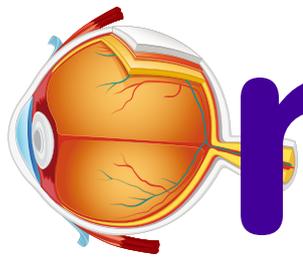


SingVision®

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A PUBLICATION OF SINGAPORE NATIONAL EYE CENTRE



PRESTIGIOUS ARTHUR LIM PROFESSORSHIP IN OPHTHALMOLOGY LAUNCHED

New Leadership
Appointments at
SERI and Duke-NUS

SNEC Nurses Take the
Academic Stage

SNEC 14th National
Eye Care Day

What's Your EyeQ?
Floaters & Flashes

Keep an Eye on
CHILDHOOD MYOPIA

Image: Corneal peripheral vascularisation and cataract retroillumination (An award-winning image by the Ophthalmic Imaging Department of the Singapore National Eye Centre)

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Eye Centre
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Prestigious Arthur Lim Professorship in Ophthalmology Launched



(From left): Ms Charity Wai, Professor Donald Tan, Professor Arthur Lim, Mrs Lim and Professor Wong Tien Yin

Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC) and Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School Singapore (Duke-NUS) launched the prestigious Arthur Lim Professorship in Ophthalmology at a ceremony on 20 January 2014 to honour the medical visionary and founder of SNEC, Professor Arthur Lim.

The \$5 million named Professorship, which received a dollar-for-dollar matching grant from the Ministry of Education through Duke-NUS, recognises Professor Lim's lifelong dedication and commitment to developing quality eye care, education and research in Singapore and the region. The professorship will be awarded to an outstanding clinician and researcher who demonstrates academic leadership in medical education and promotes the advancement of new frontiers in medicine - hallmarks that distinguished Professor Lim's illustrious career.

Professor Donald Tan, Medical Director of SNEC, said: "Professor Arthur Lim, our founder, has trained almost all of our senior ophthalmologists in Singapore. His dedication to education and research has brought us to where we are today - the Singapore National Eye Centre and Singapore Eye Research Institute. The next stage in our journey is progressing towards excellence for patients in Singapore and throughout the region."

“ Professor Lim has left an indelible mark in the history of ophthalmology not only in Singapore but also the region and the world. ”

~ Dr Vivian Balakrishnan

A Founding Father, Leader, Advocate, Teacher, and Mentor, Professor Lim was a pioneer in the early 1970s, in recruiting and working with expert surgeons from England, Australia, Japan, Korea and USA, to introduce microsurgical techniques and intraocular lens implant technology to the region. Together, they taught thousands of ophthalmologists, many of whom have returned to their homelands to operate, to teach, and become leaders in their profession.

Professor Lim has put Singapore on the world map through his many international appointments and collaborations. He was Secretary-General of the Asia Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology for 15 years, the second Vice-President of the Academia Ophthalmologica Internationalis and member of

the International Council of Ophthalmology and the International Ophthalmic Advisory Board. He was President of the XXVI International Congress of Ophthalmology held in Singapore in 1990, which was attended by over 8,000 ophthalmologists and delegates.

He is noted for his unparalleled vision, foresight and infinite wisdom. He created an outstanding and globally-renowned eye centre and raised the practice of ophthalmology in Singapore to world-class status with the establishment of the Singapore National Eye Centre, Singapore Eye Research Institute, and the Department of Ophthalmology, National University Hospital amongst others.

Professor Lim has also trained batch after batch of outstanding ophthalmologists. Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Environment and Water Resources is one such doctor who has trained under Professor Arthur Lim. At the ceremony, Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, who was the Guest-of-Honour, gave a heartfelt tribute and speech of gratitude entitled "Arthur Lim – A Giant, Ahead of His Time". He recounted the vast and far-reaching contributions of Professor Arthur Lim in patient care, education and research as well as in the nurturing of the future generations of ophthalmologists in Singapore and other parts of the world.

"Professor Lim has left an indelible mark in the history of ophthalmology not only in Singapore but also the region and the world. He gives generously from his heart because of a greater mission and built a great eye centre, one which allows us to go around the world and hold our heads high as professionals," Dr Vivian Balakrishnan added in his citation.



