NUS
National University
of Singapore

Yong Loo Lin
School of Medicine

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OPERATION: CHANGE THE FUTURE

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CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

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NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE

PRO CHONG YAP SENG

- Lien Ying Chow Professor in Medicine
- Dean, NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine
- Deputy Chief Executive (Education & Research), National University Health System

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PRO CHONG YAP SENG

Every great mission begins with doubt.
Every breakthrough begins with someone who refuses to believe it can’t be done.

For our researchers, doctors, and medical students, the mission is clear – to heal, to discover, to give possibility where it once seemed impossible.

They face challenges every day: Decoding diseases, developing new treatments, and bringing comfort to patients and families in their most vulnerable moments.

Their strength lies not in power or fame, but in compassion, perseverance, and an unshakable belief that impossible is only temporary.

And as in every great mission, they don’t do it alone. Behind every breakthrough discovery, every proper diagnosis, every patient saved, stands someone who believes in them:

You, the Donor.

Your support makes their Mission: Possible.

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THE AUDACITY OF HOPE

PROF ALLEN YEOH

- Head and Senior Consultant, Dept of Paediatrics, Khoo Teck Puat – National University Children's Medical Institute
- Head and Senior Consultant, National University Cancer Institute
- Viva-Goh Foundation Professor in Paediatric Oncology, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine

PROF ALLEN YEOH

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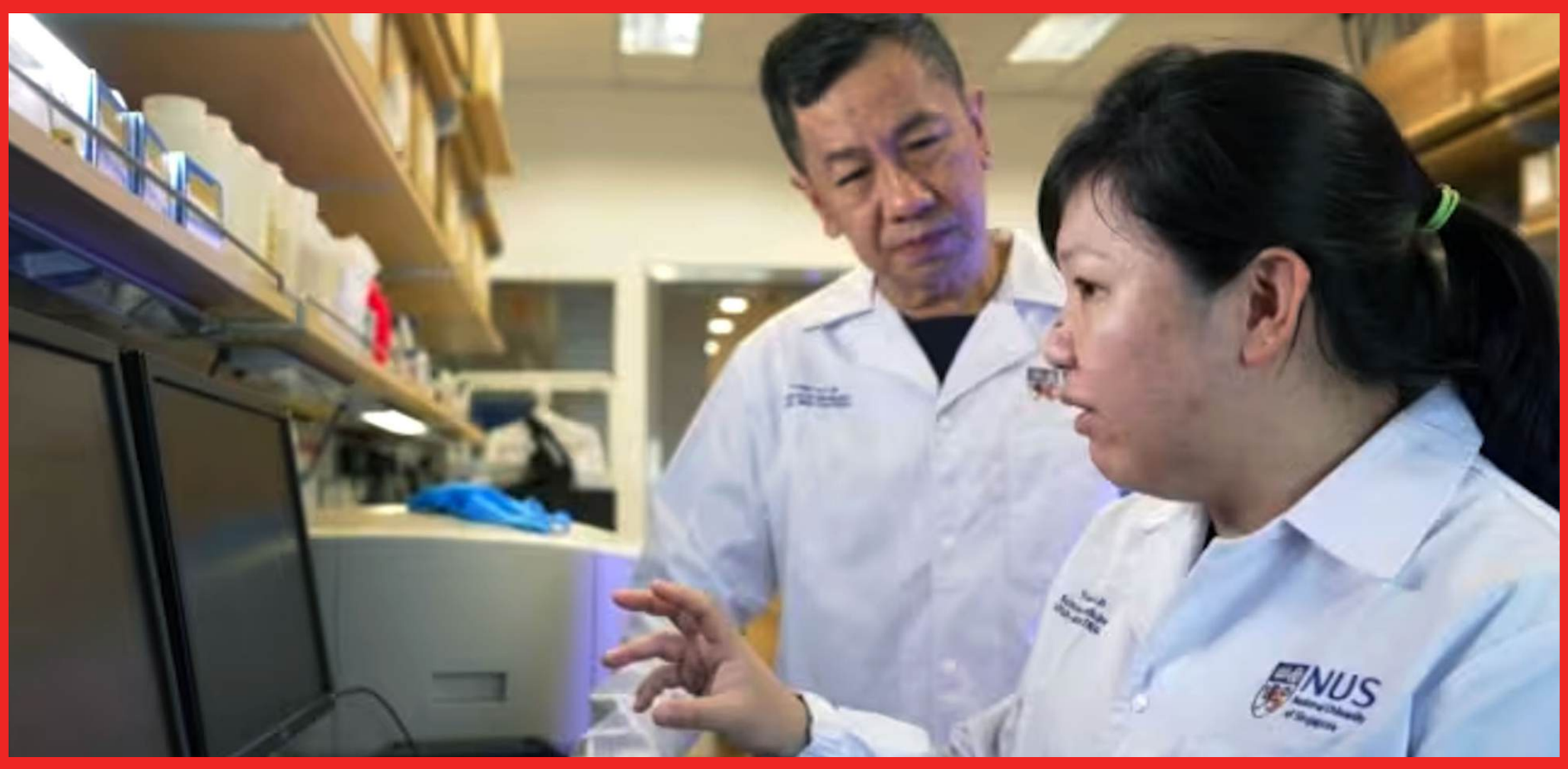
Hope and Healing: The Heart behind Prof Alen Yeoh's Battle with Paediatric Cancer



