



Press Release (Singapore, 28 January 2015)

Muhammadiyah, TTSH and Temasek Foundation Partner to Enhance Care for Emergencies in East Java, Indonesia

Muhammadiyah Organisation, Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH) and Temasek Foundation, Singapore, are teaming up to enhance care for emergency life-threatening illnesses and incidents in East Java, Indonesia. This collaboration will see TTSH develop a dedicated life support resuscitation training programme to build the capability of 480 healthcare professionals from six hospitals in East Java over a period of three years. Leveraging on its experience, TTSH will also provide assistance in setting up a Life Support Training Centre at Lamongan Muhammadiyah General Hospital. This hospital is the largest hospital in East Java under Muhammadiyah Organisation, one of the biggest non-profit organisations in Indonesia which focuses on education and healthcare.

East Java is a region exposed to many natural disasters and their hospital professionals are often called upon to provide critical care such as life-saving resuscitation for their patients. With a grant of approximately \$700,000, Temasek Foundation will support this initiative to strengthen the capabilities of hospitals in East Java with standardised and current resuscitation skill-sets, aligned with recognised certification standards. The grant will also cover the acquisition of essential training equipment.

Through this programme, a team of medical and nursing professionals from TTSH will train some 120 to 150 doctors, nurses and allied health professionals from East Java to become master trainers in Basic and Advanced Cardiac Life Support. Besides foundational resuscitation skills, part of the training will also equip them with course instruction skills. Upon completion of the programme, these master trainers will undertake the task of spreading the knowledge and experiences acquired with fellow healthcare professionals across East Java to multiply the benefits of the training. The programme will also see nursing participants expand their skillset by learning the routine use of an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED), a life-saving device essential for cardiorespiratory arrest cases.

Dr Tay Seow Yian, Head and Senior Consultant, Emergency Department, TTSH, said: "Prompt and current Cardiac Life Support is an important skillset that can increase the chances of survival for a patient suffering from cardiorespiratory arrest. Together with early first aid, Basic Cardiac Life Support is the first line of care for such cases. Early access to ambulance services and thereafter to continue the resuscitation chain in hospital are also critical factors in survival."

On 11 November 2014, TTSH signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Muhammadiyah Organisation, in partnership with the East Java Provincial Health Department and the Indonesian Red Cross, to pave the way for the implementation of the programme.

The first batch of 50 delegates will undergo a training stint at TTSH from 28 – 30 January 2015. This follows a two-day theory component of the curriculum conducted earlier in East Java.

Dr Corona Rintawan, MD, Emergency Response Division, Central Board of Muhammadiyah Disaster Management Centre, is the leader of the first batch of delegates in Singapore. He shared, “Through this programme, I hope that Muhammadiyah will be able to establish good training centres spread all around in Indonesia, and that, in partnership with other partners, Muhammadiyah will be able to play a leading role in providing life support. My hope is that someday, Indonesia will have a national council for life support training, so that there will be consistent standards of life support training modules among different healthcare providers.”

A/Prof Chin Jing Jih, Acting Chairman Medical Board, TTSH, said “TTSH has always valued mutual interest in expanding awareness and spreading knowhow to enhance care and quality of lives for patients. We are honoured and excited to develop a relationship with one of the largest healthcare-focused non- profit organisations in Indonesia. The exposure to a different healthcare working milieu in a different country will be educational for our medical, nursing and Life Support Center staff.”

“Enhancing capabilities in healthcare is a key priority for Temasek Foundation. Health care professionals will benefit from continuous training to meet the needs of their respective communities. This training will equip the nurse leaders and specialists in East Java with knowledge and skills to improve their current nursing practices and processes so that they will be able to provide better care for their communities in contingency situations and in other areas of need,” said **Mr Benedict Cheong, Chief Executive Officer, Temasek Foundation**.

Since its inception in 2004, the TTSH Life Support Training Centre has trained and retrained some 2,800 healthcare professionals. All TTSH doctors and nurses are required to be certified in Basic Cardiac Life Support and Automated External Defibrillator usage. All doctors covering critical areas including the Intensive Care Unit, Coronary Care Unit, Emergency Department and Anaesthesiology are additionally certified with Advanced Cardiac Life Support. Nurses are also up-skilled with Life Support Course for Nurses (LSCN) - which is akin to ACLS, to allow them to render more advanced care. TTSH’s Emergency Department conducts some 300 cardiopulmonary resuscitations per year.

Media Contacts:

Chong Pei Wen
Executive, Corporate Communications
Tan Tock Seng Hospital
Tel: 6357 8416/ 9478 6539
Email: Chong_Pei_Wen@ttsh.com.sg

Caroline Tan
Head, Communications
Temasek Foundation
Tel: (65) 6828 6739 / HP: (65) 9768 4628
Email: carolinetan@temasekfoundation.org.sg

About Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH)

TTSH is one of Singapore's largest multi-disciplinary hospitals with 170 years of pioneering medical care and development. The hospital has 40 clinical, allied health and pharmacy departments as well as 16 specialist centres. It also has three institutes that are spearheading care, research and innovations in geriatric medicine, infectious diseases and ophthalmology. Powered by more than 7,000 healthcare staff. TTSH sees over 2,000 patients at its specialist clinics and some 460 patients at its emergency department every day. TTSH is part of the National Healthcare Group, providing holistic and integrated patient care.

With a strong quality culture steeped in patient safety, TTSH constantly challenges itself to provide faster, better, cheaper and safer care for patients. To achieve this, the hospital keeps abreast and believes in investing in its staff, facilities, medical technology and system improvements. In recognition of its commitment to excellent patient care and its comprehensive range of quality healthcare services, TTSH has been awarded the ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001 certification as well as the prestigious Joint Commission International (JCI) accreditation.

For more information, please visit www.ttsh.com.sg.
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