

# Inter-disciplinary and Multi-sectoral Collaborations for Impactful Population Health and Societal Outcomes

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**NMRC Awards Ceremony and Research Symposium 2023**  
**27 April 2023**



**PATIENTS. AT THE HEART OF ALL WE DO.®**



Singapore General Hospital



Changi General Hospital



Sengkang General Hospital



KK Women's and Children's Hospital



National Cancer Centre Singapore



National Dental Centre Singapore



National Heart Centre Singapore



National Neuroscience Institute



Singapore National Eye Centre



SingHealth Community Hospitals



Polyclinics SingHealth

# Presentation outline

01

**Opportunities and Challenges in  
Population Health**

02

**SingHealth Centre for Population  
Health Research and Implementation**

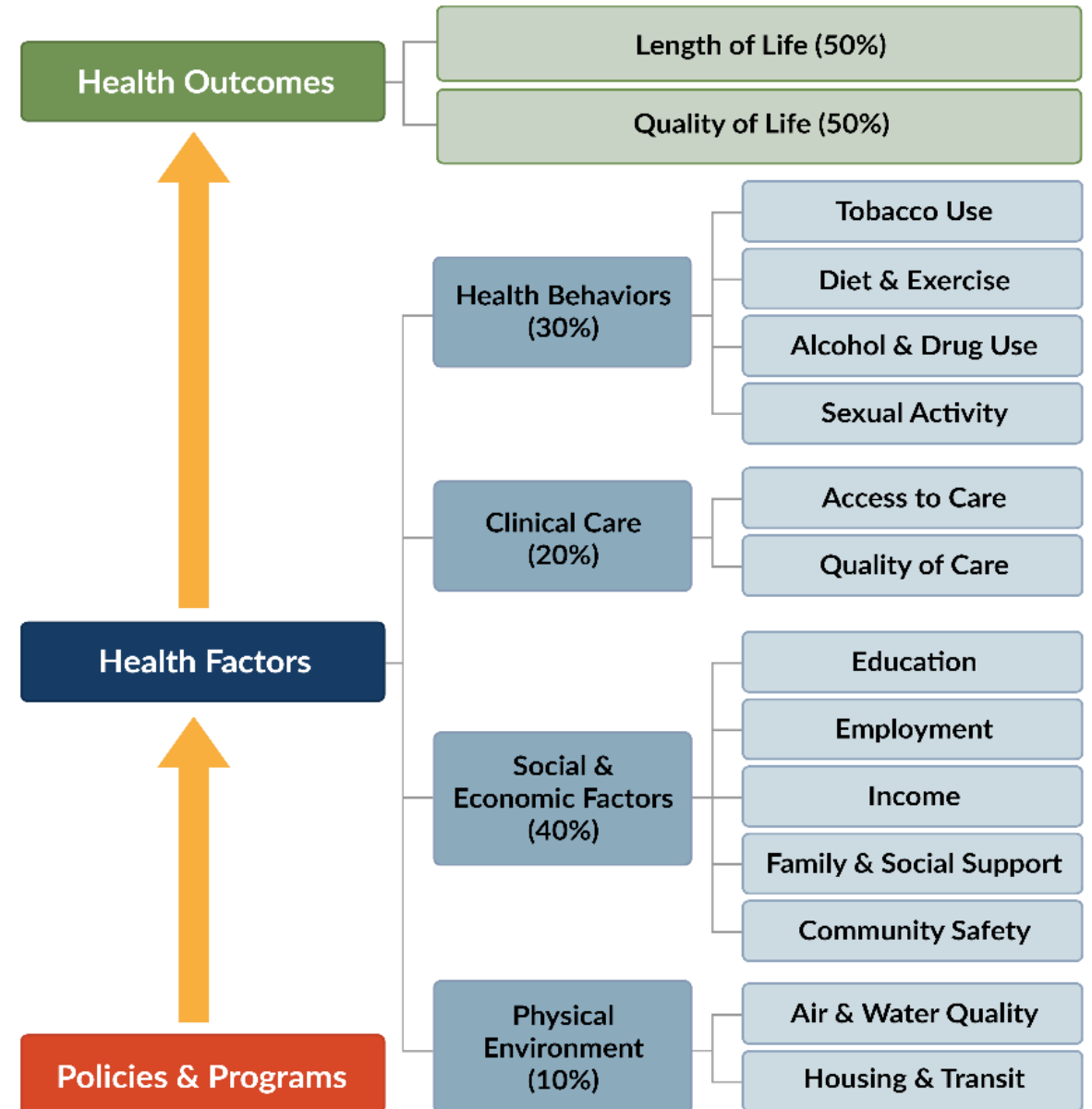
03

**Inter-disciplinary and Multi-sectoral  
Collaborative Teaming for Greater  
Impact**

# Population Health Definitions

"The health outcomes of a group of individuals, including the distribution of such outcomes within the group and the policies and interventions that link outcomes and patterns of health determinants."

