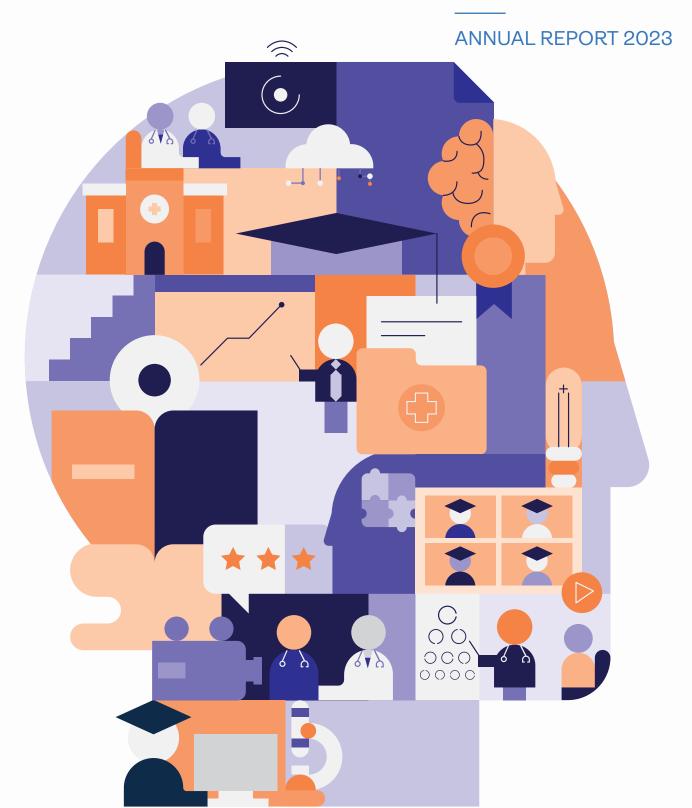




# EDUCATE EMPOWER



# ANNUAL REPORT 2023

# **Acknowledgments**

The primary contributors to this report include: Clin Assoc Prof Anshu Arundhati, Prof Ian Yeo, Dr Sharifah Zainah Alsagoff, Dr Loo Jing Liang, Dr Low Jin Rong, Dr Melissa Wong, Dr Andrew Tsai, Dr Reuben Foo, Dr Kiew Sieh Yean, Dr Thiyagarajan Jayabaskar, Chia Hui Yien, Foo Wen Dee, Shirley Ngiam

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Launched in May 2024

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# CHAPTER 1 ABOUT US

# CULTIVATE ENCOURAGE





Clin Assoc Prof Anshu Arundhati

Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Education), SNEC

Academic Vice Chair (Education), EYE ACP

# DCEO, Education's Message

### Dear SNEC faculty, members of our training community, and stakeholders,

As we embark on this new year, we are thrilled to unveil our latest initiative - the T&E Annual Report. It is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our Training and Education Department and a platform to celebrate our contributions across a diverse training portfolio. This report reflects our shared journey, highlighting our accomplishments, recognising the efforts of our trainees, trainers, and faculty, and presenting our strategic vision for the future. We hope it will inspire us to continue pushing boundaries and achieving great things together.

I am grateful to all members of the SNEC training community. Their dedication to excellence has helped maintain our institution's reputation as a leading eye care training centre. We celebrate the hard work and commitment of our past and present education leaders and faculty members, who have helped us reach our eminent status. Professor Arthur Lim's philosophy of teaching excellence and mentoring the next generation continues to inspire us.

We achieved multiple awards and recognition last year for our programs and faculty and significant recognition as a Western Pacific World Health Organization Collaboration Centre for the Prevention of Blindness for our regional capacity development efforts. Our triumphs are not just statistics. They represent the countless hours of hard work, innovation, and our shared commitment to advancing eye care education. From the impressive achievements of our trainees to the dedication of our esteemed trainers and faculty, every success story tells our collective journey. Our faculty and T&E team's tireless efforts have propelled us to the forefront of excellence in ophthalmic education. For that, I express my profound appreciation.

Let us take a moment to celebrate our achievements while recognizing that the healthcare education landscape is constantly evolving. Overcoming the challenges ahead requires all our collective knowledge and creativity. By embracing new teaching methods such as blended learning, workplace-based learning, interprofessional education, and simulation, along with the transformative power of AI, we can redefine the future of ophthalmic education. Together, as an SNEC community, we can rise to the occasion and make a positive impact.

We are thrilled to announce our exciting plans for the upcoming year. We are committed to staying ahead of the curve by innovating and adapting. To achieve this, we will be reviewing our training programs and integrating cutting-edge methodologies that align with the ever-evolving healthcare landscape. With a culture of continuous improvement, we'll provide our trainees with an education that exceeds the demands of the modern healthcare environment. Join us on this journey of excellence and become a part of a brighter future in healthcare.

We understand that we cannot achieve our goals alone. To continue advancing, we need the support of external stakeholders like industry partners, foundations, and philanthropic donors. Since funding for education and training is limited, their contribution is vital in helping us achieve our ambitious goals of transforming ophthalmic education. We are excited to partner with interested parties and invite them to invest in education and help us shape the future of eye care.

In conclusion, let us celebrate our achievements, honor our history, and embrace the challenges ahead with enthusiasm and determination. Together, as a united and forward-thinking community, we will continue to shape the future of ophthalmic education and make an enduring impact on healthcare.

Thank you for your unwavering commitment and support towards transforming ophthalmic education.

# Former and Current Directors

AS AT 29 FEBRUARY 2024



Clin Assoc Prof Anshu ARUNDHATI VICE CHAIR, EDUCATION 1 March 2022 to Current

# PROGRAM DIRECTOR, RESIDENCY 1 February 2024 to Current

- Deputy Vice Chair, Education (1 April 2019 to 28 February 2022)
- Director, Fellowship (1 January 2018 to 31 December 2023)



**Prof Ian YEO** 

- Vice Chair, Education (1 October 2014 to 28 February 2022)
- Head, Training & Education
   January 2010 to 28 February 2022
- Program Director, Residency
  (1 April 2010 to 31 October 2014)



**Dr ONG Sze Guan** 

Head, Training & Education (1 January 2000 to 31 December 2009)



Dr Sharifah Zainah ALSAGOFF

- Associate Program
  Director, Residency
  1 June 2022 to 29 February
  2024
- Deputy Head, Training & Education (1 March 2008 to 30 September 2008)



**Assoc Prof Audrey CHIA** 

Program Director, Residency
(1 November 2014 to 31 December 2018)



Dr Reuben FOO ASSOCIATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, RESIDENCY (DESIGNATE) 1 January 2024 to Current

ASSOCIATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, RESIDENCY 1 June 2024 to Current



Dr Melissa WONG ASSOCIATE PROGRAM DIRECTOR, RESIDENCY 1 September 2021 to Current



Clin Assoc Prof Rahat HUSSAIN

Associate Program
 Director, Residency
 (1 November 2014 to 31 December 2018)



Adj Prof CHEE Soon Phaik

 Co-Head, Training & Education
 January 2008 to
 December 2009)



Assoc Prof
Shamira PERERA

Program Director, Residency
(1 April 2022 to 31 January 2024)