Guest-of-Honour, Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Environment and Water Resources, giving his tribute to Professor Arthur Lim at the launch ceremony

(Excerpts from Dr Vivian Balakrishnan's speech)

"Arthur Lim – A Giant, Ahead of His Time"

1. His ability to dream big

For him, life isn't about counting a few pennies, timid plans, or lowering your ambition in order to improve your chances of success. It's always been about the big really difficult and massive challenges out there.

2. He translated dreams into reality

He was able to translate dreams into reality by his sheer force of personality, his great persuasiveness, and his ability to make things happen.

3. He asserts moral authority

It is not just about legislation or policy or grants, but that all of us feel the need to follow someone because he appeals to this innate desire in all of us to do something worthwhile, something bigger and larger than ourselves.

4. His steadfast belief that patients deserve the best

Because he believed that patients deserve the best, he insisted on structured, rigorous training for ophthalmologists and for surgeons. You had to train properly, you had to learn to stitch in the lab, learn how to use a microscope, work on animal eyes, slowly move your way up so that by the time you reached a patient, you were sharp, and able and could honestly say you're doing the best for the patient.

5. His investment in research

He was a man ahead of his time and persuaded the Ministry of Health and the NUS, probably against their own conventional thinking at that point in time, "take a bet, invest more money into research".

6. His devotion to nurturing his juniors

He was a tough boss to work under. However, he would never suppress or keep down a junior because he was worried that you would compete or surpass him. He had this generosity of spirit, born out of confidence in his own ability and the keenness to make sure that his subordinates could go beyond him.

7. Professor Lim – An exemplary life to emulate

The most important measure of a man's lifetime achievements is actually not just the sum of all the work that he himself has done – of the thousands of cataracts that he has removed, or the hundreds of thousands of patients that he has seen. The real test of man's legacy is who are the people and the institutions, and the systems that will persist, after that giant is no longer in the scene. That he has given us so much and it is our duty to emulate him by paying it forward and to make sure that his legacy grows.

New Leadership Appointments at SERI and DUKE-NUS



Professor Wong Tien Yin

After five years helping the Singapore Eye Research Institute (SERI) as Executive Director, Professor Wong Tien Yin has passed the baton and assumed the positions of Vice Dean of the Office of Clinical Sciences and Head of the Academic Medicine Research Institute (AMRI) in Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School Singapore (Duke-NUS), as of 1 January 2014. He continues to be Senior Consultant, Vitreo-retinal Service and Deputy Medical Director (Research) at the Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC).

In his new roles, Professor Wong will lead and coordinate clinical and translational research activities across the SingHealth/Duke-NUS partnership, including the development and execution of the 5-year Joint Masterplan for Research in the campus, the development and support of clinician-scientists and clinician-investigators, the coordination of core research platforms and the development of new collaborations in Singapore and overseas.

Taking over as the new Executive Director of SERI is Professor Aung Tin, who was the Deputy Executive Director. Professor Aung Tin will spearhead translational research at SERI to ensure robust healthcare and economic benefits. He will also provide strategic direction in catalysing SERI's sustained growth through identifying new opportunities for cutting-edge research, establishing and developing collaborations, and building partnerships across faculty, industry and government. Professor Aung Tin will retain his concurrent appointments as Head (Research, Education & Development) and Senior Consultant, Glaucoma Service, SNEC and Academic Vice Chair (Research), Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences Academic Clinical Program (EYE ACP), SingHealth Duke-NUS.



Professor Aung Tin

Expressing his appreciation for Professor Wong's contributions, Professor Donald Tan, Medical Director of SNEC said, "SERI has made remarkable progress over the last five years under Professor Wong's leadership. With his new appointments at Duke-NUS and his concurrent appointments as Deputy Medical Director (Research), SNEC and Group Director (Research), SingHealth, coupled by his foresight, drive and passion for research, Professor Wong is well placed to further advance the pursuit of research excellence for SNEC and the SingHealth Cluster."

