



Tan Tock Seng
HOSPITAL

Year In
Review
2010



2010



A member of National Healthcare Group
Adding years of healthy life

2010 has been another busy year for TTSH

Over 600,000 treated at Specialist Outpatient Clinics
More than 150,000 treated at Emergency Department
Over 60,000 surgical procedures
Some 158 admissions every day

Operating at an average 86% bed occupancy rate,
TTSH was amongst the busiest hospitals in Singapore in 2010.



Opening of Endo-Pace Clinic (February)



A one-stop for all patients who need an endoscopic procedure. Patients save on both waiting and traveling time.

Visitor Facilitation System Launched (April)

Registration for visitors is now a breeze. Visitors can register themselves at the kiosks in five simple steps. It allows patients time to rest by capping the number of visitors to four at all times. Additional visitors are alerted via SMS when they can proceed to the wards.



New Clinic Concept - Clinic 4A (May)

Designed to enhance patient experience and staff efficiency, the innovative layout facilitates people movement and minimises queues and crowds. The refined consultation room layouts and ergonomic fittings also allow better patient-caregiver doctor communication, comfort and safety.



New Satellite Pharmacy (May)



The new satellite pharmacy on level 2 pilots allows patients to proceed from consultation to ancillary services with just one queue number. This means less time and more convenience to our patients now that waiting time is within 20 mins.

1st Robotic Surgery (May)

Introducing the Da Vinci S robotic system! Patients can now expect minimal blood loss and pain during a robot-assisted laparoscopic radical prostatectomy.



Opening of Breast Clinic (June)

Besides the convenience of a one-stop, improvements have been made to the workflow such that the time from referral to operation is now just one month.



The Lokomat System (June)

We are seeing great improvements in patients' mobility abilities since adopting Hocoma's Lokomat system. This marks a milestone in innovative functional movement therapy solutions to patients with stroke, brain injury and spinal cord injury.



Collaboration with Panasonic (July)

This momentous occasion brought about an international collaboration on Research and Development in medical and healthcare technology.



AHI Network Launch (July)

Care becomes more accessible in the community with the launch of AHI Network (AHINet). AHINet will facilitate partnerships with eldercare agencies and institutions, as well as empower care workers with greater knowledge and skills.



Asian Hospital Management Award (August)

Our MyCare Basic Initiative won the most outstanding project in the Human Resource Development category at the Asian Hospital Management Awards 2010. This is another international recognition of our efforts to empower staff to bring about Faster, Better, Cheaper and Safer care to our patients.



Distinguished Honoree for CSI Campaign (September)



TTSH is the only institution in Singapore to receive an award at the prestigious International Business Awards 2010 in the Communications and Public Relations category. This reinforces our efforts to promote the benefits of hand hygiene to our community.

TTSH Clinches IDA award (October)

TTSH won the "Most Innovative Use of Infocomm Technology (Public Sector)" top prize for our inpatient medication system. It successfully minimises the risk of adverse events by ensuring that the right dose of the right medication is given to the right patient at the right time.

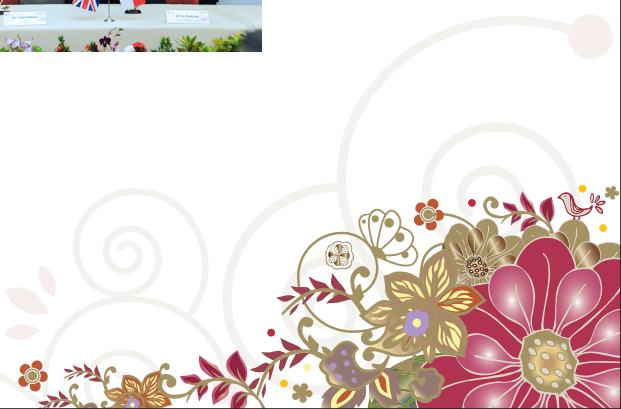


A One to a Million Quest (October)

To make donations more a part of our community's lives, TTSH rolled out this quest to encourage individuals and corporations to pledge multi-year donations at any amount they desire. This ensures a continued stream of funding to support TTSH Community Charity Fund's programmes for needy patients, even in difficult times.

Singapore's Third Medical School (October)

The National Healthcare Group and UK's Imperial College London cemented their collaboration for the 3rd Medical School and named TTSH the main clinical hospital. This affirms our dedication to excellent clinical teaching standards.



TTSH ranked **Top Teaching Hospital** (October)

TTSH has been ranked as the top teaching hospital by the undergraduates from NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine (YLLSoM) for the second year running. Medicine undergraduates gave their stamp of approval for our excellent clinical tutors and the well-structured programme we have put in place. They also gave the thumbs up to our administrative staff for attending to their needs effectively. This is another testament to the strong teaching tradition at TTSH. We have, to date, the highest number of clinicians who have won the NUS-YLL Dean's Award for Teaching Excellence.