The halls of Singapore's hospitals echo with stories of courage, but few rival the quiet heroism of Prof Allen Yeoh – a senior physician and the driving force behind landmark breakthroughs in paediatric haematology and oncology.

Over the course of his career at the Yong Loo Lin School of medicine and National University Hospital, Prof Yeoh has taken on a mission once thought impossible: To defeat childhood acute lymphoblastic leukaemia and give every young patient a fighting chance at renewed life.

Prof Yeoh's calling was forged in moments of heartbreak and hope. "I dreamed of becoming a surgeon as I graduated from medical school," he recalls. But early encounters with children in distress – devastated by cancer and limited by harsh odds – pulled him into paediatric oncology.

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PROF ALLEN YEOH

Witnessing the suffering and severe mortality rates among young patients spurred him to seek lasting solutions in one of medicine’s under-served field.

From Laboratory To Clinic: Research With Real Impact

As a clinician scientist, Prof Yeoh leads translational research that bridges the laboratory and patient bedside. His pioneering work includes the use of polymerase chain reaction (PCR) techniques and advanced gene expression profiling, making him the first Singaporean to receive the American Society of Haematology Merit Award for highest-cited research in leukemia.

Today, he guides multi-centre Malaysia-Singapore ALL and AML clinical trials, which have led to projected cure rates of over 80% and 60% – an astounding leap forward for the region’s young patients.

His work at the VIVA-NUS Centre for Translational Research in Acute Leukaemia (CenTRAL) has helped clinicians customize therapies and predict treatment outcomes more accurately. “We develop tests that help doctors safely gauge how much chemotherapy is enough to cure a child – without excess risk,” Prof Yeoh explains.

Revolution: The Promise Of Car-T Cell Therapy

Most recently, Prof Yeoh has helped bring hope to families ravaged by relapsed T-cell acute lymphoblastic leukemia (T-ALL), a form of cancer unresponsive to conventional treatments.

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PROF ALLEN YEOH

Working alongside Prof Dario Campana and other colleagues, the team has spearheaded the development and clinical application of fratricide-resistant CD7 chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy – a cutting-edge approach that reprogrammes a patient's T-cells to target and destroy leukemia cells.

The results have been remarkable. In trials, 16 of 17 patients achieved complete remission within one month of treatment, even after all other options failed. For many, this therapy means a second chance at life – without the severe side effects that once dominated the landscape of paediatric cancer care.

But behind every clinical advance is an ongoing battle for funding and resources. Prof Yeoh is candid about the challenges. "Resource allocation must match the scale of the problem. Without sustained funding, even the most promising ideas can stall."

Collaboration – across borders, disciplines and sectors – is a central theme in Prof Yeoh's work. He relentlessly advocates for stronger ties between researchers, clinicians and funders to maximize the impact of every dollar invested.

PROF ALLEN YEOH

Legacy, Succession And The Future

Prof Yeoh is deeply invested in mentoring the next generation of clinician scientists, fostering an environment where rigorous research and compassionate care go hand in hand.

“Our work is only as strong as those who can carry it forward,” he notes. He takes pride not only in medical advances, but also in cultivating successors and teams who will continue the mission.

