

GLOBAL SURGERY CRISIS AND MERCY SHIPS

Two-thirds of the world's population lack access to safe surgery, with 9 out of 10 people affected in Sub-Saharan West Africa. About 17 million die annually from preventable surgical conditions—more than from TB, malaria, and HIV/AIDS combined. In low-income countries, untreated tumors and deformities often lead to social ostracism and life-threatening health issues.

Mercy Ships uses hospital ships to provide free, world-class surgical care in West Africa, training local professionals and saving lives.

Their ships, including the newly launched Global Mercy, are staffed by volunteers committed to eradicating surgical inequities.



DETAILS

Date: Mon, 26 May 2025

Time: 6:30pm - 7:30pm

Venue: L9 Auditorium,
NUS Dentistry, NUCOHS

CPE: 1 point

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PROFILE

Dr Leo Cheng is a Consultant in Oral, Maxillofacial, Head & Neck Surgery with over 25 years of experience, currently working at hospitals in London. He leads training for over 90 trainees annually and lectures internationally, including as a visiting professor in the US. Dr Cheng is also a volunteer surgeon with Mercy Ships in West Africa, having completed 24 missions offering life-changing surgeries. Additionally, he serves as a Trustee of Mercy Ships UK and a global consultant, dedicating his time to bringing hope and healing to underserved populations.

Rev. Hilary Cheng is a part-time Methodist Minister in Nottingham South, providing pastoral care and preaching, and is also an Anna Chaplain caring for the elderly. She has 31 years of ministry experience across various UK circuits and has served in diverse roles, including hospital chaplaincy and deaf community work. Hilary trained as a nurse, midwife, and counselor, working abroad in Cambodia and volunteering with Mercy Ships in West Africa for 18 years. She is married to Leo, a surgeon, and has two daughters, with her hobbies including gardening and Ikebana.