**Dr Livia TEO** 

- Program Director, Residency (1 July 2021 to 31 March 2022)
- Associate Program Director, Residency (1 January 2019 to 30 June 2021)



**Dr Jean CHAI** 

- Program Director, Residency (1 January 2018 to 30 June 2021)
- Associate Program Director, Residency
  1 January 2016 to
  31 December 2017



**Dr Daniel SU** 

 Associate Program Director, Residency (1 April 2011 to 31 October 2014)



Dr LOO Jing Liang DIRECTOR, UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION 1 April 2022 to Current



Dr LOW Jin Rong DEPUTY DIRECTOR, UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION 1 February 2022 to Current



Dr Andrew TSAI
DIRECTOR, FELLOWSHIP
1 April 2023 to
Current

# Former and Current Directors

AS AT 29 FEBRUARY 2024



Clin Assoc Prof SEAH Lay Leng

 Director, Undergraduate Education [NUS YLLSoM] (1 April 2016 to 31 March 2022)



Clin Assoc Prof LEE Shu Yen

 Director, Undergraduate Education [Duke-NUS] (2008 to 2012)



Dr TAN Yar Li

 Deputy Director, Undergraduate Education [Duke-NUS]
 April 2019 to 30 November 2019



Dr WONG Chee Wai

Deputy Director, Undergraduate Education [Duke-NUS]
[1 February 2018 to 31 October 2021]

# Former and Current Core Faculty

Residency

### Clin Assoc Prof Anshu ARUNDHATI

• 1 December 2014 to 31 January 2024

### **Dr Jean CHAI**

• 1 July 2015 to 31 December 2015

### **Assoc Prof Audrey CHIA**

- 1 January 2011 to 31 October 2014
- 1 January 2018 to Current

### Dr Saadia Zohra FAROOQUI

• 1 March 2024 to Current

### **Dr Reuben F00**

• 1 January 2024 to Current

# **Clin Assoc Prof Rahat HUSSAIN**

• 1 July 2011 to 31 October 2014

### Dr KIEW Sieh Yean

• 1 March 2024 to Current

### Clin Assoc Prof LEE Shu Yen

• 1 January 2011 to Current

### Dr LOO Jing Liang

• 1 March 2015 to Current

# Clin Assoc Prof MOHAMAD Rosman Othman

• 1 January 2011 to 31 March 2023

### **Assoc Prof Shamira PERERA**

• 1 July 2011 to 31 March 2022

### **Clin Assoc Prof Sunny SHEN**

• 1 November 2016 to 31 December 2019

### Dr TAN Yar Li

• 1 February 2019 to 30 November 2019

### **Dr Livia TEO**

• 1 March 2015 to 31 December 2018

### Dr Melissa WONG

• 1 January 2020 to 31 August 2021

### **Prof Ian YEO**

• 1 November 2014 to 22 August 2022

# **Our Achievements of FY2023**

Highlights and Awards



# SingHealth Excellence Awards 2023

On 25 May 2023, The **Distinguished Team Award** was presented to the Intravitreal (IVT) Injection Nurse Training Program.

Left to Right: Prof Ian Yeo, Dr Aw Ai Tee, Mr Cheng Wai Keung, Ms Belinda Toh, Dr Thiyagarajan Jayabaskar



# **AMEI Golden Apple Awards 2023**

The award recognises outstanding teaching potentials among educators in SingHealth and Duke-NUS across the various healthcare professions. Congratulations to our Director of Education Development, Dr Thiyagarajan Jayabaskar, on winning the **Outstanding Educator Award** under the AMEI Golden Apple Awards 2023!

Left to Right: Prof Thomas Coffman, Dr Thiyagarajan Jayabaskar, Prof Ivy Ng



# Residency in SingHealth Excels Awards (RiSE) 2023

The annual Residency in SingHealth Excels (RiSE) awards celebrate the contributions and achievements of outstanding faculty and topperforming residents in SingHealth.

Left to Right:

Prof Ng Wai Hoe, Dr Melissa Wong, Dr Shayne Tan, Dr Joshua Lim, Dr Sharifah Zainah, Ms Amelia Jane Lim. Prof Tan Hak Koon

# Highlights and Awards



# Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple Professorship in Ophthalmology Academic Medicine 2023

On April 2023, Prof Ian Yeo was conferred the Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple Professorship in Ophthalmology Academic Medicine.

Left to Right: Prof Aung Tin, Prof Ian Yeo, Prof Thomas Coffman, Prof Ho Tew Hong



# Learning Enterprise Alliance (LEA) Awards 2023

SNEC received this year Institute of Adult Learning LEA award for the Myopia Online course which will explore the possibility of digital badges and wider use across all Healthcare professionals with the education expert consultant.

Left to Right:

Ms Lim Siew Leng, Ms Loke Wan Ting, Dr Thiyagarajan Jayabaskar, Prof Aung Tin, Dr Loh Kai-Lyn, Prof Ian Yeo



# Medical Education Grand Innovation Challenge (MEGIC) 2023

Team ReVISUALize, led by Prof Louis Tong, received the **First Prize** at the Medical Education Grand Innovation Challenge (MEGIC) 2023 during the NUS Medicine Educators' Day. Their winning project, "Teaching Smartphone Ophthalmoscopy to Pre-clinical Students," overseen by Dr Loo Jing Liang, aims to transform eye examinations and improve teaching methods for future medical practitioners.

# Left to Right:

Prof Paul John Gallagher, A/Prof Seow Teck Keong, A/Prof Soo Yuen Jien, A/Prof Lau Tang Ching, Mr Maverick Wong Wenhao

# Highlights and Awards



# **NUS Clinical Training Excellence Award**

Our centre is awarded the Clinical Training Excellence Award from NUS for the outstanding teaching and mentoring of students for 2 consecutive academic years; in AY19/20 and AY20/21



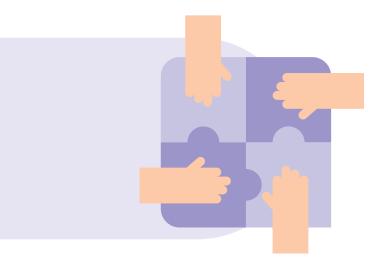
# MedACE Award 2023

Dr Stanley Poh, our esteemed senior resident, received recognition through the Junior Doctor Teaching Award, highlighting his exceptional contributions to medical education and mentorship within our institution.



# **Our Latest Collaborations**

EyeTrain



In December 2020, SNEC forged a strategic alliance with Santen Pharmaceutical Asia Pte. Ltd. The collaboration aims to offer educational initiatives for Healthcare Professionals across the Asia Pacific region, spanning countries like Vietnam, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, and Malaysia. The primary goal is to collaboratively design and implement an improved educational curriculum to address the scarcity of adequately trained healthcare professionals, thereby nurturing the eye care ecosystem in the region.

This educational program utilizes an online learning management platform for knowledge delivery and incorporates hands-on onsite skills development practicum for practical skill enhancement.

# RSCM-SNEC Allied Ophthalmic Program (MVP) — Pilot Intake

First internationally accredited education program for Ophthalmic Nurse in Indonesia, supported by Santen Asia Pte. Ltd. A bespoke program for Indonesia, that is designed from the successful Ophthalmic Assistant and Ophthalmic Technician courses offered by SNEC in collaboration with Duke-NUS Medical School and accredited by IJCAPHO. The RSCM-SNEC Allied Ophthalmic Program offers joint competency certification by RSCM and SNEC. The course, led by RSCM ophthalmologists and nurse trainers, adopts a blended learning model, integrating theoretical classroom knowledge with clinical skills. 14 trainees from RSCM are enrolled for 2023.

