

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As we embark upon our first month of 2021, we wish everyone a year of new opportunities, many successes and good health.

We look forward to sharing with you more exciting updates and events in the coming year.

1. INNOVATION AT A GLANCE

Congratulations to **Roceso Technologies** for securing the Enterprise Development Grant (EDG) funded by Enterprise Singapore, supported by CIH.

This month's featured innovation is EsoGLOVE, a soft robotic glove. Targeting rehabilitation centres, hospitals and nursing homes, the EsoGlove assists patients with hand impairments arising from neurological disorders such as stroke or injuries. Being comfortable, lightweight and user-friendly, EsoGLOVE helps patients relearn and recover hand motor functions via action observation therapy through a series of passive and active exercises.

Jane Wang, Co-founder and CEO of NUS spin-off company **Roceso Technologies**, aspires to bring independence and dignity back to the lives of people with neurological disorders and disabilities through their innovative soft robotic products.

We are proud to be supporting Roceso in its clinical trial and Health Technology Assessment (HTA) study.

To find out more about Roceso Technologies, visit www.roceso.com



2. CO-INNOVATION COMMUNITY UPDATE

This month, we welcomed Skinfinity into our helloCIH co-innovation community. They are the winning team of the NUS TechLaunch in 2020.

Skinfinity is a team of NUS Institute for Engineering Leadership Master and Ph.D engineering students who have strong passion in bringing new innovation to markets.



3. FEATURE NEWS OF THE MONTH

CIH is delighted to have contributed a part to Alexandra Hospital's initiative in introducing a new "game-changer" to anchor care in the home and community.

Thanks to Asia Resource Corporation Pte Ltd for their kind donation of Ohmni the Telepresence robot.

THE STRAITS TIMES

SINGAPORE

LOG IN SUBSCRIBE PDF

Robots visit homebound seniors, enabling tele-consultations with hospital staff

Mark Qiu Lin

PUBLISHED DEC 22, 2020, 2:30 PM SGT

SINGAPORE - Speaking to a hospital pharmacist on Tuesday (Dec 22), retired container driver Ow Soo Tian recited the five types of medicine he takes, when he takes them, and any side effects.

Such consultations, part of Alexandra Hospital's (AH) routine reviews with patients to help ensure that they know their medication, are usually done in person.

But this time, 71-year-old Mr Ow, who needs a walking stick to get around, spoke to pharmacist Joshua Low via teleconferencing from his home.

The virtual connection was made possible by the hospital's new robot Temi, saving him a trip to AH.

The hospital is trialling the use of smart robots like Temi to visit patients in Queenstown who are homebound, isolated, have multiple conditions, and have limited access to technology, such as Mr Ow.

For Mr Ow, who suffered a stroke and has been living in a rental flat in Mei Ling since his discharge from AH slightly less than a year ago, Temi will help him reduce the number of hospital trips.

Temi and its Ghim Moh counterpart, Ohmni, were sponsored by private and corporate donors. They are part of AH's trial that began on Tuesday (Dec 22).

Dr Jason Phua, chief executive of AH, said: "Right now, it's just not possible for healthcare workers to go to so many different homes. For healthcare workers to see all these patients, we would need the patients to come down to the hospital. But why have them make the inconvenient trip?"

The robots would be "a game-changer" if the scheme could be scaled properly, making house visits more efficient, he added.

AH said that the robots could be used for consultations such as in pharmacy and nutrition, which need not be done in person.

Temi is equipped with a computer screen and camera, and is connected to the Internet via a Wi-Fi dongle brought by human volunteers who accompany it on house visits.

It can also play recorded videos such as physiotherapy exercises customised for every patient, AH said.

Currently, Temi is based in the newly opened Geriatric Services Hub (GSH) at Lions Befrienders Mei Ling Senior Activity Centre, which provides medical services to seniors in the neighbourhood who are above 65, have no regular doctor, and are prone to falling.

Dr Phua said: "We hope to have prompt identification of frail elderly in the community, offer timely education and treatment, and make geriatric service accessible and affordable to Queenstown residents, as well as reduce emergency department visits."

In the future, the robots would be deployed by GSH as well as other AH departments.

Temi is also able to interact with patients, responding to user commands such as playing songs. AH hopes this will interest the seniors and raise their spirits.

The robot played a Christmas song to an amused Mr Ow, who declared it "quite fun".



Alexandra Hospital
23 December 2020 at 18:55



Have you heard of robotic cats used in seniors' care in Japan? Here in Singapore and at AH, we have introduced a "game-changer" to anchor care in the home and community. Meet #Temi, an interactive robot who follows homebound seniors and zooms the care team in for #telehealth, and displays customised education videos tailored to the senior's holistic care plan at the touch of a widget. Paired up with our #AlexAdvocates volunteering in the community, these robots are being trialled to see if we can change the way we care for our patients. Thanks to Nera Telecommunications Limited and Asia Resource Corporation Pte Ltd (through Centre for Innovation in Healthcare - CIH) for their kind donation of these robots, Temi and #Ohmni.

In conjunction with the third instalment of "AH Care Day – Alex goes to Mei Ling," a new Geriatric Services Hub was also declared open by Mr Eric Chua, MP for Queenstown (Tanjong Pagar GRC). Thanks to our strong community partner, Lions Befrienders for supporting AH's initiative. For information on referrals, email: AH_GSH@nuhs.edu.sg or call 1800-CALL GSH (1800 225 5474).

Exciting times ahead! 🎉

#AlexandraHospital #HealthcareRedesigned #HelpEngageAssistLives #GeriatricServicesHub

4. UPCOMING EVENT SPOTLIGHT – KANAGAWA SINGAPORE MISSION 2021

Don't miss out on next month's webinar -The Kanagawa Singapore Mission Webinar 2021, co-organized by the Kanagawa Prefectural Government and CIH. The online event is scheduled for February 23, 2021 from 13:45 – 15:15 SGT.

Join us for a session with the Kanagawa delegation to learn about the latest innovation from Japan.

We invite you to register  for free passes here: [Link](#)

KANAGAWA SINGAPORE MISSION WEBINAR 2021



**Tue, 23 Feb 2021
13:45 – 15:15 SGT**

Join us for a session with the Kanagawa delegation to learn about the latest innovations from Japan



Ajinomoto



PST



CYBERDYNE



FUJIFILM
Value from Innovation



Ubie



SHIONOGI INC.



Leave a Nest



atDose
The progress for next generation



Metabolo Genomics



NUHS
National University Health System

Centre for Innovation in Healthcare

Organised by
Kanagawa Prefectural Government

5. PARTNER COMMUNITY- 2021 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

These are the events in 2021 CIH has curated together with our partners. We encourage you to share these informational events with your friends.

Click on individual link for more details

FEB	23 Feb: Kanagawa Singapore Mission Webinar 2021
MAR	1 – 2 Mar: [SG Biodesign] Business Implementation for MedTech: Project to Market Overview
	15 – 18 Mar: [IPI] AUTM Annual Meeting 2021, Largest Gathering of Academic Tech Transfer Pros

Calendars are collated to be best of our knowledge. Events and dates may be subject to changes by the event organizers.

For further information on any of the topics covered or if you have any comments, please feel free to contact me or any of my team members.

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