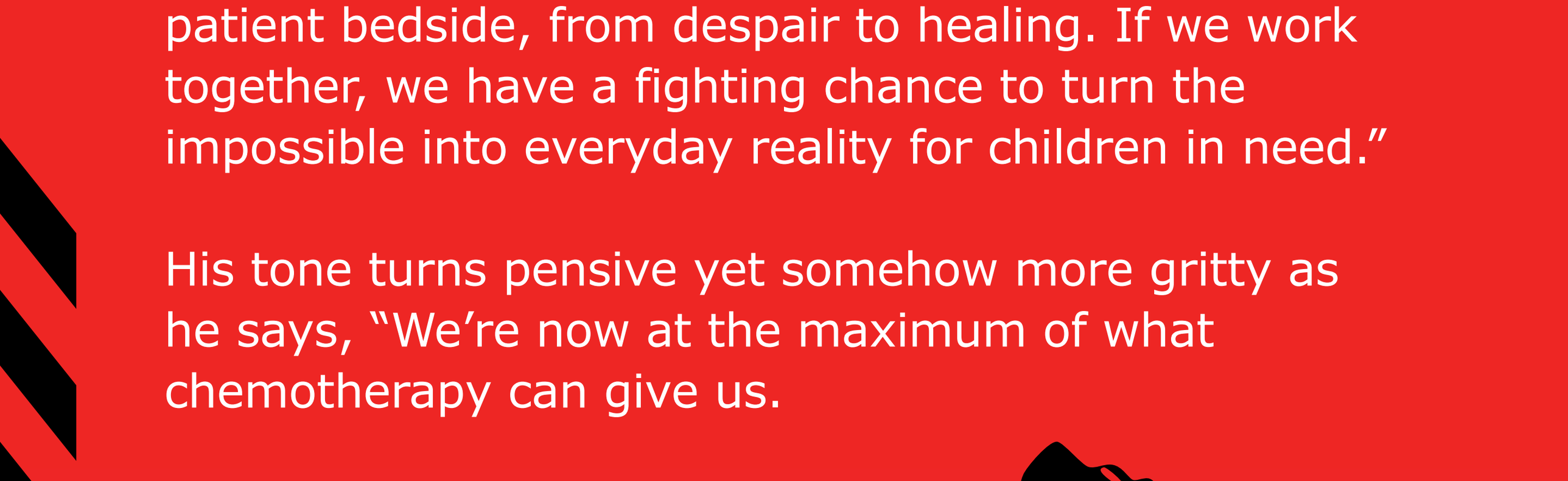
The Courageous Mission Continues

Looking ahead, Prof Yeoh’s research focus remains on refining cell therapies, expanding clinical trials to underserved populations, and translating laboratory discoveries into lasting cures.

“We need visionaries and supporters who understand that every gift propels our work – from lab bench to patient bedside, from despair to healing. If we work together, we have a fighting chance to turn the impossible into everyday reality for children in need.”

His tone turns pensive yet somehow more gritty as he says, “We’re now at the maximum of what chemotherapy can give us.

We’ve developed an immune therapy in CAR T-cells. It’s effective: 90% of the children with blood cancer whom I treat now are cured. You might say that’s good – but it’s not enough. My heart still breaks for the remaining 10%”.



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PROF ALLEN YEOH

"Every time I diagnose a child with cancer, and I treat him, I'm poisoning the child – literally – with chemotherapy. One parent described his child's suffering as being stuck in a dark tunnel, and the only light you can see is the train that's coming right at you – and it hits you!"

"And you're so depleted, you barely recover, just enough to survive. But after three or four weeks in the tunnel, you're hit again by the train. And again. And again. That's cancer treatment, right? I have to push the child to the brink – then pull him back. Yet the parents trust me. They have no other hope. So we have to find new ways to give them hope. With your support, we will."

This is Prof Yeoh's ongoing mission, as a steward of hope and possibility.

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OUR MISSION DEMANDS COLLECTIVE ACTION

DR MO YIN

- Senior Lecturer, NUS Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health
- Deputy Director, ADVANcing Clinical Evidence in Infectious Diseases (ADVANCE-ID)

DR MO YIN

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Inside the Labyrinth: Dr Mo Yin's Quest to Save Lives from Drug-Resistant Infections

In the high-stakes world of infectious diseases, where unseen enemies threaten global health, Dr Mo Yin emerges as an unwavering hero.

