



TOUCHING LIVES

Dr. Chen

DR. CHEN AND DR. SOH OF THE HEALTHWAY MEDICAL GROUP MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO PEOPLE'S LIVES IN THEIR OWN WAYS. THEY TAKE TIME OFF THEIR BUSY ROUTINES TO SPEAK ABOUT HEALTH, AESTHETICS, NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND THE FUTURE OF MEDICINE



As the Medical Director for the Nobel Surgery Centre at 111 Somerset, Mount Alvernia Hospital and Gleneagles; who specializes in Colorectal Cancer Surgery, Dr. Chen Chung Ming is constantly saving lives. He is a past recipient of the Gold Service Award and Best Service Award, and has published numerous articles, to spread the awareness of early detection of cancer. He is also a committee member of the Society of Colorectal Surgeons in Singapore. At a time when cancer seems to have taken a more widespread illness, Dr. Chen reaffirms

that "that cancer is a curable disease if detected early. It is not a life sentence."

What kind of services do you provide at the 111 Somerset clinics?

As a Surgeon specializing in General Surgery with an interest in Colorectal Surgery, I offer Consultation for complaints of the digestive system, anorectal conditions, lumps and bumps; screening for stomach and colorectal cancers; and Endoscopy, which includes diagnostic and therapeutic gastroscopy and colonoscopy.

'Cancer' is a word that seems to bring with it a lot of fear to people. What would you say to cancer patients and their families?

I would reassure them that in this day and age, there are many new treatments that not only improve their quality of life but prolong it as well. I try and give them positive but realistic news and let them know that I will travel this journey with them. Thus, I am readily accessible to my patients should they need reassurance or any questions answered.

What is the most important aspect of being a Colorectal Surgeon?

Colorectal cancer is the number one cancer in Singapore and a major killer. I am not only able to diagnose conditions that may be distressing to the sufferers but I can also definitively manage and sort out these conditions for them, like haemorrhoids, fissures, colorectal cancers etc, which impacts their quality of life. Detecting and managing colorectal cancers in the early stages can result in a cure, which is very rewarding. Even at an advance stage where cure is not possible, colorectal surgery may be needed to improve the quality of life of these unfortunate patients.

What is the success rate of Healthway clinics in treating patients for Colorectal Cancer?

Our success rate for treating patients for Colorectal Cancer is 100%. It is true with most cancers, early detection of the disease results in improved chances of cure. Hence, we have also identified the prevention of colon cancer (the most common killer cancer in Singapore) as an important community mission and have implemented programs to support this.