

MEDIA RELEASE

**PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION JOINS MOUNT ELIZABETH HOSPITAL'S
FIGHT AGAINST TOP CANCERS IN SINGAPORE**

- **Mount Elizabeth Hospital partners People's Association (Tampines Changkat) to bring cancer awareness and free cancer screening to the heartlands**
- **Strong boost for financially needy Singaporeans in the fight against breast, cervical and colorectal cancers, Singapore's top cancers**

Singapore, 19 March 2017 – Mount Elizabeth Hospital is bringing cancer awareness and free screenings¹ for breast, cervical and colorectal cancers to residents in Tampines, through a new partnership with People's Association.

Targeting the top cancers in Singapore, Mount Elizabeth Hospital is offering needy constituents free cancer screening procedures like colonoscopies, mammograms and pap smears. It will also be sponsoring cancer treatment for those with positive screening results through the hospital's "Life Renewed" Corporate Social Responsibility programme.

"We can manage cancer with early screening. It helps to detect early signs of cancer or pre-cancerous conditions. And is especially effective to prevent and treat common cancers like breast, cervical, and colorectal cancer. Tampines Grassroots Organizations is glad to work with Mount Elizabeth Hospital to bring this important message to our residents. We can empower our seniors to take care of their health," said Mr Desmond Choo, Member of Parliament for Tampines GRC and Adviser to Tampines GROs. "We are also grateful to Mount Elizabeth Hospital's sponsorship of cancer treatment for needy patients, which will go a long way in helping the less privileged among us enjoy a healthier and more fulfilling life."

Doctors from Mount Elizabeth Hospital are reaching out to the community through a public health talk to share tips on how to identify early symptoms of breast and colorectal cancers, and encourage them to register for free cancer screening under the Life Renewed programme. CHAS Blue and CHAS Orange cardholders in need of cancer treatment can apply for financial assistance by writing to mpac@parkwaypantai.com or call 6250 0000 during office hours.

"Cancer screening and early detection is key to fighting cancer. Advances in medical science and technology have made cancer treatments more effective. Our efforts can make a difference, especially among seniors who may have deferred medical attention due to financial difficulties or lack of awareness," said Mr Phua Tien Beng, Chief Executive Officer of Mount Elizabeth Hospital.

Cancer is the leading cause of death in Singapore, accounting for 29.4% of the total number of deaths in 2014². A 2016 cancer report released by the National Registry of Diseases Office estimates that one in four men and one in five women here are likely to get cancer by the time they are 75 years old. The most common cancer type for men is colorectal (4 per cent will get it by the age of 75); for women, breast (7 per cent by age 75).

¹ Screening is free for CHAS card holders

² Singapore Cancer Registry, *Interim Annual Registry Report, Trends in Cancer Incidence Singapore, 2010-2014*

About Mount Elizabeth Hospital

Mount Elizabeth Hospital (MEH) is a 345-bed tertiary care hospital located in the heart of Singapore's prime shopping district. Renowned for its depth of medical expertise, MEH provides a comprehensive range of medical and surgical services, with more than 450 qualified and experienced specialists under its roof. It is the first private hospital in Singapore to offer cardiac catheterisation, open-heart surgery, neurosurgery and other advanced procedures, and continues to be a leading private hospital in Singapore in performing robotic surgeries and other complex, high intensity clinical cases.

About The Life Renewed Project

The Life Renewed Project is a Corporate Social Responsibility initiative by Parkway Pantai and is supported by the Khazanah IHH Healthcare Fund. It seeks to assist patients who require financial assistance to access and reap the benefits of Parkway Pantai's wide network of world-class doctors and medical facilities. The name reflects the regaining of hope, made possible by medical intervention.

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