

SPECIAL CARE DENTISTRY ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE

# SYMPOSIUM 2024

*Inter-professional Approach to Special Care in Dentistry*

27TH July (Saturday)

8:30AM - 5:30PM

Accredited for 8 CPE points

NUCOHS Auditorium (Level 9)

9 Lower Kent Ridge Road Singapore 119085

DR. CHEN SHILING



DR. GILES TAN



DR. JANICE CHUANG



MS. ETHEL TOH



DR. YEE RUIXIANG



DR. TAN LI FENG



DR. VICTOR LEE



DR. SHEENNA HO



SCAN TO REGISTER



	EARLY BIRD (UNTIL 30 <sup>TH</sup> JUNE)	REGULAR RATE
DENTIST (SCDAS MEMBER)	\$100	\$120
DENTIST (NON MEMBER)	\$150	\$170
OHT (SCDAS MEMBER)	\$50	\$70
OHT (NON MEMBER), MOHH DENTAL OFFICER	\$80	\$100
NUS UNDERGRADUATE	\$30	\$30

ORGANISER: IN COLLABORATION WITH:



Centre for Advanced Dental Education  
Faculty of Dentistry

MAIN SPONSOR: GC ASIA DENTAL PTE LTD



# PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

**0830** Welcome Address

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**0840** An Unexpected Advocate for Oral Health:  
Persons With Intellectual Disability  
*Dr. Chen Shiling*

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**0940** Tea Break

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**1000** Special Tips for Managing Children  
With Special Needs  
*Dr. Yee Ruixiang*

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**1100** Common Mental Health Conditions  
Encountered By Dentists  
*Dr. Giles Tan*

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**1200** Lunch

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**1300** Updates on Concepts in Frailty and Ageing  
*Dr. Tan Li Feng*

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**1400** Palliative Dental Care  
*Dr. Janice Chuang*

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**1500** Tea Break

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**1530** Oral Health Care in Nursing Homes  
*Dr. Victor Lee & Ms. Ethel Toh*

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**1630** The Role of the General Dental Practitioner  
in the Prevention of MRONJ:  
A Special Needs Dentistry Perspective  
*Dr. Shenna Ho*



## **An Unexpected Advocate for Oral Health: Persons With Intellectual Disability**

*Dr. Chen Shiling*

Learn how a doctor discovered the importance of oral health through a most unexpected channel – her patients with intellectual disability. The impact of good oral health is illustrated so clearly in this extremely vulnerable group – through their lives, their needs and their stories.

Dr. Chen will share about her experiences over the years from seeing her patients with intellectual disability, including the multiple barriers in accessing healthcare and their continued ever-growing needs, including their oral health!

### **About the Speaker:**

Dr. Chen Shiling is a physician with special interests in dementia and adults with intellectual disability (ID), and is deeply passionate about improving the lives of both populations. Dr. Chen is the founder of registered IPC charity “Happee Hearts Movement”, which runs IDHealth, a healthcare service that advocates and provides for the health needs of adults with ID and their caregivers. She also works with Khoo Teck Puat Hospital in supporting persons with dementia and their families.

Dr. Chen is currently a member of the Management Committee of Dementia Singapore (DSG) and chairs their Programmes and Services Sub-Committee. Concurrently, she serves on the Board of Asian Women’s Welfare Association (AWWA), as well as the Programmes and Services Committee. She is also a member of the Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN) Allied Professionals Advisory Panel and a member of Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore (MINDS) Healthcare Work Group.

Dr. Chen is an appointed member of the Adult Protection Team (APT), Ministry of Social and Family Development, a member of the 4th Enabling Masterplan (EMP2030) Steering Committee and of the Institute of Mental Health (IMH) Clinical Ethics Committee.



## Special Tips for Managing Children With Special Needs

*Dr. Yee Ruixiang*

A consultant Paediatric Dentist in a children's hospital, Dr. Yee manages a wide range of children with medical conditions and/or special needs. Dr. Yee will outline common dental conditions in children with special needs, such as Autism Spectrum Disorder, Cerebral Palsy, Intellectual Disability, and Trisomy 21.

As every child is uniquely different in their own ways, he will share some of his experiences and management tips he has gained through his encounters with them. Dr. Yee will also provide insights to valuable lessons learned from his patients and their parents to better his management in this group of children.

### **About the Speaker:**

Dr. Yee Ruixiang graduated from the National University of Singapore and pursued Paediatric Dentistry at King's College London under the Ministry of Health scholarship. He is a member to the Royal College of Surgeons of England, a board-certified Paediatric Dentist with the Specialist Accreditation Board Singapore and a Fellow to the Academy of Medicine Singapore (FAMS). Dr. Yee is a consultant at the KK Women's & Children's Hospital (KKH) Dental Service and KKH Cleft and Craniofacial Centre. He is also an Assistant Clinical Professor with the Duke-NUS medical school and Clinical Lecturer of the NUS Paediatric Dentistry postgraduate programme. He has a special interest in dental management of children with special needs, dental sedation, pain management and non-accidental injuries. Presently, Dr. Yee serves as president of Society for Paediatric Dentistry Singapore and board member of Paediatric Dentistry Association of Asia.



## Common Mental Health Conditions Encountered By Dentists

*Dr. Giles Tan*

Dentists treating patients for dental problems may encounter some patients who have comorbid mental health conditions, which may complicate their treatment. There may also be a link between oral health and mental health with each having an impact on the other. This talk will cover some of the more common mental health conditions that may be encountered by dentists in the course of treating their patients and discuss some approaches to help optimise these encounters and outcomes.