Her mission? To dismantle the ever-growing menace of antimicrobial resistance (AMR), a challenge as daunting and complex as any blockbuster espionage thriller. With the fate of millions hanging in the balance, this infectious diseases physician and clinical scientist is racing against time to unlock breakthroughs that could save lives around the world.

A Career Forged In Science And Service

Dr Mo Yin's journey is marked by unyielding dedication and multi-disciplinary mastery.

A graduate from the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine and the University of Oxford, she is both a Senior Lecturer at the NUS Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health and a consultant in the Division of Infectious Diseases at the National University Hospital.

Concurrently, her role as Deputy Director of the ADVANcing Clinical Evidence in Infectious Diseases (ADVANCE-ID) network – a formidable alliance of more than 50 hospitals across Asia and beyond – positions her on the frontlines of clinical research.

The Challenge: A Global Game Of Cat And Mouse

The fight against AMR is arguably one of the most daunting missions of our time. Antibiotics, once hailed as miracle drugs, are increasingly losing their effectiveness as bacteria evolve and develop resistance. The scientific community faces a pressing dilemma: How to develop new antibiotics and deliver them at the scale required to impact vulnerable populations.

Yet, Dr Mo recognizes that the problem extends well beyond scientific discovery. “We are up against a system that is not wired to produce and distribute antibiotics at scale,” she explains.

Pharmaceutical pipelines have dwindled, disincentives prevail, and getting new drugs to diverse communities remains fraught with logistical and economic barriers.

“What keeps me up at night,” she confides, “is the reality that drug-resistant infections are silently ravaging communities, threatening to roll back decades of medical progress.”

Her research tackles these issues head-on.

For instance, one of her landmark studies, the REGARD-VAP trial, evaluated the efficacy of shorter antibiotic courses for ventilator-associated pneumonia, and demonstrated that less can indeed be more – shorter treatment durations can reduce side effects and slow resistance without compromising patient outcomes.

Frustrations Behind The Scenes

As often is the case, nothing good comes easy. Despite the need for antibiotics innovation, systemic fractures hamper progress.

The current medical infrastructure and funding ecosystem, Dr Mo observes, suffer from disconnects that impede timely, impactful breakthroughs.

“Funders and donors often don’t engage closely enough with researchers”, she remarks. “Not a criticism of anybody, because we’re all so incredibly busy. But if we’re honest, those involved will probably agree that here’s where we can improve.”

This dysfunction sometimes results in funding agendas that overlook the complexities and timeframes intrinsic to clinical research. Such misalignment wastes precious opportunities and saps momentum from life-saving projects.

DR MO YIN

Dr Mo advocates for more transparent, sustained dialogue between the scientific community and funders. Bridging this gap would foster mutual understanding of goals, realistic timelines, and efficient funding protocols capable of sustaining prolonged battles against AMR. “Dialogue isn’t optional – it’s mission-critical.”

Glimmers Of Hope: Signs Of A Rising Tide

Still, conviction endures amid the complexity. Dr Mo’s and Prof David Paterson’s leadership in the ADVANCE-ID network have catalysed ground-breaking collaborations across Asia, unlocking cost-effective clinical trials that generate real-world data essential for policy improvements.

Beyond research, the network fosters long-term partnerships rooted in trust and shared ownership, promising a more resilient ecosystem against drug-resistant infections.

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DR MO YIN

A Direct Call: The Mission Needs You

As the battle against AMR intensifies, Dr Mo turns her impassioned gaze towards donors, policymakers, and the public.

“Our mission demands collective action. Supporting clinical research is more than community giving – it’s investing in global survival,” she asserts. “I urge donors and partners to look beyond short-term wins and commit to sustained funding and collaboration with researchers and scientists. Only then can we out-manoeuvre drug-resistant infections and safeguard future generations.”

Her quest is far from over – but it is one that inspires courage, demands action, and beckons the world to join her fight to save countless lives.

Dr Mo Yin is on a seemingly impossible mission. Will you help her make it possible?