# F DISANS IN COLUMN STANS IN ST

# VNEH-SNEC Basic Ophthalmic Skills for Ophthalmic Nurses and Technicians

First internationally accredited education program for Ophthalmic Nurse in Indonesia, supported by Santen Asia Pte. Ltd. Tailored specifically for Vietnam, this program draws from the successful Ophthalmic Assistant and Ophthalmic Technician courses provided by SNEC in collaboration with Duke-NUS Medical School. Accredited by IJCAPHO, it offers a joint competency certification from VNEH and SNEC. The curriculum, delivered by a team of VNEH ophthalmologists and nurse trainers, employs a blended learning model, integrating theoretical classroom teachings with practical clinical skills. A total of 40 trainees from Vietnam are enrolled in this program.



# Joint SNEC-Beijing Ophthalmology Forums

We have the honour to collaborate with Beijing Tsinghua Chang Gung Hospital (BTCH) and Beijing Tongren Hospital (Tongren) in the pursuit to uplift the quality of our teachings and foster collaborations with regional and overseas institutions as part of our academic medicine pursuit. The inaugural joint SNEC-Tsinghua-Tongren International Forum was held in March 2023. The aim of these sessions is to facilitate sharing of best practices and management of various eye conditions as well as create the opportunities for potential collaborations between institutions. The forum will be held quarterly with a focus on a subspecialty topic for each session. During the forum, 3 to 4 clinical cases are presented by respective institution and faculty and residents from all institutions are invited to discuss on the management of each condition.

We have had 3 sessions conducted successfully and with its success, we have extended our invitation to other hospitals in Beijing, such as Peking Union Medical College Hospital (PUMCH), to participate in this initiative. With the expansion to allow more institutions in Beijing to participate, it is renamed as "Joint SNEC-Beijing Ophthalmology Forum". The Forum will have nominated speakers speak on a topic or present cases based on an overarching topic, and the chairperson will facilitate discussions between the speakers and topics. The updated



format will allow SNEC and 1 hospital from Beijing (BTCH / Tongren/ PUMCH) to co-chair and share their cases for each session. This will allow fruitful discussions and pave the way for more potential collaborations with many hospitals in Beijing.

In end 2023, following Professor Wu Wei-Chi's visit to Singapore under MOH's HMDP Visiting Expert Scheme, the SNEC Retina Department initiated a joint round with Chang Gung Memorial Hospital (CGMH), with the aim to foster greater learning between the SNEC & CGMH faculty. During each round, doctors from SNEC & CGMH will be invited to present and actively discuss 2-3 interesting cases centered around Retinal Eye Conditions. The joint session began in January 2024 and it was a successful session with fruitful discussions between both institutions. The joint sessions will continue to be conducted bi-monthly.

# RANZCO Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Two leading ophthalmology organizations, the Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC) and the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists (RANZCO), have partnered to enhance ophthalmic services, education, and research. SNEC is a highly regarded provider of specialized ophthalmological services in Singapore, focusing on quality education and research. It serves many patients in the Singapore public sector and is known for its clinical excellence and research. SNEC Global Eye Health (SNEC-GEH) aims to advance eye care development in ASEAN. RANZCO is responsible for ophthalmologists' training and professional development in Australia and New Zealand. It prioritizes patient outcomes, education, evidence-based decision-making, collaboration, and collegiality.

The agreement between SNEC and RANZCO will last for three years and emphasizes integrity, communication, cooperation, accountability, respect, innovation, quality improvement, sustainability, and ethical conduct. SNEC and RANZCO are collaborating on several initiatives, including an annual ophthalmic forum, subspecialty and global ophthalmology fellowships exchange, a Small



Incision Cataract Surgery (SICS) simulator program, outreach in resource-scarce areas, improvement of e-learning platforms, and development of training pathways for ophthalmic assistants and technicians.

An executive committee, comprising one representative from each party, will oversee the partnership. Administrative assistance will be provided on an annual rotating basis. SNEC and RANZCO's collaboration aims to leverage their respective strengths to advance ophthalmic care, education, and research regionally and internationally. By working together, they seek to enhance the quality and accessibility of eye health services for communities in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond.

# **Our New Training Facilities**

e-Production Studio

The SNEC e-Production Studio offers a comprehensive range of capabilities aimed at enhancing training content and educational events. Equipped with state-of-the-art 4K video cameras, professional lighting, and audio equipment, complemented by our skilled crews. Our studio boasts a versatile green screen setup, accommodating up to two individuals on screen simultaneously or facilitating full-body green screen filming for a single subject.

One of the standout features of our studio is the ability to incorporate pre-recorded segments into webinars, lending a polished and professional appearance to presentations. The green screen technology allows for seamless customization of backgrounds and integration of presentation slides, elevating viewer engagement. Post-production editing services are available to further enhance videos with visual and sound effects.

For panel discussions or interviews involving remote speakers, our studio can accommodate up to two participants, making it an ideal venue for hosting interactive sessions. Furthermore, we offer the capability to seamlessly integrate speakers from around the world into live streams, fostering global collaboration and knowledge exchange.

THE CALL AND ADDRESS OF THE CA

To elevate the visual appeal of live streams, our inhouse graphic designer can develop customized graphics packages tailored to the theme or concept of the event. From countdown graphics to title designs and lower thirds, we ensure a cohesive and professional presentation that captivates audiences.

In addition to our studio services, we extend offsite filming opportunities to external institutions and within SNEC and SERI premises. Our offerings includes voice annotation presentations, interview videos, and surgical recordings, further broadening the scope of educational content creation.





### **Video Production Process**

### Submit Project Request **Pre-Production Production Post-Production** Meeting & Consultation • Content Development • Setting up Equipment Video Editing Visual/Sound Effect Project Timeline • Design Presentation Voice-over Recording Deck Filming • Reviews/Approvals Storyboarding Final Delivery

Here are some of the projects we have completed, both externally and internally:

# Video Production

All about Contact Lens
(Collaborated with Optometrists)

APAO 2021, APVRS 2021/2023, APOIS 2023, APJO 2024 (Senior Advisor)

CEO Employee Engagement Survey (ESS) Message, Learning and Development Interview (Collaborated with HR)

Cord Plasma Eyedrops for Dry Eye Disease

(Collaborated with Singapore Cord Blood Bank and Prof Louis Tong)

EyeSight Newsletter

(Collaborated with EYE ACP)

Glaucoma Patient Education

(Collaborated with Dr Lee Yi Fang)

National Dental Centre (Video Recording for Chief Dental Officer, Ministry of Health)

Project RAPIER

(Collaborated with Clin Assoc Prof Lionel Cheng, SingHealth - RADSC)

TEAM SPEAK and SAY NO Video

The Ophthalmologist
(An Interview with Dr Foo Li Lian)

**Voice Annotated Presentation** 

ASEAN Ophthalmology Congress (Dr Howard Cajucom-Uy Yu)

