

# Nurturing the Next Generation of Doctors

Facing a rapidly increasing population and an impending silver tsunami, Singapore will need more doctors in the years to come. The three local medical schools have responded accordingly. Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine (YLLSoM), which used to be the only local medical school, has gradually increased its intake from 260 students in 2008 to a maximum of 300 this year. Meanwhile, Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School was opened in 2007 to provide postgraduate medical education, and accepts approximately 60 students every year. And the newest medical school, Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine (LKCMedicine), a joint collaboration between Nanyang Technological University and Imperial College London, will be welcoming their first batch of 54 students next month.

Given that doctors spend the formative years of their careers in medical schools, the importance of delivering relevant and quality medical education to ensure well-trained future clinicians is paramount. As such, the deans of the three local medical schools, Prof Ranga Krishnan, Prof Dermot Kelleher and A/Prof Yeoh Khay Guan are at the forefront of medical education in Singapore.

In addition to their respective deanships, Prof Ranga, Prof Kelleher and A/Prof Yeoh are also internationally accomplished clinicians and medical experts in their respective fields of practice. Prof Ranga of Duke-NUS is a psychiatrist by training, and specialises in treating depression as well as other brain disorders in the elderly. A gastroenterologist by training, LKCMedicine's Prof Kelleher is also Dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Imperial. YLLSoM's A/Prof Yeoh, himself an alumni of the school, is also a renowned gastroenterologist and researcher in gastric and colorectal cancers.

The three deans share their thoughts on nurturing the next generation of doctors with *SMA News*. **SMA**

Photos: Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School, Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine and Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine