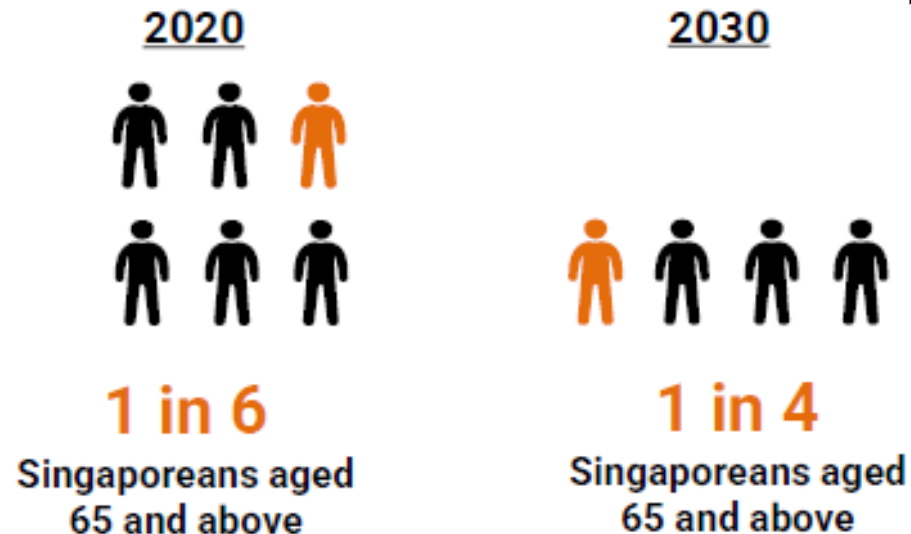
*David Kindig & Greg Stoddart*



County Health Rankings model © 2014 UWPHI

# Challenges and Opportunities with an Ageing Population

1 in 4 Singaporeans  $\geq 65$  y.o. in 2030, from around 1 in 6 in 2020



We will have over **900,000 seniors.**

Source: Ministerial Committee on Ageing "I Feel Young SG" website

## Resident old age support ratio falling

### DECLINING OLD-AGE SUPPORT RATIO



Source: Department of Statistics, Singapore

## Household size is also shrinking, making care more dependent on fewer people



Source: MSF study on Families and Households in Singapore, 2010-2020

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# SingHealth Centre for Population Health Research and Implementation (CPHRI)

*Nexus for Population Health Research & Implementation in SingHealth and Nationally*

*Accelerate translation of research findings to care delivery*

## SingHealth Population Health Academic Advisory Panel

To provide independent advice and guidance for the development, implementation and evaluation of population health research and initiatives in SingHealth

### CHAIRPERSON

Prof Lee Chien Earn

DGCEO (RHS), SingHealth

### MEMBERS

*Renowned local and international members from diverse backgrounds*



## CPHRI's wide range of collaborators



# PULSES II Centre Grant

(Awarded \$14M from Apr 2022 to Mar 2026)

Achieving Total Wellbeing for All, through Targeting Wider Determinants of Health

5 strategic themes focusing on important **population segments across life stages**  
with the aim to advance **human health and potential** in the population, measured by **Quintuple Aim**

Address gaps in preventive health and early interventions for mothers, children and adolescents

Theme 1 <sup>EXPANDED</sup>

**MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH**  
+  
**VULNERABLE ADOLESCENTS**

Address gaps in the prevention and management among patients with diabetes and hypertension

Theme 2 <sup>EXPANDED</sup>

**HYPERTENSION**  
+  
**DIABETES**

Address wider determinants of health and strengthen caregiving ecosystem for patients with complex needs

Theme 3

**COMPLEX NEEDS**

Address the large pre-frail segment through tracking intrinsic capacity and moving upstream for frailty prevention

