



COLLEGE OF
FAMILY PHYSICIANS
SINGAPORE

40th Sreenivasan Oration 2017

*Educating Family Physicians for the evolving needs
of our community*



18 November 2017

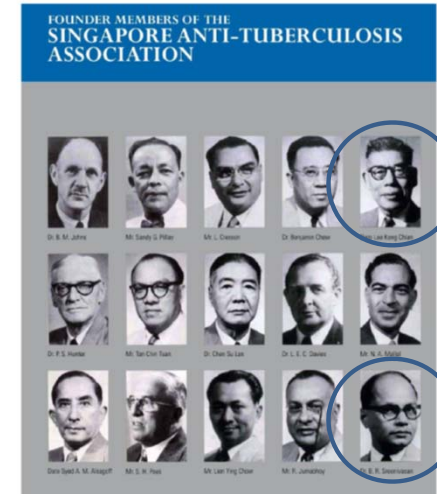
Prof James Best
Dean, Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine



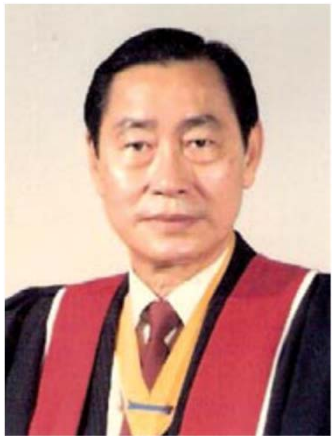
Dr. Baratham Ramaswamy Sreenivasan



- General practitioner with special interest in chest diseases
- Vice Chancellor University of Singapore
- President Medical Council of Singapore
- President Alumni Association of U of Singapore
- Founder Member of SATA
- First President of the College of General Practitioners of Singapore



First Sreenivasan Oration 1978: The Future of Singapore General Practitioner



Dr Wong Heck Sing
MBBS, FRACGP
1923-2007

1. *“The decline (of general practice) is due to fewer and fewer graduates venturing into a territory that is uncharted, untaught and unsung in the academic world”*
2. *“..the future general practitioner or family physician needs a broad education and should not concentrate on the physical and biological sciences to the exclusion of the humanities and the arts....and this understanding (of people) will heighten his sensitivity to the feelings of his fellow men...”*
3. *“The answer (to prohibitive healthcare costs) ...is in preventive medicine and no one in the medical profession is as well placed as the general practitioner to do the job provided he is well trained.”*
4. *“In no other field of practice is it more necessary for the practitioner to continue his learning process throughout his professional career.”*

***Family medicine is untaught and
unsung in the academic world***

Medical School support for the discipline of Family Medicine



Prof Helen Smith

- Appointed Professor/ Chair of Family Medicine
- Family Medicine doctors have high profile in teaching from start of MBBS course
- Launched Family Medicine Academy
- Established Centre for Primary Healthcare Research and Innovation with NHGP
- Establishing Family Medicine network for research
- Family Medicine doctors have key roles in research
- Family Medicine doctors supported to enrol for PhD
- Medical student Family Medicine interest group initiated



A/Prof Wong Teck Yee



A/Prof Chong Phui Nah

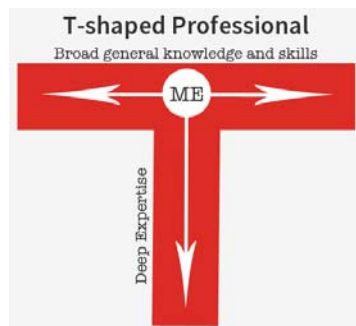


Asst/Prof Tang Wern Ee

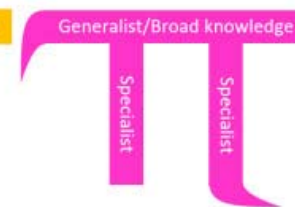


Dr Lee Eng Sing

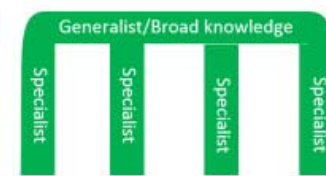
The era of the highly skilled Family Physician