**TTSH voted top
teaching hospital
by medical students.**



H1N1 Virus Exhibits **Drug Resistance in 2 Days** (October)

Dr Timothy Barkham, Senior Consultant in Laboratory Medicine together with a team of doctors and researchers have made a startling discovery on the emergence of resistance to Tamiflu, an antiviral drug used to combat flu, including H1N1. This research cautions clinicians to consider resistance when a seriously ill patients fail to respond to treatment for pandemic (H1N1).

Anaesthesia Info System (November)



The state-of-the-art intelligent system links up all 24 of our Operating Theatres and is the first large scale electronic anaesthesia charting system implemented in Singapore. All patient parameters which used to be collated manually from various equipment can now be charted from one single system, helping our anaesthetists make better informed bedside decisions.

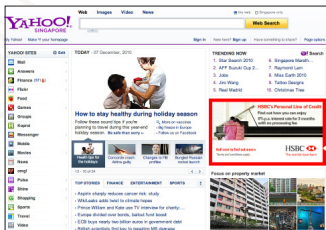
Opening of Sports Medicine Clinic (November)

TTSH now offers care to the sports community with the opening of its Sports Medicine Clinic. Patients can expect sports injury diagnosis and treatment, as well as get advice on starting a proper fitness programme.



Fully Accredited (November)

NHG-AHPL Residency obtained full accreditation for all six Phase 1 programmes - Emergency Medicine, General Surgery, Internal Medicine, Pathology, Psychiatry and Transitional Year, as well as Institutional Accreditation. The Internal Medicine Residency programme has also been specially lauded by the Review Committee for its thoughtful and thorough application of the ACGME-1 requirements and well-formulated competency milestones.



Yahoo Partnership (December)

TTSH is the first hospital in Singapore to work with Yahoo to contribute health-related news. This supplements our efforts to raise public awareness

on important health issues such as hygiene habits, prevention, early detection and their roles in effective treatment

HIV patients can now pay less for drugs

By MELISSA PANG

The price of drugs that can help prolong the lives of HIV-positive patients has been slashed by about two-thirds at our clinic – thanks to Medisave.

Since February, such patients have been able to part-fund their treatment using the national endowment fund, which helps lower-income people pay their medical bills.

Associate Professor Lee Yee Sim, clinical director of the Communicable Disease Centre (CDC), said it has led to a far larger number of patients buying the drugs from the CDC. This has allowed the centre – which treats 70 per cent of Singapore's HIV sufferers – to negotiate lower prices from its suppliers.

"This price reduction... is able to cut the price by at least threefold. It's a very significant reduction," she said, adding it could pave the way for cheaper HIV drugs at the other public hospitals.

The antiretroviral drug, treatment Combivir, which used to cost \$629 a month in the middle of this year, now sells for \$181 at the CDC. Stavudine, which used to cost \$414 a month, now costs \$66. Patients used to pay \$200 to \$1,500 for a cocktail of drugs, but now pay between \$20 and \$500.

These prices apply only to HIV patients who buy the drugs at the CDC.

There are 214 HIV patients at the CDC who receive Medisave help. One such patient, Jack (not his real name), was diagnosed with HIV after a bout of pneumonia in May. Then Johnson, he qualified for Medisave, which covers the estimated \$100 he pays for drugs and treatment.

"The fund helped me a lot, especially when I was first diagnosed. It's one thing to find out you have HIV, and another to learn about the cost of it," said Jack, who is in his mid-50s.

Medisave was made available to needy HIV patients after the Government pumped in an extra \$4.5 million. By June, about \$200,000 had been used to help HIV patients pay for medication.

Before Medisave, HIV patients could use only up to \$500 a month from their Medisave accounts for treatment, an amount widely seen as insufficient.

Antiretroviral drugs help by suppressing the HIV virus. With such medication, the life expectancy of an HIV patient is about two-thirds that of an uninfected person, said Prof Lee. Without drugs, the life expectancy is about six to 10 months.

The Health Ministry revealed yesterday that 373 Singaporeans became infected with HIV in the first 10 months of the year, and the number of people going for discreet HIV testing dropped by 7 per cent.

Data also showed that the percentage of older HIV patients has increased. In the first half of this year alone, slightly more than a quarter of HIV patients were aged 50 and above – compared with 25 per cent for the whole of 2008.

Prof Lee said: "We're asking those who perceive themselves as being high-risk to go for early detection and seek early treatment because it changes their life expectancy and outcome significantly with medication, which is now accessible."

Reduce price of HIV Drugs (December)

CDC has successfully negotiated with pharmaceutical companies to reduce the price of HIV drugs. This enables patients to use medisave to pay for their drug regimen.

A Community of Care