During Professor Wong's tenure as Executive Director, SERI has achieved significant success. It has seen the doubling of its staff from 100 to 200, major grant success amounting to approximately \$90 million; an outstanding record of close to 1,000 publications as well as 160 national and international awards. The institute was awarded the most prestigious President's Science Award for two consecutive years, and the successful organisation of the Asia-ARVO Conferences over the years, culminating in a record of 1,100 delegates in 2011. SERI has also achieved numerous "firsts", which include: two 'first in the world' discoveries of genes that cause glaucoma and central cornea thickness; breakthrough in treating myopia progression with ultra-low dose 0.01% atropine eye drops; first successful renewal of the \$25 million TCR-Flagship grant; first large-scale community engagement programme via the "EYES THAT TELL STORIES" exhibition that captured wide-spread media attention; first fundraising effort via The EYE Ball; and the first participation of SERI as a full member of the International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) in Singapore, a partner of World Health Organization (WHO).

Looking ahead, Professor Donald Tan added, "With Professor Aung Tin's established track record, backed by an outstanding faculty of clinician-scientists and researchers, an excellent administrative and management team and a fully supportive Board, I am confident that SERI will achieve greater heights in our mission to conduct innovative and world leading basic science, clinical and translational eye and vision research."

SNEC Nurses Take the Academic Stage

Ophthalmic nurses have much to share in transforming care locally and internationally

Nurses at the Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC) are now given clear pathways to progress and fulfill a number of new roles, especially with the formation of the Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences Academic Clinical Program (EYE ACP), SingHealth Duke-NUS.

“We are building our training capabilities, identifying nurses who have passion in teaching and recruiting members of faculty to develop curricula and new educational programmes. This allows us to keep pace with the evolving healthcare landscape to provide seamless, consistent quality eye care across the nation,” said Ms Low Siew Ngim, Director of Nursing, SNEC.

To support the nurses in their career advancement, SNEC will start recruiting ophthalmic assistants this year, freeing nurses to fulfill more clinical roles.

Already, nurses perform significant roles in public healthcare education, humanitarian outreach programmes and research projects. For example, SNEC nurses have been working closely with the Singapore Eye Research Institute (SERI) to conduct a cost utility study of glaucoma patients.

Operating theatre nurses are concurrently involved in a study that compares the efficacy of hand washing versus alcohol rub.

Notably, Ms Loh Huey Peng, Assistant Director of Nursing at SNEC, was recently appointed as sub-editor of the International Journal of Ophthalmic Practice (IJOP), thus opening a platform for SNEC nurses to contribute publications to an international journal and support the educational needs of the ophthalmic nursing fraternity.



“ We are building our training capabilities, identifying nurses who have passion in teaching and recruiting members of faculty to develop curricula and new educational programmes. ”

~ Ms Low Siew Ngim,
Director of Nursing, SNEC

Another Assistant Director of Nursing, Ms Aw Ai Tee has also been promoting ACP nursing development and engaged in researching extensively the state of ophthalmic nurse training programmes around the world.

Her findings will help to enhance our training programmes and position SNEC as a centre of excellence in training of ophthalmic nursing and paramedical personnel. SNEC's recent collaboration with the Agency of Integrated Care (AIC)

to conduct eye care training for nursing home staff further paves the way in this direction.

Topping it all off is Ms Low's recent appointment as a council member of the International Ophthalmology Nursing Association (IONA). She feels that her appointment will further accelerate collaborations and benchmarking of best ophthalmic nursing practices among the world's best.

Ms Low shared that she intends to bring the high-profile IONA conference to Singapore within the next two years.

“This will set the stage for our ophthalmic nurses in Singapore to play a leading role in the exchange of knowledge, skills and experience with their counterparts in the region and beyond.”

* This article was first published in the International Journey of Ophthalmic Practice in October 2013.

Designed with the Elderly in Mind

With more than half of the patients in the Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC) being elderly, our facilities and services have been improved for patients' safety, ease of access, and comfort.

Since 2013, we have been working on key initiatives to build a sustainable age-friendly environment and promote practices that allow elderly patients to navigate and use our healthcare services in a more efficient and effective manner.



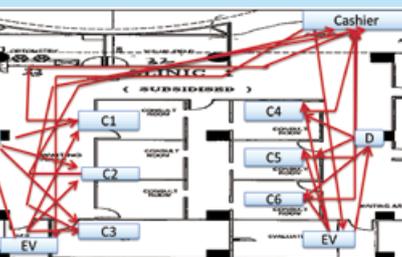
ACCESSIBILITY & COMFORT

A clearly marked reception area fitted with low-height counter at the lobby to allow wheelchair users smooth access and communication with staff.