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YOUR PARTNERSHIP ENABLES US TO TURN SCIENCE INTO SALVATION

PROF ZHANG CUILIN

- Chair Professor and Director, Global Centre for Asian Women's Health, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine
- Adjunct Professor, Department of Nutrition, Harvard T.H Chan School of Public Health

PROF ZHANG CUILIN

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A Champion for Women: Prof Zhang Cuilin's Vision to Transform Asian Women's Health

In the realm of global health, few missions are as complex and urgent as improving women's health across diverse Asian populations.

At the forefront of this challenge stands Prof Zhang Cuilin, Chair Professor and Director of the Global Centre for Asian Women's Health (GloW) at the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine.

With a career that spans continents and decades, Prof Zhang embodies relentless dedication, pioneering research and heartfelt advocacy to rewrite the narrative of women's health.

From Humble Village To Global Stage

Born and raised in China, Pro Zhang's early years were marked by determination and intellectual passion.

Excelling academically, she parlayed a degree from Beijing Medical University to a full scholarship from the University of Washington (relocating there in 1997 on her own, with no relatives in America) where she earned a PhD in epidemiology, followed by advanced post-doctoral training at Harvard's T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

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PROF ZHANG CUILIN

Her academic foundation laid the groundwork for a wide-reaching career at the US National Institute of Health (NIH), where she distinguished herself as a leading expert in nutrition, genetics and clinical epidemiology, specializing in complex health challenges affecting women and children.

After 25 years, Singapore beckoned, and Prof Zhang relocated here for a senior position at the School of Medicine and the opportunity to develop population health programmes tailored to Asian women.

Her concurrent role at GloW allows her to target cardiometabolic and reproductive health, cancer screening, longevity, and mental illness. Her clinical epidemiology expertise drives initiatives that convert research into actionable public health practices and policy shifts, crucial in addressing rising chronic diseases and evolving demographic needs.

