

Protect our Future World Diabetes Day 2012

by Rodiah Hashim

In line with this year's theme from IDF - 'Protect our Future: The Right Education for All', World Diabetes Day 2012 was held at NUS The Graduate Club.

A joint-event with the 13th National Eye Care Day by the Singapore National Eye Centre working with the National University Hospital, the Singapore Eye Research Institute (SERI) and with the involvement of the NUS Medical Society and student nurses from the Alice Lee Nursing Centre, we answered IDF's call to Educate, Engage and Empower Youth and the General Public on Diabetes.

Minister of Health Mr Gan Kim Yong once again graced and opened the event which saw busloads of senior citizens from community centres and organisations.

In his speech, Minister Gan disclosed that official health figures show that 400,000 people in Singapore now have diabetes.

Furthermore, approximately 1 in 700 diabetics developed kidney failure requiring dialysis. In 2010, approximately 1 in 110 diabetics suffered a heart attack, 1 in 140 diabetics suffered a stroke, and 1 in 400 underwent lower limb amputations.

Minister Gan added that his Ministry will continue to improve our healthcare system; and to enable more Singaporeans to benefit from the Chronic Disease Management Programme (CDMP), the Medisave withdrawal limit for the scheme has been increased.

In addition, the Community Health Assistance Scheme (CHAS) was enhanced in 2012 to enable middle and low income Singaporeans to benefit from subsidised care for GP visits. Minister Gan reiterated that the public must also play their part by leading healthy lifestyles and encouraging others to do so.

Together, we can all promote healthy communities and families and thereby protect our future.

The event, as in previous years, provided a platform to raise awareness about diabetes, its complications and its management. It also provided complimentary eye, health, dental and foot screenings, educational talks, exhibition and product sales by pharmaceutical and industry partners as well as educational and fun activities by the main organiser, Diabetic Society of Singapore (DSS).

DSS would like to thank our Guest-of-Honour, Mr Gan Kim Yong, all volunteers, nurses, supporting organisations, partner companies and sponsors for the success of World Diabetes Day 2012.





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400,000
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Thank you to
all our sponsors
and participating
organisations for
your support and
partnership!

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