Eye Research Course

**EURETINA 2023** 

(Abstract - Dr Ranjana Mathur)

Foundation Course 2023 (Collaborated with Residency)

Patient Education

(Collaborated with Nursing)

33 APACRS 2021

# Webinar, Courses and Hybrid Events Support

Advanced Corneal Surgery Course 2022 and 2023

Allied Health Professionals Day 2023

Myopia Online Course 2024

Neuro-Ophthalmology Masterclass 2022 and 2023

Nursing Day 2022

Nursing EDC Webinar 2022 (Collaborated with Nursing EDC)

Service Operation

(Well-being Day & Christmas Celebration)

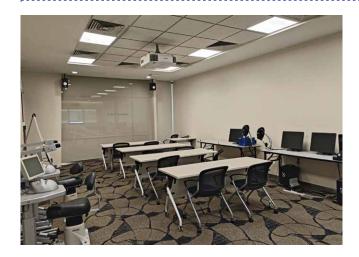
SNEC-GO Quarterly

Town Hall 2021 to 2024

(Education, Clinical Service, BITC, etc)

# Our New Training Facilities

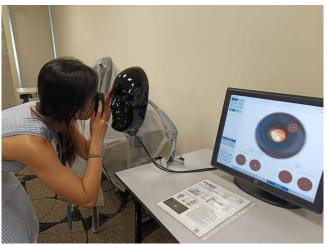
Skills Future Lab



Our Centre has two Skills Transfer Lab – one is located at SNEC level 4 and the one is at Bowyer's Block. These Skills Transfer Labs present the medical students, residents, medical officers and fellows with quality learning opportunities to maintain and / or improve the knowledge and skills needed to provide the best possible eye care for our patients.

The Lab located at SNEC Level 4 is a wet-lab where the learners may use pig eyes for practice, whereas the Skills Transfer Lab at Bowyer's Block is a dry lab where various simulators can be used to facilitate training and is set up as a classroom-style with whiteboard and projector screen, providing a conducive learning environment for tutorials to be held here.







# Eyesi Surgical Simulator

The Eyesi Courseware allows trainees to practice cataract surgery at a level of difficulty appropriate to their current ability. To advance through a course, trainees must meet a required performance level on each simulation task in the course. At the end of each training task, Eyesi Surgical presents the trainee with a detailed performance summary. This detailed performance evaluation provided allows educators to control the individual learning process and to establish measurable proficiency standards.



### Eyesi Direct Ophthalmoscope Simulator

This simulator provides a curriculum designed to teach trainees in a logical and measurable manner and provides objective and immediate feedback after each virtual exam. The curriculum contains a selection of the most common retinal pathologies every medical student must be able to recognise, such as optic disc edema (including papilledema), diabetic and hypertensive retinopathy, or vascular occlusion.



# Eyesi Indirect Ophthalmoscope Simulator

Using a case-based didactic approach, this simulator prepares trainees for clinical practice. Trainees can examine a wide range of relevant retina and vitreous pathologies before they meet their first patient. Case descriptions and the clinical records of the virtual patient are also provided by the training system. At the end of each virtual retinal examination, the trainee is presented with a performance summary of detailed and objective evaluation of technical and diagnostic skills.



# **Past and Upcoming Events**

**Education Townhall** 





The Training & Education Team hosted the Education Townhall in January 2024 at the Ngee Ann Kongsi Auditorium. The session commenced with a warm welcome and opening speech from Clin Assoc Prof Anshu Arundhati, setting the tone for the event. Subsequently, new medical officers and fellows were introduced to the audience. Dr Loo Jing Liang then presented on the evolution of undergraduate teaching, transitioning from "Old School" to "New School". Following this, Assoc Prof Shamira Perera elaborated on the journey to success in residency training. Prof Ian Yeo provided updates on the developments within the SNEC Academy, rounding off the informative session. Training & Education department will continue its commitment to achieving excellence in education.

# International Clinical Fellowship Engagement Sessions



Kickstarted the hosting of bi-annual International Clinical Fellowship engagement sessions, facilitated by Dr Andrew Tsai, the Fellowship Director and coordinated by the Fellowship team. These sessions offer a platform for fellows to share their experiences, perspectives, and needs at SNEC. Held in a relaxed atmosphere over dinner, they promote an open and safe environment for clinical fellows to express their opinions and concerns which assist in building rapport and trust. Furthermore, this allows the fellowship team and departments to identify expectations, understand strengths and limitations.

# Workshop on Eye Health for all in the Western Pacific Region

An Eye Health for All workshop was held in Singapore from November 3rd to 4th, 2022, for the Western Pacific Regional country representatives. The event was organized by the Western Pacific regional WHO Office and was hosted by SNEC, with the support of SingHealth Duke-NUS Global Health Institute. The purpose of the workshop was to enhance the ability of member states and stakeholders in the region to plan and implement integrated people-centred eye care (IPEC) by 2030. The In Sight initiative, the joint eye health sector strategy of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), was also discussed during the workshop. The workshop had three primary objectives:

- 1. It aimed to strengthen the integration of eye health.
- 2. It introduced WHO's newly published Eye Care in Health Systems: A Guide for Action.
- 3. It facilitated the engagement of member states and stakeholders with the newly developed WHO eye health tools.





(Bottom Row) Left to Right: Dr Rolando Enrique Domingo, Dr Huong Thi Giang Tran, Ms Amanda Davis, Prof Aung Tin, A/Prof Tan Hiang Khoon

(Top Row) Left to Right: Dr Thiyagarajan Jayabaskar, Mr Brandon Ah Tong, Dr Fabrizio D'Esposito, Mr Drew Keys SNEC presented their validation exercise on the Advanced Diploma in Clinical Optometry course, applying the Eyecare Competency Framework, in the workshop. Representatives from 27 Western Pacific countries and various regional non-governmental organizations, including ministry-level representatives, attended the workshop. Additionally, SNEC has set up the SNEC Global Ophthalmology Office (SNEC GO), now SNEC Global Eye Health (SNEC GEH), which zeroes in on three main domains: education, research, and outreach and capacity building to support this objective of improving regional prevention of blindness.

The need for change and services in our region is significant – and continues to grow. There are insufficient human resources to meet the need and the key to this is a primary care-focused approach with ophthalmic personnel to fill the gap and to ensure quality services are provided.

The leadership of SNEC in the region is critical. The training and capacity-building skills and experience that SNEC bring to the sector are needed and, indeed, very timely. Many of our stakeholders are requesting this type of support, and we look forward to continuing to work with you to facilitate exchanges and support throughout the region. <sup>99</sup>

# **Ms Amanda Davis**

Chair at the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB), Western Pacific

# **Education Programs & Courses**

Completed

# **Advanced Corneal Surgical Program**

14 to 16 October 2023

The program spanning 14 to 16 October 2023, featured a comprehensive agenda delivered over three days in a hybrid format, combining onsite and virtual participation. It included a variety of components such as lectures, wetlab sessions, clinical case discussions, patient rounds, and asynchronous online learning modules.

Key success factors for the program encompassed robust support from both industry partners and internal stakeholders. Notable industry sponsors included Zeiss, providing substantial sponsorship for IOCT and Artevo content development, alongside contributions from Transmedic, MandarinOptic, Moria, and Eversight, facilitating various aspects such as booth provision, wetlab demonstrations, and tissue supplies.