Theme 4

**PRE-FRAILTY & FRAILTY**

Act as a Nexus for ageing research in the community

Theme 5 <sup>NEW</sup>

**AGEING IN THE COMMUNITY**

Implementation Science & Evaluation

Data & Financial Analytics

Population Segmentation

Person-Centred Technology

Research Panel & Survey Capabilities

Expanded group of partners

**Healthcare:** SGH, SKH, CGH, SHP, SCH, KKH, NDCS, NHCS, NNI, IMH | **Research and IHLs:** Duke-NUS, Duke Durham, NUS, SUTD, SUSS, SIT, GERI

**Government:** MOHT AIC, URA, MSF, HPB | **Industry and community partners**

# Overview of CPHRI's Signature Research Programmes

EMPOWER	EASE*	SCREENii	Project Pensieve	INFINITY-ICOPE+	Build & Care
<p><b>Lead PI:</b> <b>A/Prof Low Lian Leng</b> (SGH, OCH)</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> MOH National Innovation Challenge (NIC) Grant, AI.SG Grand Challenge Stage 2, NMRC HCSA (<u>\$4.765M</u>)</p> <p><b>Key Outcome(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Build on AI engine to deliver <b>personalized nudges</b> and <b>gamification</b></li> <li><b>Sustainable &amp; cost-effective behavioural change</b> in chronic disease patients</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conduct of various RCTs and Commercialisation with private insurer and healthcare</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lead PI:</b> <b>A/Prof Ng Yee Sien</b> (SKH, SGH)</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> URA Cities of Tomorrow R&amp;D Programme (<u>\$2.43M</u>)</p> <p><b>Key Outcome(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine impact of <b>Environment, Health and Social factors</b> on Life Spaces in the <b>Community-Dwelling Elderly</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Policy Impact:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Policies &amp; urban recommendations that are senior-friendly</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lead PI:</b> <b>Dr Pua Yong Hao</b> (SGH)</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> National Health Innovation Centre and National Medical Research Council Transition Award (<u>\$0.25M</u>)</p> <p><b>Key Outcome(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and validate an <b>automated tool</b> to enable <b>feasible and accurate pre-frailty screening</b> in the community</li> </ul> <p><b>Status:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PoC completed. Ongoing prototype refinement and Commercialisation</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lead PI:</b> <b>Dr Liew Tau Ming</b> (SGH)</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> National AI Office (Prime Minister Office) (<u>\$1.826M</u>)</p> <p><b>Key Outcome(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop an <b>AI-enabled digital tool</b> for <b>early detection of dementia</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Policy Impact:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transform community screening to be done by lay personnel</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lead PI:</b> <b>A/Prof Laura Tay</b> (SKH)</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> MOH NIC Grant Call on Frailty (<u>\$3.17M</u>)</p> <p><b>Key Outcome(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To maintain <b>functional independence</b> in older adults, represented by life-space mobility reflecting their community participation</li> <li>To <b>implement INFINITY-ICOPE with high fidelity, penetration and sustainability</b> within the community</li> </ul>	<p><b>Lead PI:</b> <b>A/Prof Low Lian Leng</b> (SGH, OCH)</p> <p><b>Requesting</b> NMRC PHRG Funding with support from MND</p> <p><b>Key Outcome(s):</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To <b>intervene in environmental &amp; social determinants</b> to support healthy ageing and assisted living</li> </ul> <p><b>Policy Impact:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understand the trajectory of ageing and health</li> <li>guide policy on HDB built architecture and quantity</li> </ul>

Please refer to annex (slides 22-26) for more details

\*EASE: The Elderly Life Activity-Space Project

\*INFINITY-ICOPE - Optimising INtrinsic Capacity for Functional INdependence and to Impede FrailTY in Older Adults: Adaptation of the WHO-ICOPE for Healthy Ageing in Singapore

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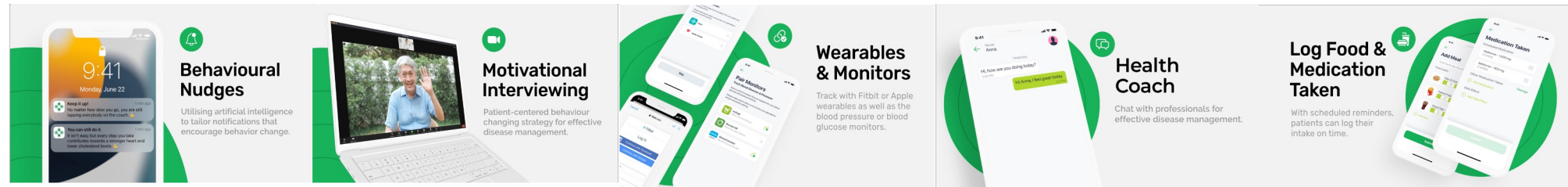
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# EMPOWER

