



PRESS RELEASE

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Remote physiotherapy rehabilitation system, portable pre-eclampsia detection device sweep top prizes at Medical Grand Challenge Finale 2023

Singapore, 19 August 2023 – A remote physiotherapy rehabilitation system aimed at helping patients with their exercises at home in real-time, and a portable pre-eclampsia detection device for pregnant women won first place in the Nascent and Open categories respectively at the Medical Grand Challenge Finale 2023 (MGC), held earlier today.

Team DiabEats, the only overseas team from Indonesia, took both the People's Choice award and Long-term Sustainability award for their mobile application that helps diabetic patients modify and manage their own diets based on a personalised meal plan and food recommendation database, and offers a catering solution based on the patient's customised meal plan. The People's Choice Award recognises the project which garnered the most votes during the duration of the challenge, while the Long-term Sustainability award looks at the design's potential for long-term use.

Team MABLE was presented with the Social Responsibility award for their Mandarin Artificial Intelligence chatbot created to educate women on breast health. The Social Responsibility Award is presented to the project that addresses societal concerns such as ease of use, accessibility and affordability.

The winning projects were part of the showcase of small, but ingenious innovations at the MGC 2023. These novel innovations combined the knowledge and expertise of student teams, comprising various faculties and schools in NUS, such as medicine, engineering, design, nursing, business and computer science, for this challenge held at the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine (NUS Medicine).

Now in its seventh run since its launch in 2016, the MGC has stayed true to its mission of challenging cohorts of medical students to think of out-of-the-box solutions that can be translated into real-world application and impact. The students are encouraged to form interdisciplinary teams with students from other faculties and schools so that they are able to experience cross-collaboration and understand how to navigate the complexities behind coming up with a viable solution, that is relevant and has practical, daily applications.

This year's MGC Finale saw nine teams, including one from Indonesia competing in the Nascent Category and nine teams in the Open Category. Student teams from Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, as well as South Korea and Galway, Ireland, have also participated in previous years' MGC, which celebrates friendly competition and knowledge sharing among participants.

The participating teams presented their innovations at a closed-door judging session in the morning. Eventually, six teams were shortlisted from the Nascent and Open categories

respectively and invited to present their entries before a panel of 10 judges, all highly-experienced industry leaders from various sectors such as healthcare, engineering and research. Entries were assessed on business strategy, creativity, design quality and healthcare impact. Professor Tan Eng Chye, NUS President, was the Guest-of-Honour for the Finale.

Given only three minutes to deliver their pitch, it was an intense and nerve-wracking battle for the final teams when they had to convince and field questions from the panel about the viability and sustainability of their product. Teams in the Nascent category could explore devising an innovative solution from scratch, while teams in the Open category could choose to conceptualise improvements to enhance the viability and workability of existing project ideas that had been presented previously in other competitions, or work on projects collaboratively with “Tech Mentors”, who are influential and experienced industry experts.

Throughout the year, the teams attended interdisciplinary boot camps, workshops and participated in consultation sessions with their tech mentors, who provided guidance and advised them on how best to improve their creations and build on its commercial viability.

Professor Chong Yap Seng, Dean of NUS Medicine, emphasised the importance of getting students to confront real-world problems, to allow them to be more attuned to the realities of problem-solving. “Modern-day problems vary in complexity and require the knowledge and expertise of multiple disciplines to come together to devise a viable solution. The MGC strives to create a realistic scenario where cross-collaborative brainstorming and conceptualising happen concurrently, in order to birth an impactful and useful solution for the common man. Students need to be able to be comfortable in dealing with these complexities, and put their soft and hard skills to the test as they will need to contend with different perspectives and come to a consensus,” he explained.

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About National University of Singapore (NUS)

The National University of Singapore (NUS) is Singapore’s flagship university, which offers a global approach to education, research and entrepreneurship, with a focus on Asian perspectives and expertise. We have 16 colleges, faculties and schools across three campuses in Singapore, with more than 40,000 students from 100 countries enriching our vibrant and diverse campus community. We have also established our NUS Overseas Colleges programme in more than 15 cities around the world.

Our multidisciplinary and real-world approach to education, research and entrepreneurship enables us to work closely with industry, governments and academia to address crucial and complex issues relevant to Asia and the world. Researchers in our faculties, 30 university-level research institutes, research centres of excellence and corporate labs focus on themes that include energy; environmental and urban sustainability; treatment and prevention of diseases; active ageing; advanced materials; risk management and resilience of financial

systems; Asian studies; and Smart Nation capabilities such as artificial intelligence, data science, operations research and cybersecurity.

For more information on NUS, please visit www.nus.edu.sg.

About the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine (NUS Medicine)

The Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore (NUS Medicine) is Singapore's first and largest medical school. Our enduring mission centres on nurturing highly competent, values-driven and inspired healthcare professionals to transform the practice of medicine and improve health around the world.

Through a dynamic and future-oriented five-year curriculum that is inter-disciplinary and inter-professional in nature, our students undergo a holistic learning experience that exposes them to multiple facets of healthcare and prepares them to become visionary leaders and compassionate doctors and nurses of tomorrow. Since the School's founding in 1905, more than 12,000 graduates have passed through our doors.

In our pursuit of health for all, our strategic research programmes focus on innovative, cutting-edge biomedical research with collaborators around the world to deliver high impact solutions to benefit human lives.

The School is the oldest institution of higher learning in the National University of Singapore and a founding institutional member of the National University Health System. It is one of Asia's leading medical schools and ranks among the best in the world (Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2023 by subject and the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings by subject 2023).

For more information about NUS Medicine, please visit <https://medicine.nus.edu.sg/>