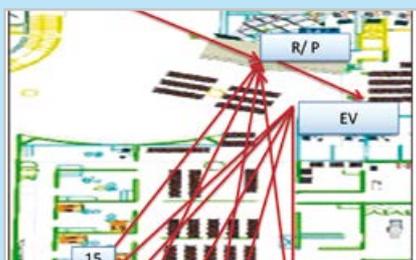
SAFE ENVIRONMENT

An extended driveway specially caters to more cars and longer duration for elderly patients to board or disembark from vehicles.



IMPROVED PATIENT FLOW

Rearrangement of key services in close proximity to reduce walking distance (from 163 to 126 metres), save effort and time for patients.



SAFE WALKING

Handrails are fitted along both sides of walking areas and at shuttle bus point for safe movement.

EASY READING

A magnifying glass at the information desk to aid elderly or low-vision patients to read the fine-print.



CLEAR SIGNS

Signs in clinics and lift lobbies are in large, bold fonts and accompanied by non-reflective raised letters and pictograms to help elderly patients with poor eyesight. Key signage and directories are in English, Chinese, Malay and Tamil.

Reaching Out to the Community at Buona Vista



Minister Chan Chun Sing (in red), the SNEC team and grassroots volunteers

What:

Eye Screening & Chest X-ray @ Buona Vista Community Club

When:

2 March 2014, Sunday

Special Guest:

Mr Chan Chun Sing
Minister for Social and Family Development;
Second Minister for Defence;
Member of Parliament for Tanjong Pagar GRC



In an effort to reach out to the elderly and needy, the Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC) together with the grassroots volunteers from Buona Vista constituency carried out a community screening for more than 350 residents from Buona Vista, Holland Avenue and Holland Drive (Tanjong Pagar GRC).



A team of 50 SNEC doctors and nurses was mobilised for the event. SNEC medical social workers were also on hand to offer residents advice on their eye examination outcome and follow-up appointment.



Besides eye screening, the residents had chest X-ray examination performed on board the SATA mobile bus. A booth was also set up to take enquiries and applications for CHAS.



What is CHAS?

The Community Health Assist Scheme (CHAS) is a scheme by the Ministry of Health that enables Singapore Citizens from lower- and middle-income households to receive subsidies for medical and dental care at participating General Practitioners and dental clinics near their homes.

Singapore Citizens who qualify for CHAS will receive an individual blue or orange Health Assist card. Health Assist cardholders will also enjoy subsidised referrals to Specialist Outpatient Clinics (SOCs) in Public Hospitals or National Dental Centre when required.

For more information, call the CHAS hotline at 1800-ASK-CHAS (1800-275-2427). To apply, pick up a CHAS application form at any Public Hospital, Polyclinic, Community Centre and Club or Community Development Council.

SNEC 14th National Eye Care Day



At the opening ceremony:

(From left): Clinical Professor Ang Chong Lye, Deputy Group CEO, SingHealth; Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance; Dr Lam Pin Min, Chairman, Government Parliamentary Committee, Health; Adjunct Associate Professor Lee Shu Yen, Chairperson, Organising Committee, Senior Consultant, Vitreo-retinal Service, SNEC, and President, Singapore Society of Ophthalmology; Dr Amy Khor, Senior Minister of State for Health and Manpower; Professor Ivy Ng, Group CEO, SingHealth

Over 1,200 elderly benefitted from the free eye screening while 600 children enjoyed a carnival and had fun learning basic eye care facts at the Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC) 14th National Eye Care Day held on 9 November 2013 with a special family theme. Organised by the SNEC and with participation from the Eye Departments of Changi General Hospital, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital, National University Hospital and Tan Tock Seng Hospital, the free eye screenings were conducted at the respective hospital venues island-wide.

With the carnival theme: "Alice in Wonderland - Through the Looking Glass", popular mascots such as the Cheshire Cat, the Mad Hatter and the White Rabbit were great attractions to the children, their parents and grandparents alike. Good eye care habits were imparted through games and there were balloons, popcorns, and ice-cream galore to add to the festivities.

The National Eye Care Day aims to promote public awareness of common eye conditions such as cataract, diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma, and the importance of preventive eye care. Public talks and exhibitions on common eye disorders and quizzes to address questions on eye care were part of the programme line-up.