**Lead PI: A/Prof Low Lian Leng**

Funding: MOH National Innovation Challenge Grant, AI.SG Grand Challenge Stage 2, NMRC HCSA



- Build on AI engine to deliver **personalized nudges** and **gamification**
- Sustainable & cost-effective behavioural change in chronic disease patients
- Current status: successfully completed trials among 1000 DM patients

## Key Plans in the next 3 Years

- Complete trial among patients with Diabetes, Hypertension and Hyperlipidemia (**Jarvis-EMPOWER**)
- Text effectiveness of App-based and Health Coach delivered Motivational Interviewing (**EMPOWER – PLUS**)
- Seek **commercialisation** opportunities:
  - Private healthcare and insurer are interested in commercialising AI modules and algorithms
- **Scaling up** through **HealthBuddy**

In collaboration with:





# EMPOWER



- App development
- AI & Machine learning for nudges
- Predictive modelling



**74.7%**

in predicting if a user will reach  
4,000 steps for a given day

Median accuracy: 77.9%



**86.8%**

in predicting if a user will enter  
an activity log for a given day

Median accuracy: 96.7%



**83.5%**

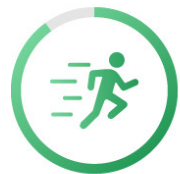
in predicting if a user will reach  
150 mins of MVPA for 2 consecutive weeks

Median accuracy: 86.7%

## Tapping on Complementary Strengths



- Expertise in qualitative research,  
implementation science



**89.9%**

in predicting if a user will enter  
an activity log for 3 consecutive days

Median accuracy: 100%



**85%**

in predicting if a user will reach  
30 mins of MVPA for a given day

Median accuracy: 92.9%



- Expertise in Behavioural science
- Expertise in motivational interviewing

The ANN model is **accurate** in predicting users' behaviors and can deliver **personalized nudges**.

# The Elderly Life Activity-Space Project (EASE)

The Environmental, Health and Social Factors Determining Seniors' Life Spaces in the Community

