

COLLEGE OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND OCCUPATIONAL PHYSICIANS

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE DR GAN WEE HOE

The year 2023 will be remembered for many significant events, including the ignition of geopolitical flashpoints on the international stage, India surpassing China as the most populous country, and 2023 being the hottest year on record.

Closer to home, Singapore transited to DORSCON Green in February 2023. Thereafter, we have been on a steadfast trajectory to implement Healthier SG. Many of our College Fellows and Members are playing key roles in our nation's Healthier SG journey. Thank you for tirelessly pivoting from pandemic response to preventive health strategies, all in a bid to support Singaporeans in getting well, staying well and living well.

Our College had a vibrant calendar in 2023. Together with the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health, we successfully co-organised the 3rd Singapore International Public Health Conference, held in conjunction with the **17th Singapore Public Health and Occupational Medicine (PHOM) Conference** in October. In November, the College organised an overseas study trip to Taiwan, where we had good and robust professional exchanges with our counterparts in various domains across Public Health and Occupational Medicine. Over the year of 2023, we also held get-togethers to enable our Fellows and Members to re-connect, network, and forge strong ties as one fraternity.

As we enter the year of the dragon in 2024, the College will continue to roll out **educational and networking programmes and activities** for our Fellows and Members. The Council recently formed an **Education Sub-committee**, co-led by Dr Adelina Young and Adjunct Assistant Professor Brian See, to oversee the planning of continuing medical education programmes. Adjunct Assistant Professor Lim John Wah has been appointed as Chairperson of the **18th PHOM Conference**, which will take place from 23-24 September 2024. He will be assisted by Dr Lim Huai Yang as the Chairperson of the Scientific Committee. I thank them, as well as many other Fellows and Members, who have stepped forward and are contributing towards strengthening this active and dynamic ecosystem in our fraternity.

On behalf of the College Council, I would like to wish all our Fellows and Members a healthy and joy-filled 2024. We look forward to your active participation in various events in this year!

ABOUT THE COLLEGE

The College of Public Health and Occupational Physicians was established on 1 February 2013 from the Chapter of Public Health and Occupational Physicians, founded in 1980.

As part of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore, the College is a professional institution of Public Health, Occupational Medicine and Aviation Medicine specialists to advance the art and science of Preventive Medicine in Singapore through postgraduate specialist training, maintenance of high standards and ethical integrity through continuous professional development.

The College provides professional leadership and makes recommendations to the Academy on respective specialist qualification and training. The College engages challenges related to the health and well-being of the population, and its Fellows serve on many national academic, training and intervention programmes.

VISION AND MISSION

Vision

The vision of the College is to be an Entrusted Profession for a Healthy Population

Mission

The mission of the College is to promote and protect the health and well-being of everyone in society by:

Equipping the practitioner

Enriching our community

Exemplifying excellence

Engaging public health challenges

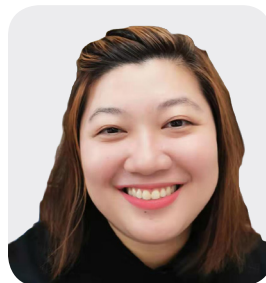
COLLEGE COUNCIL 2023 – 2024



Dr Gan Wee Hoe
President



Dr Clive Tan
Vice President



Dr Liu Jiaming
Honorary Secretary



Dr Joshua Wong
Honorary Treasurer



Dr Brian See
Council Member



Dr Kyle Tan
Council Member



Dr Chng Jeremiah
Council Member



Dr Benjamin Tan
Co-Opted Member



Dr Marc Ho
Co-Opted Member



Dr Adelina Young
Co-Opted Member

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 10th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the College of Public Health & Occupational Physicians was held on 16 May 2023. It was attended by 27 fellows.

MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the College stood at **159** as of 31 December 2023. The College membership included **138** Local Fellows, **11** Overseas Fellows, **7** Ordinary Members and **3** Associate Members.

The following were admitted as Fellows of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore (CPHOP) in 2023:

Bhalla Vineta Ajay

Dato Md Yusof Yusma Jeffrin

Eu Zai Feng Elliot

Teo Tzu Li Sylvia

Teoh Chi-Chan Timothy

The following was admitted as Associate Members of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore (CPHOP) in 2023:

Manikam Logan Nishant

The following were admitted as Ordinary Members of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore (CPHOP) in 2023:

Chua Jia Long

Lee Gong Wei Benjamin

Tan Kian Wei Alvin

The College would like to take this opportunity to welcome all who joined in 2023.

MAKING AN IMPACT: OUR WORK IN 2023

STRENGTHENING ADVOCACY TO SHAPE AND INFLUENCE HEALTHCARE POLICIES

Professional Opinion Requests

The College provided professional opinions on various topics at the request of various external parties. The professional opinions provided are listed below:

SN	Date	Topic	Organisation
1.	31 July 2023	ACE Invitation to review and endorse the MOH ACG “Lipid Management – Focus on Cardiovascular Risk”	ACE
2.	29 August 2023	Proposed Expansion of the List of Occupational Diseases (WSHA)	MOM
3.	4 October 2023	MOH Gender Dysphoria treatment guidelines engagement session	MOH

ADVANCING PROFESSIONALISM & UPHOLDING COMPETENCY STANDARDS

CME Session: “Travel Medicine”

The College organised the virtual CME lecture on “Travel Medicine” on 21 June 2023, chaired by Dr Benjamin Tan. We were honoured to have A/Prof Lim Poh Lian and Dr Robin Low to share their insights at the lecture.

