

VOLUNTEERING WITH COMPASSION

Celebrating
HEALTHCARE'S
BRIGHTEST
Stars

When myopia robbed Dr Allan Fong of his ambition to become a fighter pilot, he decided to become an ophthalmologist to fight eye conditions instead. The former Senior Consultant of Cataract & Comprehensive Ophthalmology Department at SNEC, specialises in cataract surgery and refractive surgery. He volunteers regularly with non-profit organisations to provide free eye screenings to the needy and seniors.

In recognition of his outstanding contributions to healthcare, he received the Superstar Award in the Exemplar Leader-Clinician Category at the Singapore Health Quality Service Awards (SHQSA) 2024. This is also the first time SNEC received this prestigious Superstar award, and there were 94 SNEC-SERI recipients of the SHQSA this year.

Since 2011, the SingHealth Duke-NUS Academic Medical Centre has been organising the SHQSA to recognise outstanding healthcare professionals who provide quality care and excellent service to patients.

With an eye and a heart for the community, Dr Fong is in-charge of an on-going voluntary eye screening project called "Project I-Care", a collaboration between the Singapore Society of Ophthalmology and the North-West CDC. This project screens seniors for eye conditions such as cataract, glaucoma, and diabetic retinopathy. The team also reaches out to the needy in nursing homes and Senior Activity Centres. Dr Fong serves as Vice-Chairman of Lions SaveSight Centre which promotes eye care and prevention of blindness among the underprivileged and vulnerable members of society.



These programmes are also offered in nursing homes and community centres, where volunteer eye specialists screen patients who have not had eye checks before and make referrals for cataract surgeries and other treatments. Quite a number of elderly patients are bed-ridden or are wheelchair-bound and have difficulty travelling. With early detection, we can treat eye conditions before they worsen and save their sight," Dr Fong shared.

Dr Fong constantly seeks to collaborate to enhance care through process improvement and innovation. He embraces cutting-edge technologies and engages eye care industry partners to provide feedback on emerging technologies to ensure that they are relevant and optimise treatment outcomes.