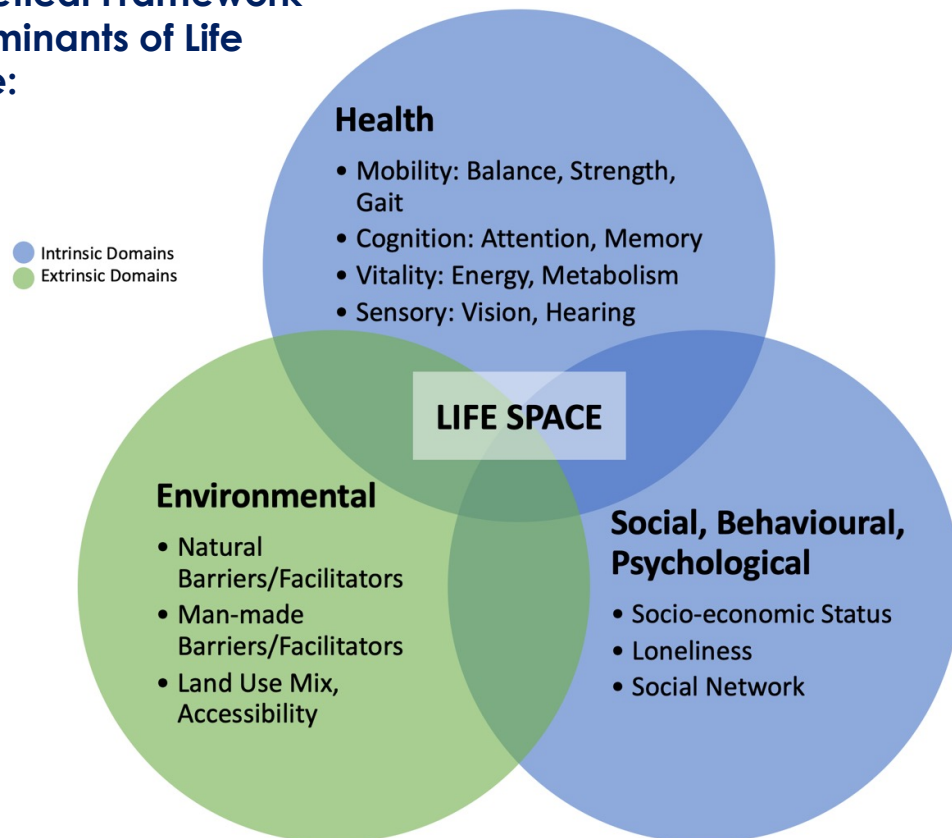
**Lead PI: A/Prof Ng Yee Sien**

Funding: URA Cities of Tomorrow Grant

**Life Space:** The area through which a person moves, over a specified time period, through his community and its environment, to achieve life-goals of self-care, employment, social and recreational needs

- Has significant **health consequences** if not maintained
  - Limited research conducted in Asia

## Theoretical Framework Determinants of Life Space:



## Robust Empirical Research Approach:



### Objective measures:

- Geospatial data tracked by app
- Physical performance tests

Data on  
**Life Space &  
Determinants**

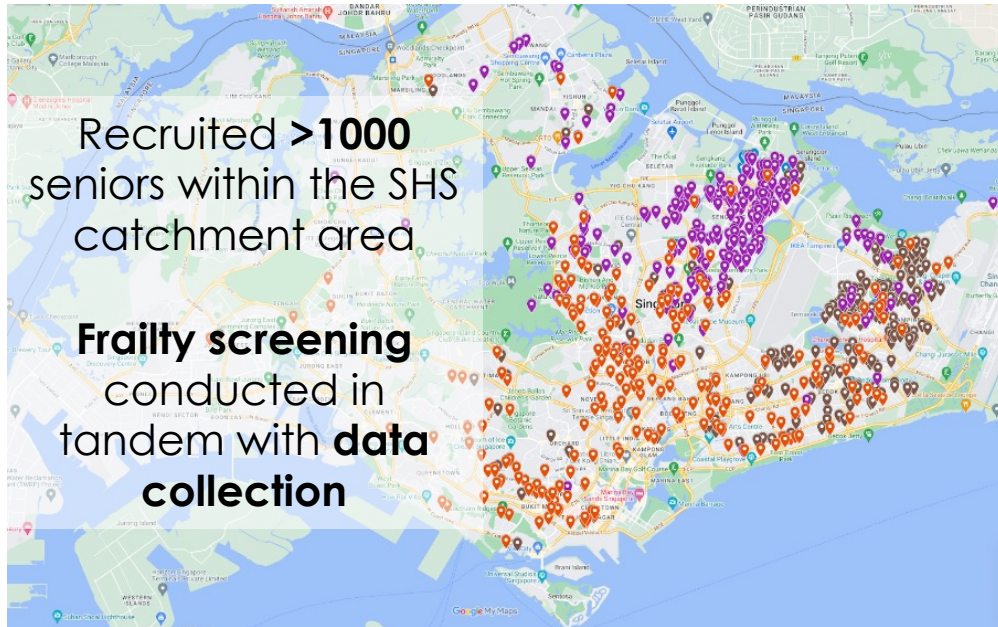
### Self-Report measures:

- Comprehensive questionnaire

### Interviews:

- Semi-structured
- Go-along

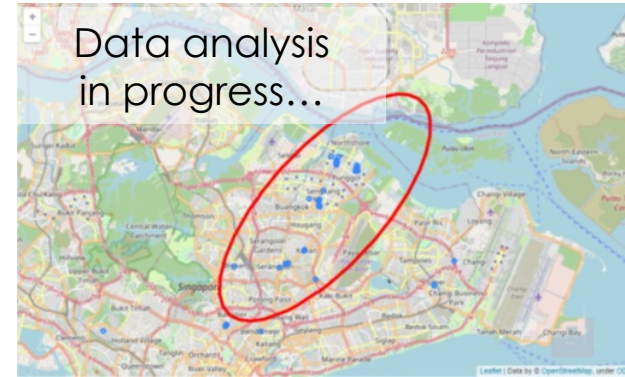
# Progress and Plans



1

Data collection will continue for more robust data → recruitment target upped from 900 to **1300**

2



**Triangulation of data** → Holistic knowledge of local seniors' life spaces & their determinants

3

Data-driven **policy proposals** & **urban recommendations** that are senior-friendly



