

TOUCHING HEARTS, SAVING LIVES

SALUTING OUR NURSES

1 August 2010 is a special day for all our nurses. In the fourth of 5-part series, Jurong Health Services (JurongHealth), the new public healthcare cluster in the West, pays tribute to all nurses for their contributions to healthcare.

We also take you behind the scenes to have a closer look at the various facets of this noble profession, as JurongHealth prepares to assume full management of Alexandra Hospital from August.



Min Yee attending to a patient at the outpatient clinic.

Working with clinical accuracy

Like an efficient office administrator, clinic nurses work hard to ensure the smooth running of their outpatient clinics every day. While they might not deal with as many adrenalin-pumping situations as their counterparts working in the Emergency Room or Operating Theatre, their job however, is no less stressful.

"I have to see to the daily operations of the clinic and attend to patient's enquiries at all times. As clinic nurses, we do casting and dressing for patients as well as manage difficult vascular wounds," says Tang Min Yee, senior staff nurse at Jurong Health Services' (JurongHealth) Outpatient Clinic.

With 18 years of nursing experience under her belt, Min Yee has worked in both the Renal Ward and Emergency Room before moving on to the General Surgery and Orthopedic Clinic at JurongHealth.

Patient care and education

Apart from assisting doctors in simple procedures, clinic nurses also play an important part in patient care and education. With their strong focus on patient recovery, the role of a clinic nurse involves greater interaction with patients

"I moved to work in the clinic because it allows me more opportunities to work with patients," explains Min Yee, a mother of one.

"I interact more with family members of patients because many times, we are educating them on how to care for wounds and casts," explains Min Yee, who has attended various courses and seminars on managing different types of wounds as part of her hospital training.

As with all jobs, she too has encountered her fair share of difficult patients but gamely takes it all in her stride.

"We do encounter demanding patients but taking care of their needs and making sure they leave the clinic with a smile makes it all worthwhile," she says.

New opportunities, new challenges

Min Yee's decision to join JurongHealth's Outpatient Clinic was motivated by the possibilities of greater career advancement and more learning opportunities.

"Being part of a new start-up is always challenging but that's where you learn more about yourself and others," explains Min Yee.

"As a member of the pioneer team, I'm able to share my experiences and help ensure a smooth transition from our place at Alexandra Hospital to the new site in Jurong in 2014."

To find out more about a career as a ward nurse or a clinic nurse as well as nursing careers with JurongHealth, log on to www.juronghealth.com.sg.

Watch out for the fifth and final edition of this series on 29 July, as JurongHealth celebrates with all nurses.

JurongHealth – Transforming Care. Bringing Health To Every Home.

Managing Alexandra Hospital and Building Jurong General Hospital

JurongHealth is the new public healthcare cluster formed to facilitate the integration of services and care processes within the hospital and across the community, so as to better serve healthcare needs in the West. From 1 August 2010, JurongHealth will manage Alexandra Hospital where it will build and grow its base.

JurongHealth is also planning for its future 700-bed Jurong General Hospital, which will be twinned with a 280-bed Community Hospital to provide holistic and integrated care for the Western population of Singapore. Slated to open in 2014, these two state-of-the-art, patient-centric hospitals will be an integral part of the Jurong Lakeside District Masterplan, with easy access to public transport services (Jurong East MRT Station, Jurong East Bus Interchange) and retail/entertainment hubs.

For more information, visit www.juronghealth.com.sg.

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