

MEDIA RELEASE

**TRAINING 15-YEAR-OLDS TO PERFORM
LAPAROSCOPIC SURGERIES**

- Parkway East Hospital's "Medical High School" will give 180 local and international students hands-on medical training in an authentic hospital setting
- 20 underprivileged students from Wishing Well will be participating for the first time

180 students aged 15-20 will be challenged with various medical emergency scenarios and get hands-on practice treating "patients" at Parkway East Hospital's Medical High School event on 19 and 20 May 2018. In its third run, the one-day medical training programme lets students experience and appreciate the wide spectrum of roles in the hospital and inspire them to make a difference through a career in healthcare.

For the first time, 20 slots were given to underprivileged teens from Children's Wishing Well, a programme of Student Advisory Centre dedicated to supporting students from low income families in Singapore. Another 50 students from upper secondary schools, polytechnics, Junior Colleges and international high schools will also participate in this rare opportunity to explore medical science and technology in a real hospital setting. The rest of the slots were open to the public for interested students who registered online.

In the one day experience, students will rotate through six different stations where they will be exposed to various medical scenarios, before pitting their newfound skills against each other in friendly competition. They will get to operate sophisticated medical equipment to resuscitate "patients" and practise laparoscopic imaging and sealing tissue. Lessons will take place in realistic areas such as the Operating Theatres and Accident & Emergency resuscitation bays, which are usually out-of-bounds to the public.

"Medical High School taps into our youth's strong passion for making a difference in their world – even if they are underprivileged. We also want to ensure that anyone who has an interest in healthcare gets an equal opportunity to experience and pursue their aspirations in healthcare. These students today may well be the healthcare professionals of tomorrow," said Dr Kok Chuan, Chief Executive Officer of Parkway East Hospital.

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About Parkway East Hospital

Parkway East Hospital is a 113-bed tertiary care hospital located in eastern Singapore. It offers a comprehensive range of clinical disciplines and subspecialties including orthopaedics, general surgery, paediatrics, obstetrics and gynaecology, and cardiology, and is known for its personalised approach to the provision of healthcare.

About Children's Wishing Well

Children's Wishing Well (CWW) is a registered charity founded in 2002. We provide a broad range of services for children and youth from low-income families and disadvantaged backgrounds nationwide. Our services support their current educational and daily living needs, and equip them with skills for their future, so as to build a strong foundation for them to contribute as useful members of society.

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