T-shaped

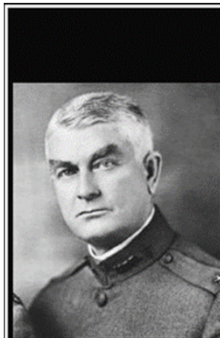
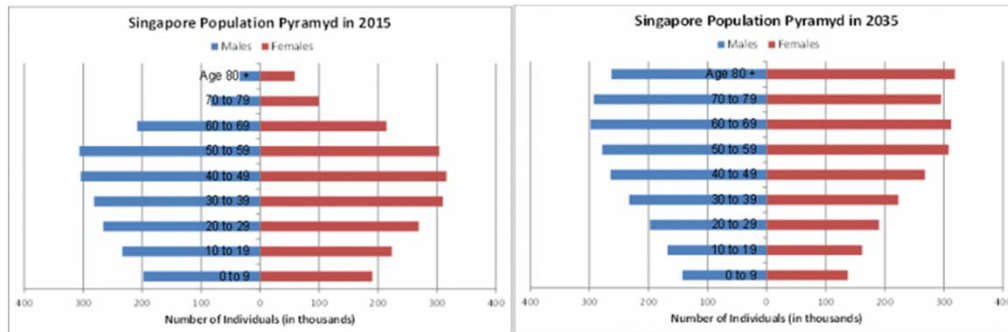


Pi-shaped



Comb-shaped

Older patients with multiple chronic illnesses are at risk from “pinball medicine”



A specialist is a man who knows more and more about less and less.

(William J. Mayo)

izquotes.com

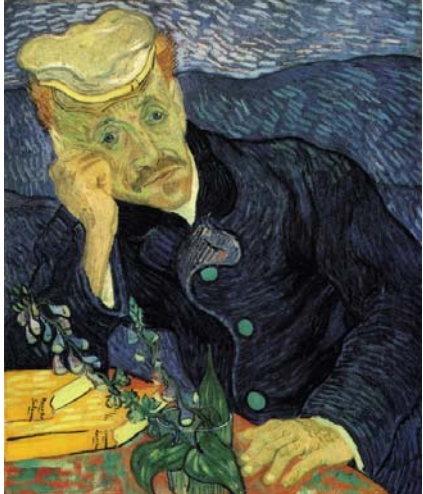
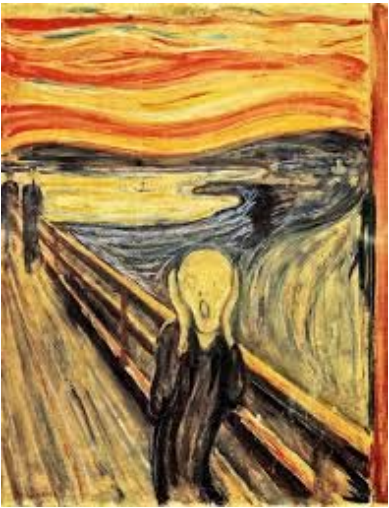


A broad education in the humanities and the arts.... will heighten his sensitivity to the feelings of his fellow men...

To write prescriptions is easy, but to come to an understanding with people is hard



'Medical Humanities' has an important role in medical education



The kind of doctor you and I would like to have caring for us



The answer is in preventive medicine and no one in the medical profession is as well placed as the general practitioner to do the job, provided he is well trained

Practice of preventive medicine by Family Physicians

Vaccinations

Screening for breast and cervical cancer

Cardiovascular risk factor screening

Cholesterol and BP screening

Appropriate aspirin and statin use

Advice on nutrition and exercise

Tobacco cessation

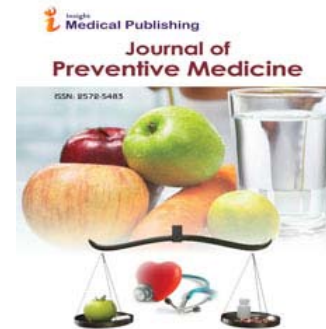
Moderation of alcohol intake

Osteoporosis screening

Falls prevention

Depression screening

Diabetes screening



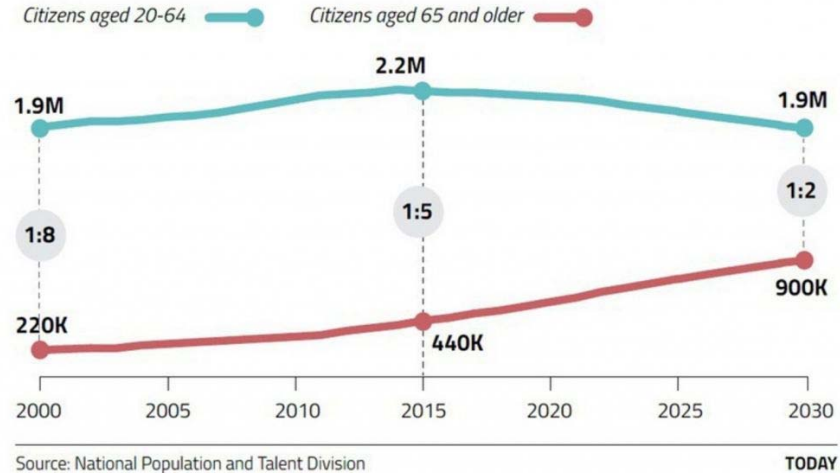
Over 290 barriers to preventive medicine discussions with patients have been explored, including lack of time, patient refusal or hesitance, inadequate insurance reimbursement, and lack of physician knowledge.