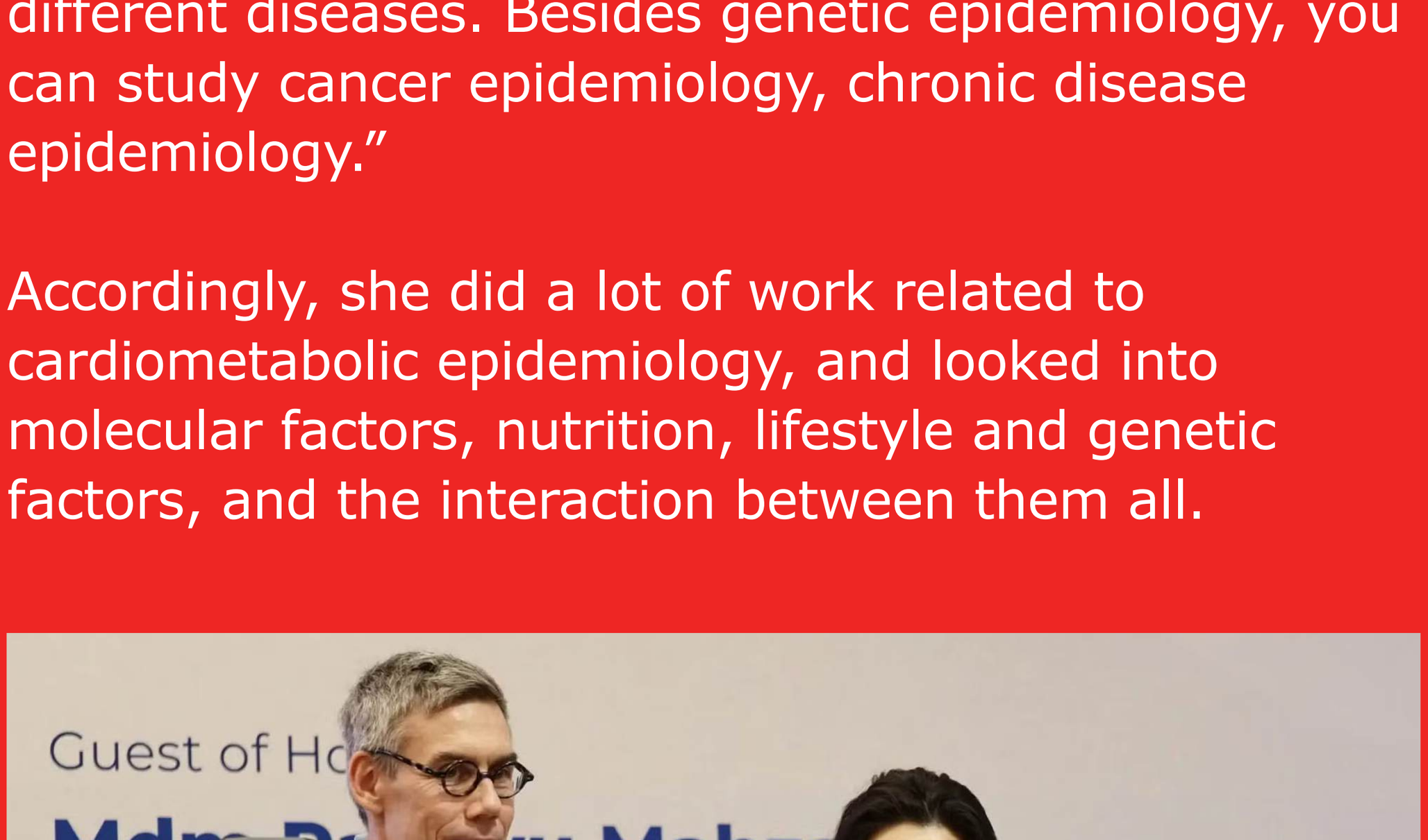
PROF ZHANG CUILIN

Prof Zhang's impact has been amplified through strategic collaborations spanning Asia, Europe and the USA. These collaborations enable knowledge exchange and joint studies addressing gestational diabetes, hypertension, preeclampsia and cardio-metabolic health among Asian women.

The Wonder Of Epidemiology

Epidemiology is actually a very broad field of study – which was daunting yet very appealing to Prof Zhang. "It's a methodology. It can be combined to look into different diseases. Besides genetic epidemiology, you can study cancer epidemiology, chronic disease epidemiology."

Accordingly, she did a lot of work related to cardiometabolic epidemiology, and looked into molecular factors, nutrition, lifestyle and genetic factors, and the interaction between them all.



She has also looked into biomarkers and omics markers for early prediction of life stage changes in women.

Prof Zhang has long felt a pull to focus on this area because there is significantly less data on women for clinical trials and thinking about gestational diabetes. The reason is simple: Women have a more complicated physiology than men.

“You have to think about hormones, the menstrual cycle, collectible samples. So there is much less data of high quality, especially in Asian populations with less developed medical infrastructure. But just imagine: If we can do this, if we can gather more robust data, we can make a huge impact on women’s health, way before they start thinking about raising a family.” The possibilities are hugely motivating.

Current Challenges And Future Directions

Prof Zhang candidly acknowledges the challenges in research funding and resource allocation. “Sustained support is fundamental for long-term impact,” she emphasizes.

Collaborating with government and private sectors, she advocates for strategic investment to bridge gaps in women’s health research, especially among underserved Asian communities.

PROF ZHANG CUILIN

Her upcoming research includes expanding multi-omics applications and early screening protocols to better predict and prevent disease across women's lifespans, striving for equitable health outcomes in Asia and beyond.

Legacy and succession planning also weigh heavily on her mind. "We must cultivate the next generation of researchers committed to women's health," Prof Zhang asserts. "Every woman deserves a life unfettered by preventable illness." She envisions expanding her Centre's capabilities, integrating artificial intelligence, digital health and personalized medicine to enhance precision public health initiatives.

Prof Zhang makes a heartfelt plea: "Your partnership enables us to turn science into salvation – from lab discoveries to healthier women and families across Asia. Together, we can rewrite the future of women's health."

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WE ALL HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

BHAVANI D/O KALIMUTHU

- Senior Staff Nurse, Changi General Hospital

BHAVANI D/O KALIMUTHU

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Against All Odds: The Journey of a Nurse, Student, and Role Model

Along the bustling corridors of Change General Hospital, Bhavani d/o Kalimuthu moves with unwavering purpose – balancing two worlds few would dare to combine. At 43, she's not only a senior nurse and team leader, but also a full-time nursing student at the Yong Loo Lin Medical School. Her mission: To graduate with distinction, while managing life's responsibilities and lifting others along the way.

The stakes for Bhavani have always been real. Growing up in very modest surroundings, financial pressures were keenly felt by her family. "There were times when I used to wonder how we'd make ends meet." Things have gotten better now, but challenges remain.