Speaking on the sidelines of the event, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Mr Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Guest-of-Honour, said: "The basic message that we're spreading is healthy living also improves eyesight over time. The problem starts young and kids should not be spending too much time looking at little screens or books but spending time outdoors. Secondly, for the population at large, avoiding sugar intake and other diet problems that lead to diabetes is also important for our eyesight as we get older."

SNEC is pleased to collaborate with the Singapore Society of Ophthalmology and together with the strong participation from the Eye Departments of the four hospitals, the 14th National Eye Care Day has been another resounding success.



SNEC's Innovative Eye Exercise App Wins GEM Award



(From left): Clinical Professor Ang Chong Lye, Tan Yi Ling, Lim Yong Ern, Sarah Bennett, Joanna Saigal, Linley Seenyen and Karen Zhang
(Not in Photo): Dr Yvonne Ling and Ms Jacqueline Gavin

Congratulations to our Orthoptic team from the Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC) who has won the GEM (Ground breaking, Effective, Momentous) award for its new eye exercise mobile application at the annual SingHealth Allied Health Innovative Practice Awards on 28 February 2014. The award recognises and celebrates the contributions and innovations of our Allied Health Professionals who help to transform patient care.

Led by Dr Yvonne Ling, Head of SNEC Orthoptics Service and Senior Consultant, Paediatric Ophthalmology & Adult Strabismus Service, the MyEyeGym app is a stimulating and interactive eye exercise app with creative animations and cartoons. Through this app, SNEC aims to encourage people with squints (strabismus) to do their eye exercises daily to achieve better control of certain types of squint.

“As part of the treatment for restoration of 3D or stereovision, fusion therapy is often prescribed by the doctor. This requires daily eye exercises including learning to fuse special images together with both eyes. Fusion therapy is mainly given to those who have small squints which deviate intermittently. Sometimes surgery can be avoided after gaining good control of eye alignment with these exercises,” explained Dr Yvonne Ling.

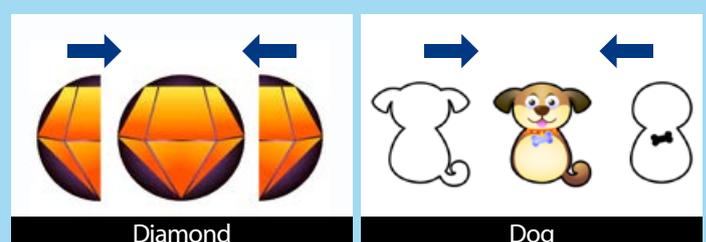
“The MyEyeGym app provides a fun and engaging way to do the daily eye exercises. The path to good binocular vision need not be boring any more!” she added.

What's in the MyEyeGym app?



- 18 amazing and interesting eye exercise images with animations for squint patients
- Eye exercise images suitable for both children and adults
- Various levels of difficulties of exercises to enhance recovery
- Tracking and recording the compliance level
- Interactive games

Animated eye exercise: Fusing two images from both eyes for normal binocular vision



Galloping into the Year of the Horse



Receiving the auspicious Chinese New Year scrolls from the Lion Dance Troupe:
 (From left): Professor Wong Tien Yin, Professor Aung Tin, Professor Donald Tan, Dr Edmund Wong and Dr Ian Yeo

Close to 200 staff and corporate partners of the Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC) were treated to an evening of good food and traditional entertainment at our Chinese New Year celebration on 5 February 2014.

In keeping with the spirit of Chinese New Year which centres around family, unity, and prosperity, everyone joined in the 'Lo-Hei' to toss for great health and good fortune, before feasting on the delicious buffet spread.

The centre, decked up with dazzling red lanterns and beautiful decorations, was filled with festivities that included a lion dance, traditional performances and Chinese calligraphy.

In addition to a unique performance by a Malay dance troupe, our nurses, Wee Bee Choo and Sam Ngiam also took stage to sing Chinese New Year songs, bringing the festive mood to an all-time high.



Caring Beyond Borders

Charity Eye Screening in Yangon

Joining SingHealth's efforts to provide screening to the villagers located in Twantay township in Yangon, Myanmar, a team from the Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC) participated in the charity event for the second time, on 15 February 2014.

