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Joint Media Release

For Immediate Release

First Singapore Programme for Integrated Care (SPICE) Introduced in the Western Region of Singapore

The Agency for Integrated Care (AIC), the National University Hospital (NUH) and the Sathya Sai Social Service (4S) have joined hands for the first time to bring the Singapore Programme for Integrated Care for the Elderly (SPICE) to the western region of Singapore. Frontier Healthcare, a private medical group is also supporting the programme.

2. SPICE at Tembusu Rehab and Day Care Centre was officially announced by Dr Amy Khor, Minister of State for Health today. The roll out of SPICE at Tembusu Rehab and Day Care Centre follows the success of a pilot programme at The Salvation Army's Bedok Multi-Service Centre in October last year. SPICE's expansion signifies a step closer to achieving the vision of a Regional Health System in the west of Singapore to support ageing in-place. The programme will receive a total funding of about \$3.05 million over the next three years.

3. Prof Yeoh Kian Hian, President of 4S said, "SPICE is a new community-based model for frail care. 4S is pleased to collaborate with NUH and AIC to provide SPICE as an alternative for frail elderly persons to age in-place so that they can continue to live with their loved ones in the community. Tembusu Rehab and Day Care Centre will

provide quality medical and nursing care and rehabilitation to the frail elderly in a safe, clean and caring environment, while their caregivers go about their daily work and social activities. Caregivers training and relevant support programmes will be progressively put in place to help caregivers alleviate caregiving stress. Social work service will be offered as a core service to assist family in managing their social and emotional difficulties.”

4. NUH will play a key role in identifying patients who are suitable for the SPICE programme. Elderly patients discharged from the hospital and who meet the criteria after an assessment will have the option to enrol in SPICE instead of staying in a nursing home.

5. Mr Joe Sim, Chief Executive Officer of NUH, said, “SPICE@Tembusu marks the first collaboration between NUH, AIC, 4S and Frontier Healthcare. It is one of our initiatives to bring about seamless care to our patients by partnering healthcare providers in the community to pioneer new care delivery models. NUH patients enrolled in the Programme are ensured continuum of care as they will have easy access to our specialists whenever they require acute medical care.”

6. Patients enrolled in SPICE at Tembusu Rehab and Day Care Centre will be cared for by a dedicated team of medical, nursing and allied health professionals, led by a case manager. In preparation for SPICE, the Centre has also undergone significant enhancements which include:

- a) Comprehensive nursing services including tube feeding, wound management and medication administration;
- b) Case managers to organise holistic plans that ensure appropriate care is extended to patient at home, including home modifications and home nursing;
- c) Facilities for extended care which include shower facilities and meals;
- d) Extended operating hours from 7am to 6.30pm on weekdays.

7. All these enhancements at the Centre provide SPICE patients with the medical care they need while enabling them to remain with their family and loved ones in the community.

8. On the SPICE collaboration, Dr Jason Cheah, Chief Executive Officer for AIC said, "This partnership with NUH, 4S and Frontier Healthcare to roll out SPICE in the western region of Singapore marks an important step. It brings together the expertise of VWOs, Restructured Hospitals and primary care providers to provide quality care to elderly patients in the community. We will continue to identify and facilitate even more such partnerships to help achieve the vision of a Regional Health System in other parts of Singapore to support ageing in-place and to ensure the best health outcomes for our patients."

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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 patients 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.

About the National University Hospital

The NUH is a tertiary specialist hospital and major referral centre for a wide range of medical, surgical and dental specialties including Cardiology, Gastroenterology and Hepatology, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Oncology, Ophthalmology, Paediatrics and Orthopaedic Surgery. A member of the National University Health System, it is the principal teaching hospital of the NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine (YLL SoM). With combined resources from the NUS YLL SoM and Faculty of Dentistry, the NUH is poised to meet the healthcare needs of patients, train future generations of doctors more effectively, and help develop solutions to our healthcare problems through research. In 2007, the NUH was chosen by the Ministry of Health to develop two new national centres, the National University Cancer Institute, Singapore (NCIS) and the National University Heart Centre, Singapore (NUHCS) to meet the growing needs for cardiac and cancer treatment. In 2004, the NUH became the first Singapore hospital to receive Joint Commission International (JCI) Accreditation, an international stamp for excellent clinical practices in patient care and safety. For more information, please visit www.nuh.com.sg

About Sathya Sai Social Service (4S)

4S is a secular, non-ethnic based voluntary welfare organisation established by a team of professionals who dedicated their time and effort to help the sick and the less fortunate in our society. 4S is registered with the Commissioner of Charities and Registrar of Societies and affiliated with the National Council of Social service. Adopting a service-user centred approach, 4S aims at providing holistic and quality service to all. It has 11 major programmes, namely 3 residential care facilities for destitute persons, 4 medical and rehab programmes and services, 3 eldercare programmes, and a volunteer management programme. For more information, please visit www.4s.org.sg.