (2022) and Registered Foreign Lawyer in HK (2024). He was awarded higher academic and professional qualifications in Family Medicine, Public Health, Legal Medicine, Law, Dispute Resolution, Healthcare Management and Education including higher research doctorate degree in Medicine (MD) from CUHK and DMed from National University of Ireland (highest qualification awarded to scholars with outstanding distinction internationally in the field). Albert has published over 290 journal papers (H Index 43) and over 200 invited conference papers. His work has been widely recognised by election as member of US National Academy of Medicine, Honorary Fellow of UK Faculty of Public Health, appointment as WHO Temporary Advisor. He co-edited a book on "Healthcare Law and Ethics" and 4 books on primary healthcare.



Ms Vanessa Yong

Director, Legal Clinic LLC

Vanessa is a Director in Legal Clinic LLC specialising in medical and healthcare law. Her practice involves the full spectrum of medico-legal work in the healthcare field — from advising healthcare institutions on their internal processes and protocols, to acting for healthcare institutions and healthcare professionals in legal actions as well as disciplinary proceedings.

Vanessa has appeared before all levels of the Singapore Courts and is familiar with Coroner's Inquiry in medical cases as well as various alternative dispute resolution processes. She is a Member of the Singapore Academy of Law and the Law Society of Singapore.



Sr Geraldine Tan

Provincial Leader, Canossian Daughters of Charity

Sr Geraldine Tan is presently the Provincial Leader of the Canossian Daughters of Charity in Singapore and Myanmar. She is a trained nurse by profession and served in St Joseph's Home (Catholic Welfare Services) for almost four decades.

Sr Geraldine is one of the pioneers of the hospice movement in Singapore since 1985, and is a Board member of the Singapore Hospice Council and Catholic Welfare Services. In May 2025, she was presented with the Singapore Palliative Care Lifetime Achievement Award, given to pioneers who have shaped the soul of palliative care in Singapore.



Dr Voo Teck Chuan

Head, Office of Ethics in Healthcare, Innovation and Research (OEHIR) Advisor, SingHealth Duke-NUS Medical Humanities Institute

Dr Voo Teck Chuan heads the SingHealth Office of Ethics in Healthcare and chairs the SingHealth Ethics Network Council, which together advance ethical best practices and governance across the cluster. Trained in Philosophy, Bioethics, and Medical Jurisprudence, he is Bioethicist with the SingHealth Duke-NUS Medical Humanities Institute. He has published more than 70 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters in bioethics and co-edited three books. He was the first bioethicist to contribute to the WHO's work on integrating ethics into its clinical guidelines. He is on the Board of Directors of the International Association of Bioethics and co-leads the Southeast Asian Bioethics Network. Teck Chuan serves on several ethics advisory boards and committees, including the Singapore Bioethics Advisory Committee and the National Medical Ethics Committee.