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Media Release

For immediate release

OVER A THOUSAND AT ASIA'S FIRST CONFERENCE ON INTEGRATED CARE

Latest strategies for long-term care to be discussed over two days

More than 1,000 delegates from across the healthcare industry are attending the Inaugural Asian Conference on Integrated Care, organised by the Agency for Integrated Care (AIC) in partnership with the National Healthcare Group (NHG). Themed ***Integrate Now, Create Health***, the Conference will discuss the latest trends and strategies on healthcare integration, leading care delivery practices and effective resource management to sustain healthcare reform in Asia.

On Singapore hosting Asia's first healthcare integration conference, Dr Jason Cheah, Chief Executive Officer of AIC and Chairperson of the Organising Committee said: "With longer population life spans and greater chronic disease burden, policy makers and healthcare providers across Asia now recognise that integration may be the only way forward. The Conference on Integrated Care aims to be the driver for strategic discussions on integration and a platform for knowledge sharing by global integration experts. Until today, these key and pressing areas in healthcare reform have yet to be discussed on this scale in Asia."

More than 40 healthcare experts, thought-leaders and practitioners from around the world will converge on this platform over the next two days. The Conference will comprise seven plenary sessions, three symposiums and 16 concurrent sessions featuring over 60 topics on integration and other hot-button issues surrounding it. These discussions will help answer pressing questions including:

- How do we care for patients with complex care needs?
- How do we measure successful integration?
- How much are we willing to pay for integration?
- How do we sustain quality care within our communities?

Distinguished global thought-leaders include Dr Dennis Kodner, Director and Professor of Medicine & Gerontology, New York Institute of Technology Centre for Gerontology & Geriatrics; Dr Jeffrey Greenwald, teaching hospitalist, Massachusetts General Hospital; Dr John Øvretveit, Director of Research, Professor of Health Care Innovation, Medical Management Centre, The Karolinska Institute; Dr Chad Boulton, Lipitz Professor of Health Policy and Management, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health; and Professor Bert Vrijhoef, Professor of Chronic Care, Scientific Centre for Care and Welfare (TRANZO), Tilburg University, Scientific Director, Department of Integrated Care, Maastricht University Medical Centre.

The Singapore Silver Pages, Asia's first online resource for patients and caregivers seeking comprehensive information to guide their long-term care needs, will also be launched at the Conference. For more information on the Singapore Silver Pages, please refer to the media release at Annex A.

On the urgency and importance of integration, Dr Dennis Kodner, Director and Professor of Medicine and Gerontology, New York Institute of Technology Centre for Gerontology & Geriatrics, said: "Integrated care is a global challenge. It is also a major driver of healthcare reform worldwide. The international focus on care integration reflects growing concern about how fragmented and disjointed healthcare policies, financing, providers and services adversely affect overall access, efficiency, quality and costs. Integrated care is designed to tie the various parts of the large and complex healthcare system into a neat package, thus enabling the delivery of high quality, cost-effective care. It is fitting that the Inaugural Asian Conference on Integrated Care is being held in Singapore, as Singapore is fast becoming one of the worldwide leaders in the integrated care movement."

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About the Agency for Integrated Care (AIC)

The Agency for Integrated Care (AIC) is set up by the Ministry of Health (MOH) *to oversee, coordinate and facilitate all efforts in care integration*. Our mission is to achieve best health outcomes for our patients by empowering clients and coordinating access to appropriate care, enable stakeholders to strengthen the primary and community care sectors, and enhancing collaboration to create a well-connected healthcare system. For more information, please visit www.aic.sg.