Internally, support from the Cornea Faculty, Nursing & Eyebank, and T&E departments ensured seamless logistics and program execution. The program's diverse audience, comprising ophthalmologists, faculty residents, optometrists, nurses, and coders, contributed to its richness and depth.

Delivery strategies, including a hybrid mode for onsite and virtual attendance, a comprehensive training program, engaging engagement tactics such as participant interviews and real-time quizzes. Additionally, cuttingedge educational content, delivered through interactive e-learning materials developed in-house, underscored the program's commitment to advancing knowledge and skills in corneal surgery.













total registrants



onsite attendees



virtual attendees



countries

# Completed

# **Neuro-Ophthalmology Masterclass**

28 October 2023

The Neuro-Ophthalmology team coordinated with local and international speakers to develop this one-day masterclass, which serves as a refresher for general ophthalmologists and neurologists; and to facilitate revision for the neuro-ophthalmology component of the Final MMED Ophthalmology/FRCOphth exam. Attendees had the opportunity to participate in clinical skills transfer sessions, where they observed and engaged in the examination of real patients presenting with clinical signs of various neuro-ophthalmologic conditions.

In addition to the primary sessions, the masterclass showcased renowned guest speaker Prof Carmen Chan from Hong Kong Eye Hospital and other speakers representing other institutions. Their presentations delved into specialized topics within neuro-ophthalmology, offering invaluable insights and perspectives that significantly enhanced the overall learning experience.





Prof Carmen Chan





### At a Glance



total registrants





virtual attendees



countries

# **Education Programs & Courses**

Completed

# Duke-NUS SNEC Basic Certificate for Ophthalmic Assistant and Technician and Ophthalmic Patient Care Assistant Programs

Ophthalmic Assistants and Technicians are essential members of the healthcare community. The Ophthalmic Assistant and Ophthalmic Technician courses offered by Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC), with a joint affiliation with Duke-NUS are designed to comprehensively amalgamate classroom theoretical knowledge and clinical skills acquired in skill laboratories, with students' clinical experience to develop competent Allied Health Professionals in Ophthalmology.

SNEC launched its pilot course for Ophthalmic Assistants and Technicians in May 2014, with a joint affiliation with Duke-NUS. These Allied Health training programs were awarded the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO) accreditation for excellence. Both programs are designed to meet the Commission on Accreditation of Ophthalmic Medical Personnel (CoA-OMP) standards and guidelines. The program also won the AMEI Golden Apple Award for Program Excellence in 2020.



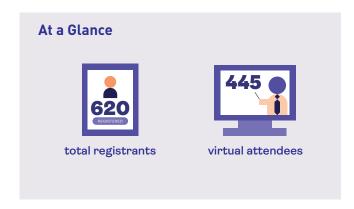
### Senior Enrolled Nurse Development Program

The Senior Enrolled Nurse Development (SEND) Program is designed to upskill our existing senior enrolled nurses. This program is a combination of Module 1 to 4 of the above OAOT course with additional training on clinical skills (Lid hygiene, post op eye dressing, lacrimal syringing, irrigation, Schirmer's Tear Test, Peripheral Blood Glucose monitoring; and assisting in Incision and Draining).

# At a Glance 4th intake overall course graduates (SENs)

### **Orthokeratology Basic Course**

Explore Orthokeratology (ortho-k) as a non-surgical alternative for addressing refractive errors. This comprehensive course is tailored for eyecare professionals, providing theoretical knowledge. Engage in interactive discussions and analyze real-life cases to refine your skills. Upon completion, participants will be well-equipped to seamlessly incorporate orthokeratology into their practice, thereby offering high-quality care to patients seeking non-surgical refractive correction and myopia management.



Completed

# **SNEC Global Ophthalmology Rounds Webinar**

The SNEC-Global Ophthalmology (GO) Rounds Webinar Series is a quarterly webinar for young ophthalmologists from the region to join and share their experience and learn from the best practices and to foster regional and international collaboration through collaboration via webinars and discussing challenging cases with partnering institutes.

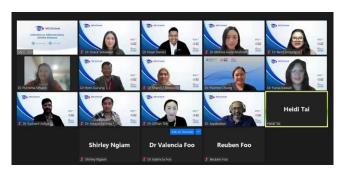
The SNEC-GO Rounds Webinar Series which focuses on different sub-specialties every quarter has been successfully held since June 2021.

There have been 3 webinars developed on the following themes (Glaucoma, Myopia and Oculoplastic) in February, May and November 2023.

Many fellows and residents who attended the webinar commented that the discussion on cases provided useful information and helped to widen their knowledge. SNEC has collaborated with various regional institutions from Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines, Taiwan, Malaysia, Vietnam and Nepal to develop this well received series.



SNEC GO Rounds Webinar - Glaucoma 8 February 2023



SNEC GO Rounds Webinar - Oculoplastic 30 November 2023



# **Education Programs & Courses**

Completed

Ongoing

# **Next Frontiers in IOL Design Workshop**

This workshop provides a comprehensive look at FEMTIS lenses, highlighting their unique refractive optics and diverse range. Participants will learn about optimizing outcomes in cataract surgery, including crucial steps for creating optimal capsulorhexis (CCC) and postoperative adjustments. It features live surgery observations for a practical understanding of intraocular lens (IOL) procedures and a hands-on wetlab focusing on cataract extraction and IOL techniques. This experience is invaluable for ophthalmologists, offering insights into advanced lens technology for enhanced patient outcomes.

# Advanced Corneal Surgery ALK/ DSAEK/ DMEK Course 2024

The 3-day Advanced Corneal Surgery Course is an enriching opportunity and a strong foundation for ophthalmologists to refine their skills in corneal transplant procedures. This multifaceted program combines eLearning, didactic lectures, hands-on wet lab training, live surgery, and clinical case studies. It focuses on the techniques in lamellar surgery, including ALK, DALK, DSAEK, and DMEK, offering invaluable practical experience and knowledge enhancement.





Ongoing

# Eye Bank's Corneal Procurement eLearning Course

This course aims to cover the understanding of eye banking workfl ows, legislation and donor screening as well as develop the skillset required for cornea in-situ recovery.

This course is designed to cover a range of topics which are essential to medical, nursing, and allied health professionals interested in the cornea donation and recovery process.





Ongoing

# SNEC International Clinical Fellowship Programs & Observership

SNEC continues to uphold its reputation for excellence in eye care by offering multiple clinical fellowship programs up to 12 months for international fellows and short term observership from 1 to 3 months. These programs provide a unique opportunity for ophthalmologists from around the world to enhance their skills and knowledge through hands-on experience and mentorship from our renowned experts. As a leading eye care institution in the region, we are proud to share our expertise and contribute to the advance of the eye care globally.