Five of our colleagues, Dr Edmund Wong, Dr Sunny Shen, Judy Anthony, Tricia Tan and Daphne Khoo, were part of the SingHealth delegation to Kayin Chaung Stations Hospital. The team conducted visual acuity tests and eye examinations for more than 80 people with cataracts, glaucoma, pterygium and other eye conditions.



Sharing Knowledge with Eye Doctors in Yangon

In conjunction with the charity eye screening in Yangon, the Defence Services General Hospital (DSGH) and Yangon Eye Hospital (YEH) invited the SNEC doctors to share their knowledge and expertise at their hospitals.

Dr Edmund Wong (Deputy Medical Director of Clinical Services, and Senior Consultant, Vitreo-retinal Service) and Dr Sunny Shen (Consultant, Oculoplastic & Aesthetic Eyeplastic Service) provided clinical guidance and consultation for more than 30 medical cases and participated in various clinical teaching rounds.

What's Your EYEQ?

Do you have a mind-boggling eye condition? Or some burning questions related to your eye health?

Email feedback@sneec.com.sg with your full name, using 'What's Your EyeQ?' as the subject header, and we will get your questions answered.



Dr Laurence Lim
Consultant
Vitreoretinal Service
Singapore National Eye Centre

I've been seeing what looks like small specks of dust or wispy threads drifting across my vision. What are these?

It is likely that what you are seeing are floaters. Floaters are tiny clumps of cells inside the vitreous, the gel-like fluid that fills the inside of your eye. While you may get the feeling that these spots or lines are in front of your eyes, in reality they are actually floating inside it. These clumps cast shadows on the retina - the layer of cells lining the back of the eye that allows you to see - giving you the impression of floating particles in your vision.

Sometimes the vitreous gel pulls on the retina and you may see flashing lights or lightning streaks, which are called 'flashes'. This can be a small flash in just one spot, or it can be several flashes across a wider area of vision. It is not unusual for floaters and flashes to occur at the same time because the vitreous gel degenerates with age.

Are these floaters and flashes dangerous and can they be treated?

Most of the time, these changes in the vitreous gel are usually harmless, and the flashes usually go away with time although the floaters may remain. However, in some cases, the vitreous gel shrinks and pulls away from the wall of the eye, causing the retina to tear in the process. This in turn could lead to bleeding inside the eye and if left untreated, could lead to retinal detachment and vision loss.

If you experience a sudden episode of flashes and floaters, particularly if this is followed by a dark shadow blocking a corner of your vision, consult your eye specialist immediately. Timely treatment with a laser or, in severe cases, surgery, can help to prevent severe vision loss.



Normal Vision



Vision with floaters

Keep an Eye on Childhood Myopia

Childhood myopia is fast becoming a serious issue amongst parents and children. In fact, Singapore has one of the highest incidences of myopia in the world. The ages of people with myopia too are getting alarmingly younger - myopia affects one in four seven-year-olds, a third of nine-year-olds and half of 12-year-old children. This is a cause for concern as the earlier a child develops myopia, the higher the likelihood of developing severe myopia and other eye conditions later in life.

“Childhood myopia is a progressive form of short-sightedness that starts during the child’s growing years and worsens throughout childhood. And it usually stabilises in the mid-teens,” says Dr Quah Boon Long, Head and Senior Consultant of Paediatric Ophthalmology & Adult Strabismus Service at the Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC) and KK Women’s and Children’s Hospital.

In most cases, the cause of myopia is a combination of genetic and environmental factors. Children whose parents are myopic are also more likely to be myopic, and children who spend more time indoors (reading, watching television and playing computer games) appear to be more at risk than those who spend more time outdoors.

So how do you tell if your child is short-sighted especially if he or she is still not able to read? Dr Quah advises parents to watch out for the signs, and adds that children aged four years old and above should have their eyes checked every year. Here are the signs:

- Straining/squinting the eyes to look at far objects
- Holding things close to the eye
- Turning the face sideways to look at objects
- Cannot see writings on whiteboard in school, or objects at distance that you can easily see

What can parents do?

Practise good eye care habits

Myopia cannot be reversed or cured. But there are some steps which parents can take to prevent or slow down the progression of myopia.