Participant filling out the study questionnaire










Measuring muscle mass with a bioelectrical impedance analyzer



Measuring blood pressure

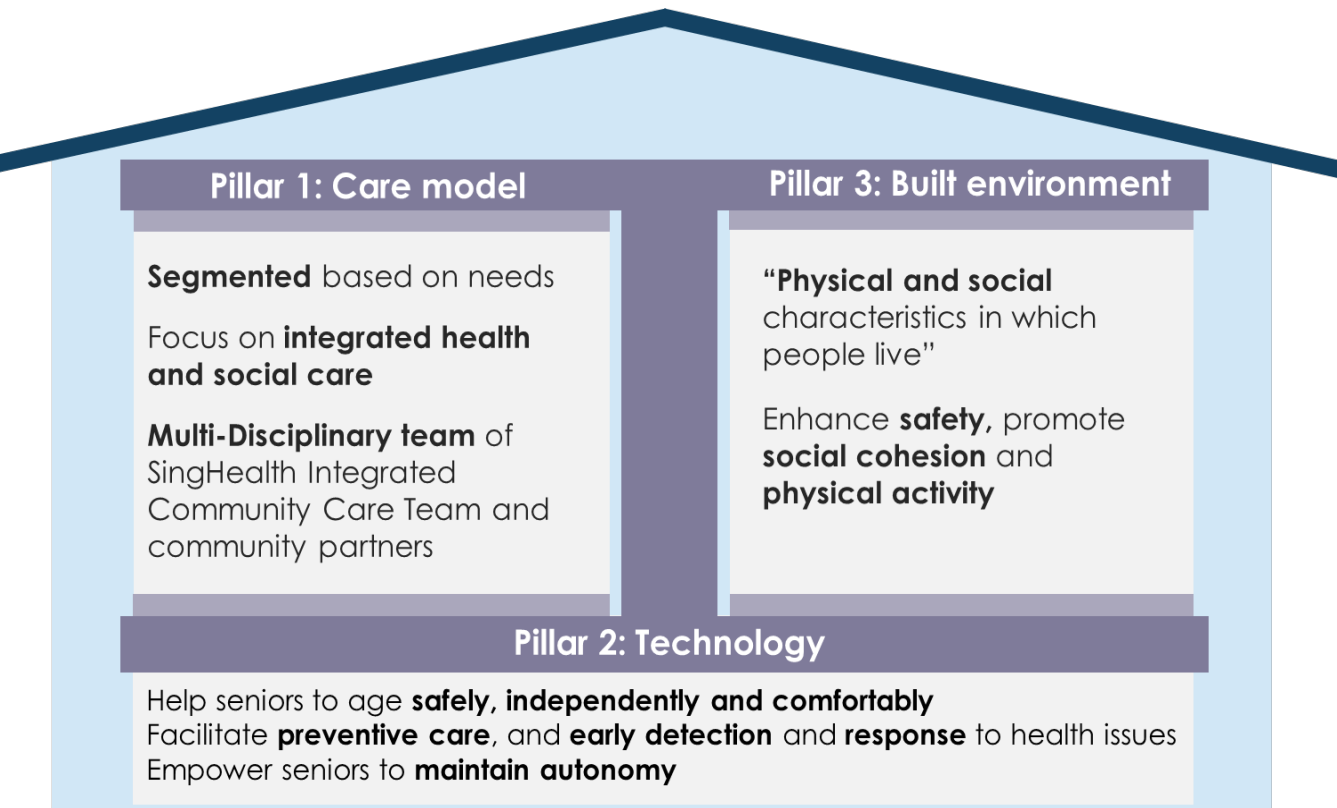
# Multi-disciplinary and Multi-sectorial Collaboration

Government/Advisory Partners	Academic/Industry Partners	Community Partners
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Provide <b>advice on research questions which addresses unmet needs and issues</b> that matter</li> </ul> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Qualitative</b> expertise </li> <li>- <b>Geriatric</b> expertise </li> <li>- <b>Urban design</b> expertise </li> <li>- <b>Geospatial analysis</b> expertise </li> <li>- <b>Data collection app</b> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assist with <b>outreach, publicity &amp; recruitment</b></li> <li>- Share <b>accessible community spaces for data collection</b></li> </ul> 

# Innovate & Co-create a Community Ageing-in-Place Ecosystem

@ Marine Parade & Bedok Brownfield sites

intervene in environmental & social determinants to support healthy ageing and assisted living