# CHAPTER 2 OUR PEOPLE

# SUPPORT FOSTER







# **Our People**

AS AT 29 FEBRUARY 2024

# Residents

# Year 5

Dr CHEONG Kai Xiong Dr Jessica CHOO Dr Joshua LIM Dr Lixian Claire PETERSON Dr Stanley POH

# Year 4

Dr Kenric FAN Dr LEONG Yuan Yuh Dr TEO Zhen Ling

### Year 3

Dr Jasmine GE Dr Ryan LEE Dr Shayne TAN Dr Alvin TEO

# Year 2

Dr CHAUNG Jia Quan Dr LOO Cheng Yi Dr Ralene SIM Zi Hui Dr WONG Le Yi Joy

### Year 1

Dr Merrelynn HONG Dr Elizabeth LIM Dr TAN Ting Fang Dr TAN See Teng Dr Michelle YIP

# International Clinical Fellows

### Completed

Dr Evan Wong Corneal & External Eye Disease (30 August 2021 to 29 August 2022)

Dr Ardiella YUNARD Glaucoma

(1 February 2022 to 31 March 2023)

Dr Karen QUILAT Glaucoma (13 June 2022 to 12 June 2023)

Dr Al-Ajmi MUNA Paediatric (4 July 2022 to 3 July 2023)

Dr Abusayf MOHAMMED Corneal & External Eye Disease (29 August 2022 to 28 August 2023) Dr Priya RASIPURAM Medical Retina (28 September 2022 to 27 September 2023)

Dr Dianne CHRISCILLE Neuro-Ophthalmology (29 September 2022 to 28 September 2023)

Dr Shirley Puyuan MA Oculoplastic (16 November 2022 to

15 November 2023)

Dr Chicco PANGAN Surgical Retina [21 February 2023 to 20 February 2024]

### **Ongoing**

Dr Rose SHEHAB Corneal & External Eye Disease (16 June 2023 to 15 June 2024)

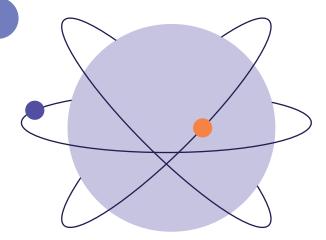
Dr Aditi KOCHAR Glaucoma (29 June 2024 to 28 January 2025)

# **HMDP Experiences**

Learning Experience

Just like the film of a camera, the retina is the thin photo-sensitive layer at the back of the eye which is vital for vision. Diseases of the retina occur frequently in adults, but can also occur in very young children. Treating the young eye is important, and the paediatric retina surgeon's role is to try to delicately restore structure and function to the retina so as to preserve vision.

Dr Andrew Tsai has recently return from his paediatric retina fellowship. He shares his experience with us.

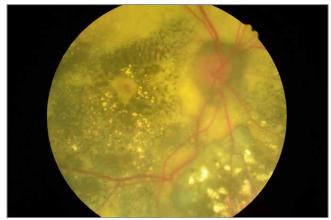


Q: Welcome home, Andrew, can you tell us where you went for your HMDP, and what you learnt there?

I spent a year overseas on Health Manpower Development Program (HMDP) training with Prof RV Paul Chan at University of Illinois, Chicago, USA (January 2022 to July 2022) and Prof Wei-Chi Wu from Linkou Chang Gung Memorial Hospital (CGMH), Taoyuan, Taiwan (August 2022 to January 2023).

In the United States, I had a broad clinical exposure to various adult and pediatric retinal diseases especially pediatric retinal vascular diseases such as retinopathy of prematurity (ROP), familial exudative vitreoretinopathy (FEVR), Coat's disease and persistent fetal vasculature (PFV). I also rotated weekly to a private practice retina group (Retina Consultants Ltd) and spent time with Dr Michael Shapiro who is highly regarded for his field of Sticklers, and Dr Michael Blair who is an excellent adult and pediatric retinal surgeon. In Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary (IEEI), I had both clinical and research exposure. Handheld optical coherence tomography was regularly used to image various pediatric retinal conditions. It has provided us with new insights as it can image various subclinical retinal structural changes that is invisible on indirect ophthalmoscopy.

In Taiwan, there was a high clinical load of both complex adult and pediatric retinal conditions. Overall, I gained confidence in operating on more advanced vitreoretinal cases and was able to achieve a reasonable outcome. Some memorable surgical cases include shaken baby syndrome, PFV, stage 4 and 5 ROP, FEVR related retinal detachments, trauma related retinal detachment (RD)/ proliferative vitreoretinopathy (PVR) and combined penetrating keratoplasty (PK) vitrectomy cases. In addition, I also spent time with Prof Lai Chi Chun who is an expert on highly myopic macular surgeries.





Coat's disease with massive exudation. Stabilized with combination therapy with intravitreal anti-VEGF, cryotherapy and laser photocoagulation. Residual subretinal scarring



Left to Right:
Dr Andrew Tsai, Prof RV Paul Chan, Dr Maura Di Nicola
(Medical Retina Fellow) and Ms Dina Johnson (ROP coordinator)



In Chang Gung Memorial Hospital (CGMH), comforting a baby before surgery

# Q: Now that you are home, what do you plan to do with this new knowledge?

Since returning back home, I have started a pediatric retina clinic at KK Women's and Children's Hospital, and also have both adult and pediatric surgical retina clinics at SNEC.

In the future, I believe that we will be able to better image pediatric retinal diseases with hand-held systems, as well as low-cost imaging devices. Understanding the genetic associations of both adult and pediatric retinal diseases is also important as we strive towards precision medicine. Surgical visualization will also improve for vitrectomy and that will enable surgeons to perform more precise work on the pre-retinal and subretinal space.



With the motto of Chang Gung Memorial Hospital: Benefit Mankind with Sincerity and Diligence

# **Contributed by:**



Dr Andrew Tsai

Senior Consultant

Surgical Retina Department

Program Director, Fellowship

# **HMDP Visiting Experts**

AS AT 29 FEBRUARY 2024

# February 2023



Prof Gemmy Cheung and Prof Anthony Moore

# **Prof Anthony Thomas Moore**

Medical Retinal and Pediatrics Ophthalmology London

# February 2023



Prof David Friedman and A/Prof Shamira Perera

# **Prof David Steven Friedman**

Glaucoma and Community Ophthalmology USA

# July 2023



Prof David Sarraf Medical Retina USA

# October 2023



Prof Wu Wei-Chi Pediatric Retina Taiwan

# **Learning Journey**

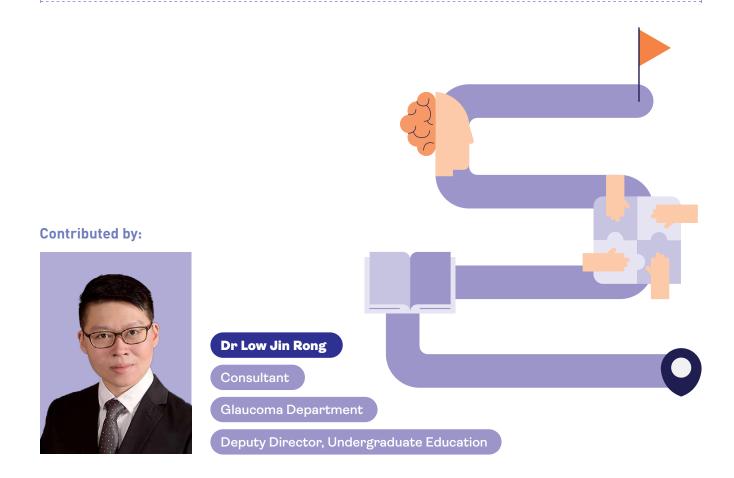
ACGME Annual Educational Conference

The 2020 Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Annual Educational Conference is one of the largest graduate medical education gatherings in the world, with over 145 forward-thinking sessions and hosting over 300 speakers that will cover topics on accreditation, education, assessment, and innovations in the clinical learning environment. I embarked on this program to foster professional growth and to gain new ideas and recommendations to promote continuous improvement to the ophthalmic training programs offered to healthcare professionals in ophthalmic care.