Supporting loved ones and managing a home while burning the midnight oil over textbooks require stamin and sacrifice. Every test, every exam, is a battle against fatigue; yet she presses on with a resolve that's inspiring.

Her days blend clinical duties – supervising her team, caring for patients, handling emergencies – with evenings spent in lecture halls or poring over case studies. It's a balancing act, made possible in part by a supportive hospital management team. Recognising her commitment, they have coordinated her duty rosters around her classes, helping her chase her academic ambitions without abandoning her professional responsibilities.

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BHAVANI D/O KALIMUTHU

The result: Bhavani has clinched the Enpee Group Nursing scholarship award for the second consecutive year – a testament to her hard work and fortitude.

The challenges go beyond the hospital or university. "I carry my family's hopes," Bhavani notes, shouldering not just her goals for today, but her dreams for tomorrow. Having received help, she's become an ardent believer in paving the way for others. Always ready to help her colleagues, Bhavani shares her story readily, in the hope that it might motivate others. "If I can do this," she says with conviction, "anyone can." The scholarship, she insists, is not just a financial lifeline – it's a sign that doors can open if you persevere.

As Bhavani looks to the future, her mission is clear: To pay it forward, to advocate for thos with similar struggles, and to champion compassion and dedication in healthcare. She urges donors and supporters: "You help changes lives. It changed mine. Please, keep helping nursing and medical students climb their mountains. We all have the potential to make a difference."

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TOGETHER, WE CAN BUILD STRONGER, HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

JAMES HUANG

- Year 2 Medical Student
- Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine

A Scholar and a Servant: James Huang's Drive to Heal and Inspire

In a world where the path to becoming a physician demands a deep sense of mission, James Huang stands as a determined and inspiring figure. The 2nd year student at the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine exemplifies discipline, resilience and heart – all while navigating financial constraints and striving to make an impact both in and around the classroom.

James was brought up in a humble family background. Raised by parents who worked tirelessly as hawkers, often starting their days before dawn and returning late at night, he witnessed first-hand their perseverance and self-sacrifice to give their children better opportunities in life. "Rain or shine, they worked their butts off. There was no such thing as an MC for them," he reflects. "I wouldn't be here without them."

The son flourished in the cocoon of his parents' belief and unwavering support. He aced his PSLE with a score of 265, earned Mensa membership, and represented Singapore in international math and biology Olympiads. And now at Yong Loo Lin, he's proven his mettle by earning a place on the Dean's List in his demanding 2nd year.

You would think he'd have no spare time as a medical student. Yet James has confounded all expectations by throwing himself into organizing community support programmes for Singapore's migrant workforce (Project MHM), and health screening and education camps for rural villages in India (Project i2Eye).

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JAMES HUANG

Juggling rigorous studies, familial responsibilities and community leadership is no small feat; yet James has managed it with discipline and an earnest sense of responsibility. To supplement his household income, he tutors secondary students … and probably imparts life lessons along the way.

James' direct appeal to donors and readers echoes his heartfelt gratitude for the support he has received through his young life. "Your generosity has transformed my journey, and for that, I am truly thankful. But I'm not done yet. Please, continue supporting students like me who strive not just for academic success, to for meaningful service. Together, we can build stronger, healthier communities."

His mission remains clear: To continue serving, learning, and leading with compassion and integrity – traits that will shape him into a physician capable of making an impact far beyond the hospital walls.

OUR MISSION IS TO GO BEYOND TREATMENT.

TO REDEFINE WHAT'S POSSIBLE IN THE FUTURE OF HEALTHCARE.

NUS MEDICINE UPDATE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025/2026

294
NEWLY GRADUATED DOCTORS

232
MASTER OF MEDICINE GRADUATES

43
MASTER OF SCIENCE GRADUATES

61
PHD OF MEDICINE GRADUATES

271
NEWLY GRADUATED NURSES

29
MASTER OF NURSING GRADUATES

4
PHD OF NURSING GRADUATES

$4,949,800

Total financial aid disbursed as bursaries and scholarship in FY2025

381
BURSARIES DISBURSED IN FY 2025

68
BURSARIES DISBURSED IN FY 2025

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YOUR CONTINUED DONATION IS THE FAILSAFE

