



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **NUS Medicine launches CN Lee Professorship in Medical Sciences**

***Inaugurated on 5 April 2024, the new professorship vested at the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore, is named in honour of renowned surgeon Professor Lee Chuen Neng***

*Singapore, 5 April 2024* — The Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore (NUS Medicine) today announced the establishment of a professorship in honour of renowned heart surgeon Professor Lee Chuen Neng, who is internationally and nationally acclaimed for his medical teaching and mentorship. He is also celebrated for his dedication to exploring new frontiers of medical discoveries.

The Abu Rauff Professor in Surgery in the Department of Surgery at NUS Medicine, Prof Lee is also Emeritus Consultant from the Department of Cardiac, Thoracic and Vascular Surgery, National University Heart Centre, Singapore (NUHCS). A leader and surgeon who founded the four subspecialty divisions of adult cardiac, vascular, thoracic, and congenital heart surgery at NUS Medicine, the National University Hospital (NUH) and the National University Health System (NUHS) in 1985, Prof Lee established a foundation that paved the way for generations of surgeons in the field.

Prof Lee said, “In medicine, innovation is a duty we owe to our patients—both in the present and future. We achieve true and lasting impact when we pioneer new methods and drive their widespread adoption. By sharing our knowledge and embracing new approaches, we multiply the impact of our expertise—enabling us to save far more lives than we ever thought possible.”

In his decade at the helm as Chair of Surgery at NUHS and Head of the Department of Surgery at NUS Medicine from 2005 to 2015, Prof Lee established the Advanced Surgery Training Centre, and developed 14 specialty surgery divisions ranging from transplant surgery to neurosurgery, gastrointestinal surgery, and reconstructive surgery in NUH. He spearheaded a training and certification programme for Cardiothoracic Surgery in Singapore jointly with the Hong Kong College of Surgeons and the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh.

For his tremendous contributions to education, Prof Lee received the International Medal of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh in 2012 as well as the National Clinician Mentor Award in 2015 from the Ministry of Health, Singapore. Prof Lee is also Courtesy Professor in Engineering, Department of Biomedical Engineering, NUS College of Design and Engineering (CDE), and Clinical Director, Institute for Health Innovation & Technology (iHealthtech). His thirst for innovation led him to start the NUS iHealthtech and the Engineering in Medicine platform at NUS CDE, which saw the birth of numerous bio-engineering programmes, start-ups and spin-offs. He also established a NUS Medicine programme which focuses on nano-

diagnostics and nano-therapeutics—especially for common diseases with poor diagnostic tools and therapy such as liver disease and Alzheimer's.

Professor Chong Yap Seng, Lien Ying Chow Professor in Medicine, Dean of NUS Medicine, said, “Prof Lee Chuen Neng—or more fondly known as CN—epitomises the essence of surgical excellence and is highly sought after by global health institutions. Beyond his mastery of surgery, CN’s pioneering research has profoundly impacted patient welfare beyond his direct care. We hope that the recipient of this Professorship will be inspired to also strive for the best and break new frontiers in medical sciences.”

The latest in a series launched to recognise outstanding Singaporeans, the Professorship will be vested at NUS Medicine and will catalyse the formation of partnerships with experts from various disciplines to address cancer and other healthcare challenges of the day, and spur important discourse to improve the practice of healthcare to serve the population in Singapore and beyond.

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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 more than 20 NUS Overseas Colleges entrepreneurial hubs 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, research centres of excellence, corporate labs and more than 30 university-level research institutes 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 <http://www.nus.edu.sg/>

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

The NUS Yong Loo Lin School of 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 the leading medical schools in Asia and ranks among the best in the world (Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2024 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/>