Through the 2020 Accreditation Council of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Annual Educational Conference, I have gained insights in the education program and framework of ACGME, as well as updates on education research and teaching methods. Lectures and courses which I have attended during the conference include the ACGME 2020 Strategic direction and

insights, Program Director course, ACGME updates for ophthalmology, Optimizing the learning and working environment, branding of residency program, How to recruit the right candidate, and Report to improve patient care by supporting clinician well-being.

The lessons learnt from the ACGME Annual Educational Conference will be useful for my plan to join the Clinician Educator track and as I take on more roles in training and education in Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC). These include assisting the Deputy Director of Undergraduate Education, SNEC in planning the ophthalmology curriculum and creating educational resources for Duke-NUS medical students, improving, and validating the SNEC Multiple-Choice Question (MCQ) Bank with the Undergraduate Education Team, and optimizing the training of Primary Eye Care (PEC) optometrists with the PEC committee.



# Alumni's Message



During my fellowship at SNEC and SERI, I had the opportunity to work with world-renowned experts in the field of cornea, cataract and refractive surgery. The experience was truly invaluable as I learned about selective lamellar keratoplasty, refractive lenticule extraction and the management of unique types of pathology that are common in this part of the world. More importantly, I gained mentors, teachers, colleagues and friends who have inspired me to continue pursuing knowledge and research in this field. I am grateful for this opportunity and I look forward to fostering a lasting relationship between SNEC, SERI and King Saud University.

Dr Mohammed Abusayf, International Clinical Fellow from Saudi Arabia, Cornea Research Fellowship Program (Aug 2022 – Aug 2023)



Dr Dianne Chriscille, International Clinical Fellow from Philippines, Neuro-Ophthalmology Fellowship Program (September 2022 to September 2023)

Fellowship training at SNEC was very hectic and busier compared to back home. There were more cases and more patients. Indeed, cases at SNEC were very different and some I had never seen before.

I immensely admire all of my consultants in the Neuro-Ophthalmology department for spending time teaching the residents, registrars and fellows in their clinics. They never fail to impart knowledge to everyone especially if there is a unique case during their clinics.

I was awed by the case management because it was very complete in terms of machines, work-ups and tests, services. You name it, SNEC got it! And for those patients who come here to get treated, they will always get 100% the best treatment that they can.

My experience being a clinical fellow especially in Neuro-Ophthalmology had been tough starting from the beginning up to the end. Nonetheless, it had been a fruitful and fulfilling year for me. It has been a great opportunity to be a part of the SNEC family, even for just a year! Thank you for all the knowledge, attitude and skills that SNEC has imparted to me as this gave a tremendous impact for my career and to the diagnosis and management of all my patients when I came back home. Kudos to SNEC fellowship!

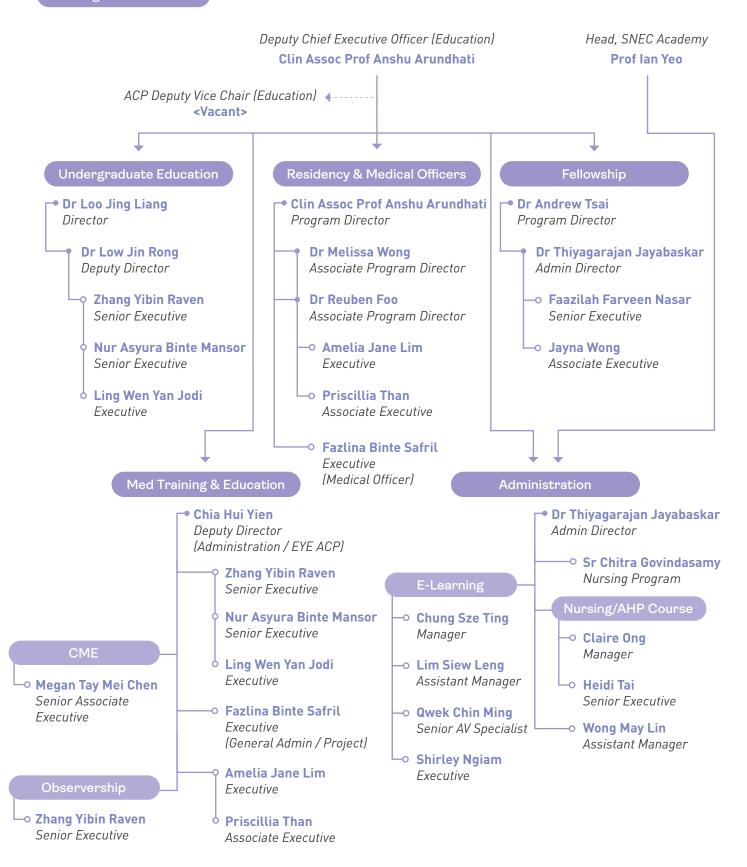


My cornea fellowship can be described as an extraordinary experience. It's my first ever fellowship and I came to Singapore with hope to expand my horizons and learn. At the same time enjoy working with amazing and highly experienced figures in the cornea field. I'm grateful that I had the chance to learn and grasp from their experiences. However, I must say it's not all sunshine and roses because there has been some unpleasant situations that I had to deal with on my own. Life is full of ups and downs and one needs to learn to enjoy the ups and have courage during the downs.

Dr Rose Shehab, International Clinical Fellow from Bahrain, Cornea Physician Fellowship Program

# Our Staff

T&E Organization Chart



# CHAPTER 3 OUR FUTURE

# GROWTH PROGRESS

# **Future Workplan**

**New Programs** 



# **Clinical Research Training Course**

This program aims to teach essential research skills for conducting quantitative research systematically. It includes 3 levels (Basic, Intermediate and Advanced), each with two modules.

The course targets ophthalmic research staff e.g., clinical research coordinators, paramedical staff, with the Intermediate and Advanced modules aim for Residents who are keen to improve their understanding of research.

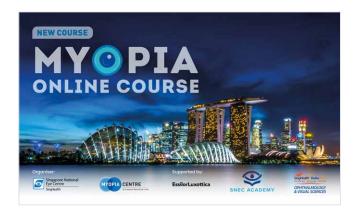
Basic level had been piloted internally and target for launching in Q1 2024.



### **Laser Vision Correction Course**

This two-day, comprehensive course provides an in-depth learning journey that combines interactive eLearning, expert-led lectures, hands-on wet lab sessions, live surgical demonstrations, and in-depth clinical case studies, focusing on the intricacies of laser vision correction.

It delves into the principles of Lasik surgery, including patient selection, precise creation of the Femtosecond flap, executing laser ablation, managing potential complications, and ensuring optimal outcomes. Participants will gain hands-on experience and detailed instruction in planning and executing SMILE procedures, allowing them to incorporate advanced techniques into their own clinical practice for improved patient care.



# Myopia Online Course

Understand the clinical significance of myopia in patients and its wider ramifications on healthcare, and then learn the skills that you can use to make a difference.