They should teach children to:

- Have good lighting when doing near work
- Take vision breaks of 5-10 minutes after every 30-45 minutes of near work
- Hold reading/writing material minimum one foot away from eyes
- Sit about 50cm from the computer
- Sit upright to read instead of lying down
- Avoid reading materials with small font/faded print as more effort is needed to focus on the words resulting in eyestrain
- Have daily outdoor activities during daytime
- Sleep early





Ultra-low dose (0.01%) atropine eye drops

In cases where myopia is progressing rapidly, interventional measures such as applying atropine eye drops can be considered. Clinical trials conducted by SNEC and Singapore Eye Research Institute have shown that ultra-low dose (0.01%) atropine is effective in slowing myopia progression by 50 to 60 per cent over a two-year period.

Can my child use it?

Atropine is safe and suitable for children between six and 12 years, although not all children with myopia need the treatment, says Dr Quah. A course of treatment can span two years or more. During this time, atropine eye drops must be applied once a day, at night. It takes at least six months to see results. In normal concentrations, atropine can cause side effects, such as pupil dilation, sensitivity to light and inability to focus on near objects. "Because of the low dosage in this treatment, the side effects are almost absent," says Dr Quah. Although, in instances where some children don't respond to the low dose, a higher dose of atropine may be considered.

If you suspect your child has myopia, you can visit the Singapore National Eye Centre's new Myopia Clinic, which is helmed by a specialist team of paediatric ophthalmologists.

FOR OTHER EYE CONDITIONS

While myopia is a common eye concern, other conditions, such as amblyopia ("lazy eyes") or strabismus (squinting) can manifest during childhood too. To prevent these conditions from affecting your child, it's important to seek treatment early.

Where to go: The Paediatric Ophthalmology & Adult Strabismus Service at the SNEC offers a wide range of eye care services, from comprehensive care to the highly specialised treatment of eye conditions that affect children and young adults. Call 6227 7266 or visit www.snec.com.sg for more information or to make an appointment.

Honouring the Best of Healthcare Champions in SNEC

A total of 53 healthcare professionals from the Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC) were honoured for their outstanding contributions to service excellence at the annual Singapore Health Quality Service Award held on 14 January 2014.

Organised by SingHealth, the award is Singapore's first dedicated platform to honour healthcare professionals who have delivered quality care and excellent service to patients.

Winners were presented with Silver, Gold and Star awards. They were selected based on stringent criteria such as testimonials for having gone the extra mile for patients or colleagues, contributions to service excellence, number of compliments and service awards received as well as contributions to team efforts to improve service quality and delivery of patient care. Winners were selected by a panel of judges comprising leading industry representatives and champions of service quality.

Director of Medical Services, Ministry of Health, Associate Professor Benjamin Ong, who was the Guest-of-Honour at the ceremony, commended winners for their outstanding achievements.

"Ensuring continued good healthcare delivery – more effective and efficient diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation for patients – is not easy. This needs teamwork involving well trained and committed healthcare professionals who engage patients and their families, to deliver care with empathy. There also needs to be an impetus to learn and continuously improve on the care delivered," said Associate Professor Benjamin Ong.



Ms Charity Wai, Chief Operating Officer, leading the team of SNEC winners to receive their awards from Associate Professor Benjamin Ong, Director of Medical Services, Ministry of Health