Snipelisky D *et al.* Int J Prev Med 7:5 2016

Healthy ageing is a key health priority for Singapore

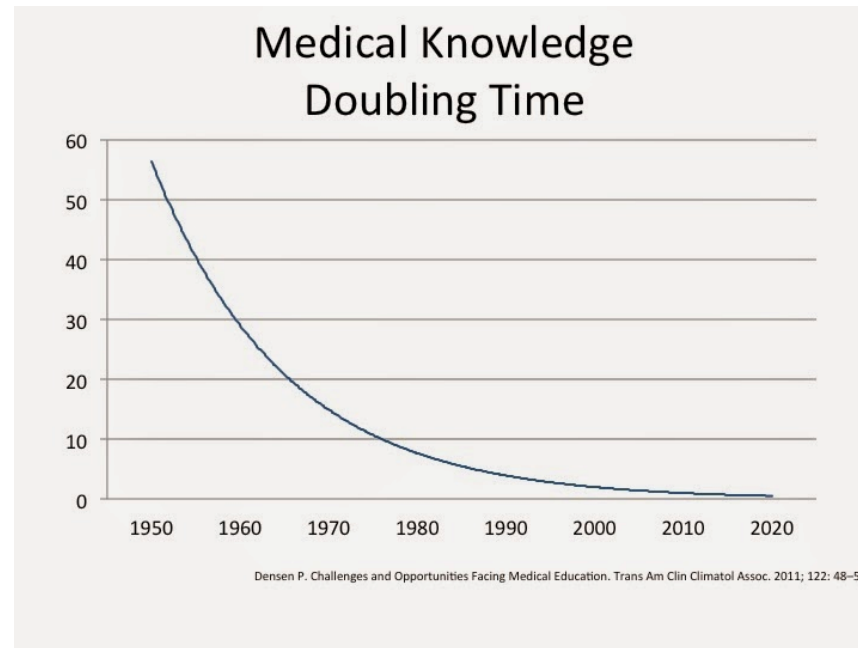


Number of working-age citizens has peaked



In no other field of practice is it more necessary for the practitioner to continue the learning process throughout a professional career

Continuing medical education can take many forms



Principles & Practice of Family Medicine
Date: 6 January 2018 (Sat)
Time: 2.30pm - 5.00pm
Venue: SGH Academia, Level 1 Auditorium



6th Asia Pacific Primary Care Research Conference
in conjunction with **Family Medicine Symposium**
Advancing Best Care
through Education & Research
21-23 SEPTEMBER 2017 | ACADEMIA, SINGAPORE



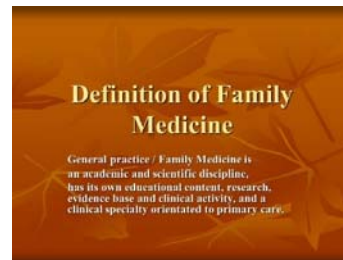
Learning through teaching

- Students motivate us to stay current in medical knowledge
- Students keep us in contact with the next generation of doctors
- As a teacher you become part of the community of scholars
- Networks extend to international colleagues in medical education
- Interest can extend to courses and qualifications
- Teaching provides variety and interest to a medical career
- Through teaching you earn the respect of students and colleagues
- Teaching is a way of giving back to the profession which has nurtured us



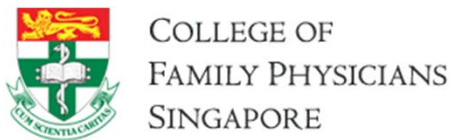
Learning through research

- Medical research creates an enquiring attitude
- Participation in research develops expertise in a field of medicine
- Intellectual stimulation is important for an active and alert mind
- Collaboration with colleagues is rewarding and interesting
- Through research you connect with an international community
- Research adds variety and interest to a medical career and is satisfying
- Participation in research will enhance the prestige of Family Medicine
- Making a contribution to new knowledge has the potential to improve medical care



How can family physicians participate more effectively in teaching and research?

- Leadership and support from Medical Schools, College of Family Physicians, Academy of Medicine, Ministry of Health
- A system that rewards participation financially and through recognition
- Unity and cooperation amongst Family Physicians
- Improved connectivity through networks and groupings



Academy of Medicine, Singapore
Committed to specialist education and training since 1957



MINISTRY OF HEALTH
SINGAPORE



Educating family physicians for the evolving needs of our community



Family Physicians are highly skilled medical practitioners, who deliver comprehensive healthcare across the lifespan. In the current era in Singapore of an ageing population with multiple chronic illnesses, the role of the Family Physician is essential to the wellbeing of the nation. Family Medicine should be recognised as an esteemed and rewarding career in medicine.