### **About the Speaker:**

Dr. Giles Tan is a Neurodevelopmental Psychiatrist and Senior Consultant at the Department of Developmental Psychiatry at the Institute of Mental Health and is Associate Programme Director of the National Psychiatry Residency Programme.

He serves as Associate Director at SMA Centre for Medical Ethics & Professionalism, Honorary Secretary of the College of Psychiatrist (Academy of Medicine Singapore), Vice-President of the Singapore Psychiatric Association and also serves on the Board of non-profit voluntary welfare organisations providing services for people with intellectual disabilities.



## Updates on Concepts in Frailty and Ageing

*Dr. Tan Li Feng*

In this talk, Dr. Tan will share on evolving concepts in healthy ageing such as the World Health Organization's definition of intrinsic capacity. She will also explore the latest in the developing field of frailty, covering findings from the Singapore National Frailty Strategy Policy Report.

### **About the Speaker:**

Dr. Tan Li Feng is a Consultant Geriatrician with Alexandra Hospital (AH). She leads the cognition service in AH and chairs the hospital nursing home workgroup. She is a core faculty member of the National University Health System (NUHS) Geriatric Medicine senior residency programme and is a senior lecturer with the National University of Singapore. She was awarded the National Medical Research Council (NMRC) Research Training Fund to pursue a Masters in Clinical Investigation.

Her research interests include cognition, frailty and sarcopenia. She also works with the Queenstown Health District team to promote healthy ageing in the Queenstown community.



## Palliative Dental Care

*Dr. Janice Chuang*

We intuitively assume that palliative dental care is reserved only for persons who have days or weeks to live. But that isn't true. There is a broad range of people who benefit from dental professionals taking a palliative approach to care early in their disease trajectory.

This talk will cover:

- Who is palliative dental care for?
- What are the objectives of care?
- When is the best time to initiate care?
- How do I deliver palliative dental care?

This talk aims to empower you to provide care that is not only compassionate but rational, care that truly improves the quality of life of persons living with terminal illness.

### **About the Speaker:**

Dr. Janice Chuang received her Bachelor of Dental Surgery from National University of Singapore. She was subsequently awarded a scholarship from Tan Tock Seng Hospital to complete her Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Special Needs Dentistry at the University of Queensland, Australia.

Her clinical practice focuses on medically complex persons and adults with special healthcare needs, including persons living with intellectual and physical disabilities and psychiatric conditions. She is passionate about delivering care in a way that promotes patient dignity and quality of life, regardless of the patient's stage of life.





## Oral Health Care in Nursing Homes

*Dr. Victor Lee, Ms. Ethel Toh*

In this talk, Dr. Lee will share his experience in providing dental care in a welfare setting, detailing the set up and running of the clinic. He will explain how a welfare clinic can be sustainable and that volunteering can be a very satisfying and beneficial experience for the dental professional.

Despite profound benefits of regular dental hygiene routine, nursing homes continue to face challenges in providing adequate oral care to due resource constraints. Ms. Toh will explore the crucial role of professional oral care interventions within nursing homes, showcasing how small changes can significantly enhance residents' well-being. She will also discuss the need to address these disparities, prioritize the oral health of elderly residents and ultimately enhance their quality of life.

### **About the Speakers:**

Dr. Victor Lee graduated with BDS from NUS in 1986. Immediately upon graduation, he volunteered at Ling Kwang Home for Senior Citizens to provide basic dental care for their residents. He has returned each week since then, for the next 37 years until today. He was the President of the Singapore Dental Health Foundation (SDHF) from 2000 to 2010, and he continues to serve as their Secretary today. He was also Board Member of multiple Voluntary Welfare Organisations (VWO)s like BPWS and LKYC. He works full time in a group dental practice in Orchard Road.

Ms. Ethel Toh practices within both the private sector and a charity organization. With extensive experience spanning diverse patient backgrounds, she has developed a keen interest in providing dental care for the geriatric population and individuals with special needs. Beyond clinical practice, Ms. Toh actively delivers professional oral care interventions to nursing home residents and facilitates dental education programs for the elderly at Active Aging Centres and medical home care teams in hospitals.



## **The Role of the General Dental Practitioner in the Prevention of Medication-related Osteonecrosis of the Jaw (MRONJ): A Special Needs Dentistry Perspective**

*Dr. Shenna Ho*

The use of anti-resorptive and anti-angiogenic drugs is on the rise, especially as the local population ages. General dental practitioners (GDPs) are likely to receive an influx of referrals from our medical colleagues requesting for dental assessments prior to the initiation of these drugs for various medical conditions including osteoporosis, bony metastatic tumours, multiple myeloma, breast cancer, and prostate cancer. The GDP plays an important role in the prevention and early diagnosis of medication-related osteonecrosis of the jaw (MRONJ), which is fundamental to reducing the incidence and progression of MRONJ.

This lecture aims to cover:

- Key updates from the AAOMS Position Paper (2022) on MRONJ
- Key considerations when performing dental assessments prior to initiation of anti-resorptive and anti-angiogenic drugs
- Risk stratification for patients at risk of MRONJ

### **About the Speaker:**

Dr. Shenna Ho graduated from the National University of Singapore with a Bachelor of Dental Surgery. She was awarded a scholarship in Geriatric and Special Needs Dentistry by the Ministry of Health and obtained her Doctor of Clinical Dentistry in Special Needs Dentistry at the University of Queensland in 2021.

She is currently a Registrar in the Geriatric Special Care Dentistry Department at the National Dental Centre of Singapore. Her clinical experience focuses on the oral health of those with mental illness and physical and intellectual disabilities, as well as those with complex health care needs.