Star Award



Ms Leong Tuck May



Ms Lim Su Li

Gold Award



Assoc Prof Chee Soon Phaik



Dr Audrey Looi



Ms Chua Li Hong



Ms Zelyn Sim



Ms Wee Bee Choo



Ms Christina Teo



Ms Tan Zhen Kiat



Ms Nurayuni Bte Selamat



Ms Asminy Binte Harun



Ms Angela Wee

Our Winners

2 STAR
10 GOLD
41 SILVER

Silver Award



Dr Edmund Wong



Dr Chan Tat Keong



Dr Ho Ching Lin



Dr Ranjana Mathur



Dr Shamira Perera



Dr Quah Boon Long



Adj Assoc Prof Sharon Tow



Dr Allan Fong



Dr Chan Choi Mun



Dr Eugene Tay



Dr Elaine Huang



Dr Khor Wei Boon



Dr Lim Lee Hooi



Dr Bryan Ang



Ms Rosmawati Bte Ariff



Ms Leong Yim Heng



Ms Chua Gek Hwa



Ms Isabella Lim



Ms Soh Wee Wee



Ms Tan Joon Fong



Ms Lim Hui Yun



Ms Santhi d/o Perumal



Ms Zainorah Binti Alias



Ms Choo Xiu Xiang



Ms Cheryl Lai



Ms N Reena



Ms Saroja d/o Ramasamy



Ms Yap Xin Yu



Ms Esther Ang



Mr Roch Sebastian



Ms Joyce Tan



Ms Radhika d/o Gopalani



Ms Teong Soh Keng



Ms Sim Kai Ting



Ms Amanda Ng



Ms Lynn Tan



Ms Shellen Tay



Ms Yap Shi En



Ms Sautharavalli Selvathurai



Ms Chong Chiew Luan



Mr Adam Malik Bin Kamaldeen

CONGRATULATIONS!

PROMOTIONS



Dr Shweta Singhal
Registrar



Dr Anna Tan
Associate Consultant
Vitreoretinal Service
Singapore National Eye Centre

CONFERRED THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PhD) BY NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE (NUS)



Dr Audrey Chia
Senior Consultant
Paediatric Ophthalmology & Adult Strabismus Service
Singapore National Eye Centre

THE DM MYERS UNIVERSITY MEDAL AWARD



Ms Lim Yong Ern
Orthoptist
Orthoptics Service
Singapore National Eye Centre

NEW APPOINTMENTS



Professor Wong Tien Yin
Vice Dean, Office of Clinical Sciences
Head, Academic Medicine Research Institute (AMRI)
Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School Singapore



Dr Elaine Chong
Associate Consultant
General Cataract & Comprehensive
Ophthalmology Service
Singapore National Eye Centre



Professor Aung Tin
Executive Director
Singapore Eye Research Institute



Dr Grace Wu
Consultant
Paediatric Ophthalmology & Adult
Strabismus Service
Singapore National Eye Centre



Dr Allan Fong
Head (SNEC Balestier Branch)
Singapore National Eye Centre

MARK YOUR DIARY

FOR PUBLIC

Check out www.snec.com.sg for more details.

LASIK and Its Alternative

When 24 April 2014
Time 6.30pm - 8pm
Where Auditorium, Level 4, Tower Block, SNEC
 To register:
 Call 6322 8822 (office hours)
 Email: events@snec.com.sg

FOR OPHTHALMOLOGISTS / OPHTHALMOLOGY TRAINEES

Check out www.snecmeetings.org for more details.

Survival Kit to Neuro-Ophthalmology

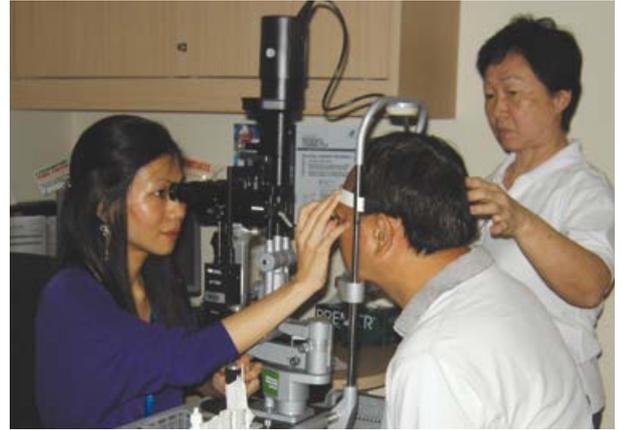
When 24 May 2014
Where Auditorium, Level 4, Tower Block, SNEC

GENERAL PRACTITIONERS AND FAMILY PHYSICIANS

Check out www.snecmeetings.org for more details.

Paediatric Eye Conditions and Strabismus

When 31 May 2014
Time 1pm - 4pm
Where Auditorium, Level 4, Tower Block, SNEC



Appointment Booking

Tel: (65) 6227 7266
 Fax: (65) 6227 7290
 Email: appointments@snec.com.sg
 Website: www.snec.com.sg

GP Hotline

Tel: (65) 6322 9399

SNEC Laser Vision Centre Hotline

Tel: (65) 6322 8891
 Fax: (65) 6226 3403
 Email: laservisioncentre@snec.com.sg
 Website: www.sneclaservisioncentre.com.sg

Opening Hours

Mondays to Fridays
 8.30am to 5.30pm
 Saturdays, Sundays & Public Holidays
 No clinic sessions

CONSULTATION IS
 BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

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