The Myopia Online Course is divided into 3 different levels - Basic, Intermediate, and Advanced, with 3 modules within each level. This allows all learners to build a strong foundation of understanding before augmenting their knowledge with subsequent modules, according to their needs.

Basic level is targeted to be launched in Q2 2024.

# **New Programs**

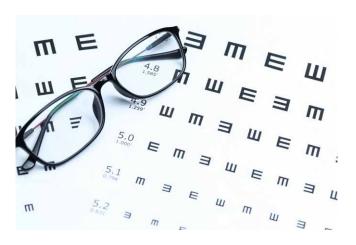


# **Orthoptics Basic Course**

The primary objective of this program is to introduce basic orthoptic sciences.

The training program comprises of 6 modules aiming to lead to a certificate or a diploma (accreditation in progress).

The course targets at marketing to foreign pool of learners.



# **Optometry Education for New Hires**

This course is targeted for new optometrist hires as well as existing junior optometrists for revision. There are 3 modules in this course with skill-demonstration videos:

- Pupil Examination
- Cover Test (CT) Examination
- Extra Ocular Motility (EOM) and Near Point of Convergence (NPC) Examination.



# **Residency Refraction Training Modules**

These are pre-reading materials to prepare residents for their MRCOph examination (part of SingHealth Residency Ophthalmology Program).

Residents will read and understand before looking for optometrists to refine their skills.

# SNEC Academy



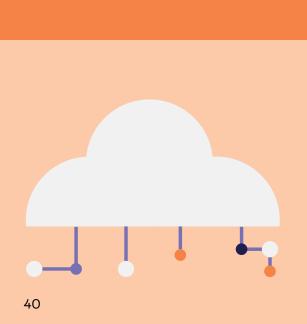
# TRAINING OPHTHALMIC WORKFORCE OF THE FUTURE TODAY

The field of ophthalmology has undergone significant changes in recent decades, and the COVID-19 pandemic has presented significant challenges in the academic field of ophthalmology. In response, SNEC has established a Centre for Ophthalmic Education (COE), also known as the SNEC Academy, to improve the provision of ophthalmic education for local and regional stakeholders and transform the COE under SNEC into a regional hub for ophthalmic training. The COE aims to develop a future-ready eyecare workforce that can meet various challenges, including the need for equal access to healthcare, the driving forces of the digital health revolution, and the increasing cost of healthcare.

The newly formed COE will lead the Asia Pacific region in ophthalmic and visual science education through excellence and innovation in teaching and learning, create a Centre of Excellence in Ophthalmic and Visual Science, and be prepared to handle disruptions like COVID-19 while continuing to provide training using new models of training that incorporate innovative advances in virtual reality, artificial intelligence, telehealth, and simulation. SNEC Academy has already launched courses in the regional countries like Vietnam and Indonesia through the EYETRAIN project. A number of initiatives are in the pipeline which will focus on sharing best practices in eye care education and capacity development in the region.

# CHAPTER 4 OUR OPPORTUNITIES

# SUSTAIN ENABLE





# **Aspirational Future Plans**

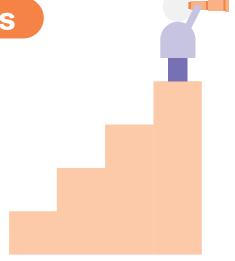
Transforming Eye Care: A Vision for Excellence

The Singapore National Eye Centre (SNEC) has been at the forefront of driving education excellence in ophthalmology. Over the years, SNEC has achieved unprecedented success in its ophthalmic education initiatives, paving the way for the country's future healthcare challenges, particularly in eye care and Industry 4.0.

Imagine a world where quality eye care is accessible to all. We can make this a reality through strategic investments in education and healthcare.

Join us in our mission to transform the future of eye care on a global scale. By supporting our vision, you become a catalyst for sustainable growth and industry transformation. Let's create a brighter, healthier tomorrow together. <sup>91</sup>





# **Future-ready Ophthalmic Education Hub**

SNEC envisions evolving into a distinguished regional ophthalmic education hub, setting global benchmarks. Our future plans include offering premier residency, fellowship, and undergraduate programs and engaging and nurturing future talent. We aim to lead in nursing and allied health training, driving workforce transformation and innovative care models.

### **Global Collaborative Network**

We aspire not just to maintain but also to strengthen our international outlook. SNEC has been recognised as a World Health Organisation collaboration Centre (WHOCC) Collaborations with esteemed organisations like World Health Organisation (WHO) and International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) will reinforce SNEC's global presence. We aim to be recognised as a world leader in ophthalmic education, attracting and retaining international talent to play a pivotal role in global capacity development initiatives.

# **Regional Training and Innovation Hub**

SNEC aims to be a regional training and innovation hub for ophthalmic education. Through sustainable funding models, comprehensive assessment, and continuous improvement, we plan to provide education beyond borders, impacting eyecare delivery across the ASEAN region and beyond.

# **Advancing Surgical Training Innovation**

We are committed to innovation in surgical training by providing cutting-edge surgical techniques, innovative surgical tools, and simulation training to enhance surgical outcomes. We also aim to use AR/VR initiatives to enhance surgical training.

# **Funding Opportunities**

**Exploring Donation Opportunities** 

 The International Fellowship in Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences – Barry Cullen Fellowship serves as a tribute to Dr Barry Cullen, the titan of Ophthalmology. To honor his contributions and continue his good work in the same nurturing spirit. To develop the next generation of ophthalmologists.

The fellowship sets its sights on achieving several objectives. It aims to:

- Nurture young clinicians and clinician-scientists
- Advance their training in Ophthalmology and visual sciences
- Particularly in the subspecialty of Neuro-Ophthalmology
- Continually develop all areas of Ophthalmology
- Strengthen SNEC's outreach and profile globally

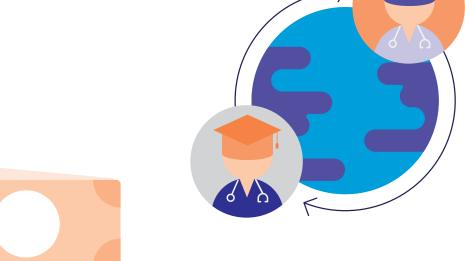
To ensure the sustainability and long-term viability of this fellowship for ophthalmologists from the region who may lack opportunity to further their training in Singapore, we kindly request your support through a donation.

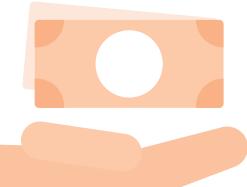
 The SNEC Global Eye Health (GEH) Fellowship aims to train Ophthalmologists from the region in general ophthalmology and management of commonly seen ophthalmic conditions in the region.

### Observership

Ophthalmologists may also opt for short-term observership 1 month and up to 3 months (case by case basis) under SNEC GO scheme which aims to provide exposure to diverse subspecialties in eye care in SNEC / CGH.

Participants can observe and shadow our worldrenowned clinical and research faculty to develop advanced skills to bring back to serve their community in the country.





# **SNEC Training and Education Department** Feel free to contact the Training & Education Department with suggestions, initiatives or enquiries: Email: trainingandeducation@snec.com.sg https://www.snec.com.sg/education-training