

**SPEECH BY GUEST-OF-HONOUR,
MR CHEE HONG TAT, MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH, AT
INDUCTION COMITIA 2016, ACADEMY OF MEDICINE, SINGAPORE
23 APRIL 2016, 1400 HRS, NUHS AUDITORIUM**

Professor Lim Shih Hui, Master, Academy of Medicine, Singapore; Council Members;

Fellows;

Distinguished Guests;

Ladies and Gentlemen.

INTRODUCTION

1. Good afternoon. I am happy to join you today at the Induction Comitia of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore.
2. I congratulate the 78 inductees who will be conferred as Fellows. You are now part of a professional body of specialists to promote training, continuing medical education, ethics and professionalism - values which the Academy espouses.

CHANGING HEALTHCARE LANDSCAPE IN SINGAPORE

3. Singapore's healthcare landscape is changing very rapidly. Singaporeans today are living longer; our healthy life expectancy is among the top three in the world. At the same time, there are more Singaporeans with chronic medical conditions. Faced with the changing healthcare needs of the population, three shifts are needed: to move beyond hospitals to the community, to move beyond quality to value, and to move beyond healthcare to health.
4. These shifts underpin the Ministry of Health's efforts to change our models of care. We want to enable our elderly to age well and age in place. Through the Regional Health Systems, our hospitals will be building stronger links with the primary, intermediate, long-term and home care sectors, to better deliver care to Singaporeans.

5. We need to be mindful of the global trend of increasing sub-specialisation, and take steps to develop generalist skills alongside sub-specialist skills. The end in mind is to reduce fragmentation of care and unnecessary referrals.

ROLE OF THE ACADEMY IN PROFESSIONALISM AND ETHICS

6. The Academy of Medicine, Singapore started with a pioneering group of 34 members almost six decades ago. Today, it has become the largest medical specialists' organisation in Singapore with over 3,200 members. The Academy is a valued partner to the Ministry for clinical standards and guidelines, research, practice issues, ethics and professionalism.

7. The Academy was recently reorganised to better serve its role in emphasising professionalism and ethics. Last year, it formed an Office of Professional Affairs to oversee professionalism, ethics, and medical experts. The Academy also participated in MOH's National Ethics Capability Committee and has provided useful inputs to the Singapore Medical Council's Revised "Ethical Code and Ethical Guidelines".

THE AMS DEANERY

8. Most recently, the Academy has formed an AMS Deanery, an academic and administrative arm to strategise and coordinate education-related programmes across the Academy. Through the Deanery, there will be a better administrative structure and a higher commitment to manage the education of medical and dental clinicians, postgraduate training and develop a strong group of Clinician Educators.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, let me extend again my congratulations to the newly inducted Fellows, 26 recipients of the Staff Registrar Scheme Diplomas and the leadership of the Academy for being forward-looking and visionary in raising the standards of the profession. By working together, we can achieve Better Health, Better Care and a Better Life for all Singaporeans.

9. Thank you.