CME Session: “Digital Health Innovations for Population Health”

The College organised a CME talk on 21 July at which there was sharing and discussion session with Mr David Chua, Mr Benedict Tan, Dr Ng Yih Ying and Dr Melvin Seng on “Digital Health Innovations for Population Health in Singapore”. It was held virtually on Zoom.

Public Webinar Session: “Increasing Our Physical Activity Changing Behaviour for Better Health”

The College collaborated with the Society of Behavioural Health Singapore for a zoom webinar “Increasing Our Physical Activity Changing Behaviour for Better Health” on 1 March 2023. Dr Ivy Lim, Mr Seng Hock Lin and Dr Clive Tan shared their insights.



3rd Singapore International Public Health Conference (SIPHC) & 17th Singapore Public Health & Occupational Medicine (PHOM) Conference

This year's 3rd SIPHC & 17th PHOM was held on 19-20 October 2023 with the theme of "Embracing The future". Our Guest of Honour was Mr Zaqy Mohamad, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Defence & Ministry of Manpower.



Guest of Honour Mr Zaqy Mohamad delivering his opening speech.



Prof Teo Yik Ying, receiving the CPHOP Lifetime Achievement Award 2023 on behalf of recipient, Prof Chia Kee Seng.



Mr Zaqy Mohamad presenting the Past President Medal to Adj A/Prof Matthias Toh.



Members of the 3rd SIPHC & 17th PHOM Conference Organising Committee: [From left] Dr Alvin Koh, Dr Lim John Wah, Ass Prof Jeannette Lee, Dr Benjamin Ng, Prof Chia Kee Seng, Dr Alex Cook, Dr Jeffery Cutter.

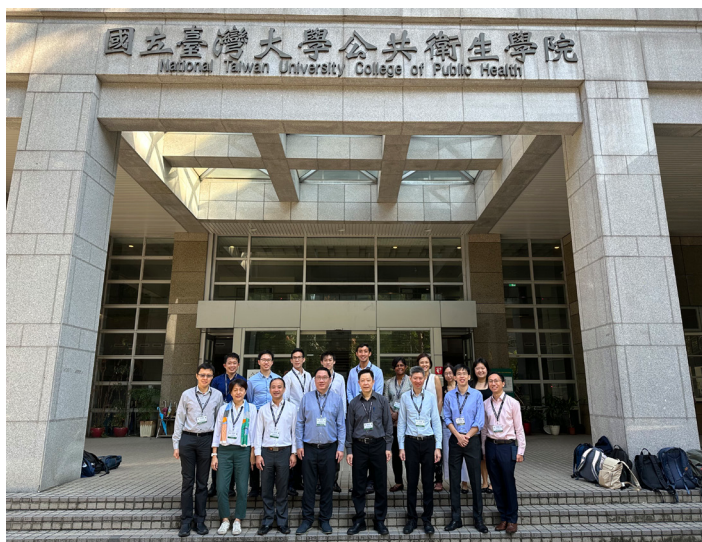
Following his speech, Mr Zaqy Mohamad presented the prestigious College of Public Health and Occupational Physicians Lifetime Achievement Award to the Prof Chia Kee Seng. This prestigious award is presented to exceptional individuals who have made significant and impactful contributions to the fields of Public Health, Occupational Medicine and Aviation Medicine. Prof Teo Yik Ying delivered the citation for Prof Chia Kee Seng and Prof Teo Yik Ying received the award on behalf of Prof Chia who was unable to join us at the Conference. Mr Zaqy Mohamad also presented the Past President Medal to Adj. A/Prof Matthias Toh, who took office as the College President for the term 2020 - 2022.

College Fellows' Dinner

The College organised a Fellows' Dinner on the first day of the event, 3rd SIPHC & 17th PHOM 2023, at the Grand Shanghai ballroom, Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel. 49 Fellows gathered to socialise, network, and catch up with friends during the conference.



Study Trip 2023: Taiwan



The College organised its second study trip to Taiwan from 1 to 3 November 2023 with a total of 16 Fellows participating in the study trip. Fellows gained valuable insights from our friends in Taiwan, enhancing both our social connections and professional networks.

We would like to acknowledge the organising committee, Dr Joshua Wong, Dr Marc Ho and Dr Lim Dwee Wee for organising and coordinating the sessions with their Taiwan counterparts.



College of Public Health & Occupational Physicians Travel Assistance Fund

The College has a travel assistance fund to sponsor its Fellows to attend overseas meetings and conferences. Through the participation in these activities, the College aims to: (a) develop ties and collaborate with public health colleges in other countries; and (b) promote the College's annual Public Health and Occupational Medicine conference. Funding may include registration fee for the meeting, return economy class airfare and accommodation. For the year 2023, one application was submitted and approved for Dr Joshua Wong to represent the College in giving a presentation on "An Overview of the Provision of Occupational Health and Safety in Singapore cum Total Workplace Safety and Health" at the 2023 International Conference on Occupational Hygiene and Occupational Medicine Conference.

College of Public Health & Occupational Physicians Newsletter

The College published a total of 1 Snippet in 2023.

APPRECIATION

The College wishes to record its thanks to all Fellows and friends who have supported the various College activities throughout the year. The College also places on record its appreciation of the Secretariat for their hard work and excellent support in the past year.