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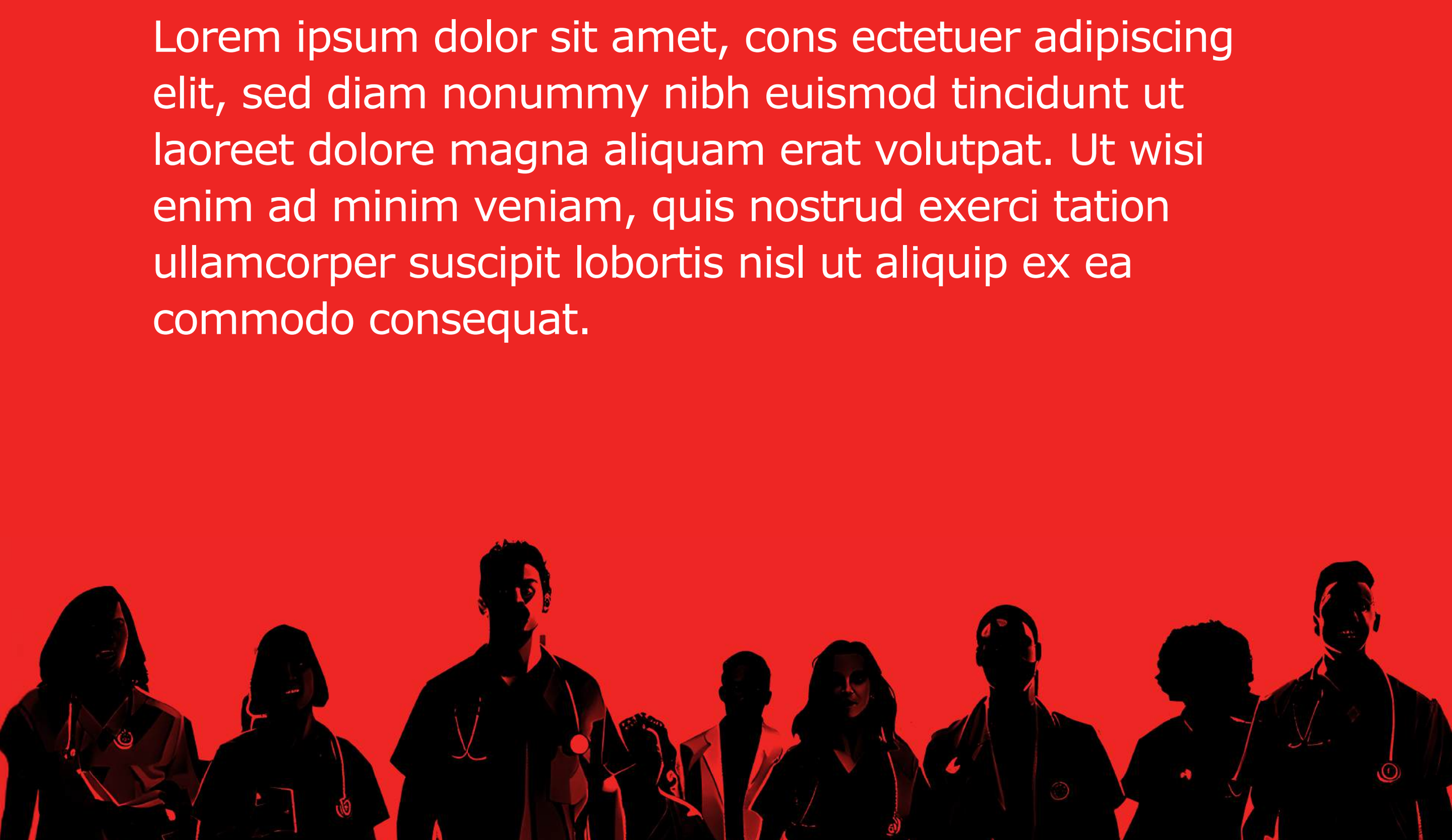

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TOTAL STATUTORY INCOME
$100,000

AMOUNT OF DONATION
$10,000

AMOUNT OF DEDUCTIBLE DONATIONS
$25,000 ($10,000 X 2.5)

ASSESSABLE INCOME FOR YA 2025
$75,000 ($100,000 - $25,000)

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Yong Loo Lin
School of Medicine

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