## Hypothesis:

**Built environment interventions and technology will enhance the integrated health and social care programs' capabilities to support healthy ageing and assisted living**

## What we will study

### **Hybrid implementation - effectiveness**

Guide the deliberate implementation strategies of "common elements" by anticipating/ addressing barriers and facilitating adoption

### **Built Environment health/well-being framework**

Study the causation between built environment and health at the neighbourhood/ precinct level

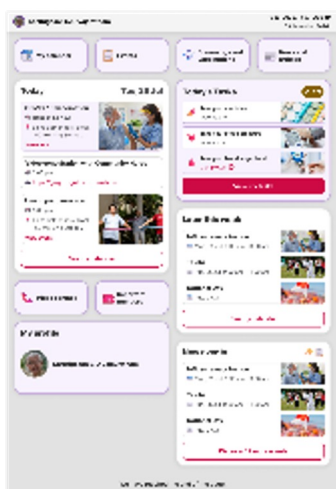
Understand the **trajectory of ageing and health** → **guide policy on HDB built architecture and quantity**

Requesting NMRC PHRG funding from MOH. Supported by MND

# Multi-level Interventions to Address Environmental and Social Determinants

## Residential Level Interventions

**Technology projects/systems** to allow convenient access to readily available help, self-monitoring of health and conditions, improve safety and reduce caregiving burden



Personal Assisted Living Solutions Senior Concierge



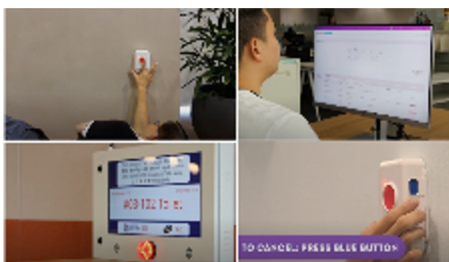
Sensei (Docking Station with Blood Pressure Machine)



Non-Invasive Radar Monitoring System



PwDementia Location Tracker



## Repurposing Level Interventions

**Adaptive use of HDB units** to facilitate easy-to-access care, social interaction, physical and cognitive activities



Community Kitchen unit



Day Care Centre unit



Rehabilitation Services unit



Interactive IT unit

## Neighbourhood Level interventions



Wayfinding cues & graphic signs



Aesthetic sound



Community gardens



Inclusive social spaces



Memory building features



Active Health Fitness Trail



Agility paths



Attractive staircase design

# Collaborative Partnerships Across Sectors

## Built Environment

- Provide recommendations to align with **national needs and interest**
- **Expertise in urban design**
- Retrofitting, built environment modifications



## Technology

- Provide and co-test **senior-friendly technological products & systems**



## Care Models

- Offer **health & social services & programmes** in the community
- Facilitate **trials and recruitment** of participants
- **Care needs analysis**



太和观 THK



MontfortCare

# Collaboration with Institutes of Higher Learning

## - Tapping on Complementary Strengths



### STRENGTHS

Digital & Sensor Technology

Translational Innovations & Technology Adoption

Industry Network & Partnership

Food Science & Technology

Built Environment & Design

Geospatial Analysis

### AREAS OF COLLABORATION

- ❖ Light weight and breathable **wearables** for seniors
- ❖ **Solutioning for implementation challenges** e.g. using thermal cameras to monitor movements of patients
- ❖ Protein-enriched **food for seniors**
- ❖ **Gamification** for heathy food options and healthy eating



Joyful Village Project @ Jalan Pelatok Park (collaboration with SUTD)

- ❖ **Evaluation** of Built Environment with health
- ❖ Environmental-evolutionary psychological ideas for designing the living environment to make it more **psychologically-conductive for elderly**
- ❖ Addressing **environmental, health and social determinants to improve seniors' Life Spaces** in the community
- ❖ SingHealth-SUTD **Population Health Innovation Fund Joint Grants**

# Collaborations with Institutes of Higher Learning

## - Tapping on Complementary Strengths



### STRENGTHS

Mixed-method Research

Implementation Science & Evaluation

Behavioural & Social Sciences

Health Economics & Impact Analysis

Ageing Research

### AREAS OF COLLABORATION





- ❖ **Capability building and bridge the Knowledge-Do gaps**
- ❖ **Community of Practice** of Implementation Science
- ❖ **Community engagement & qualitative research**
- ❖ Validation and application of **social profiling** tools among seniors
- ❖ Co-design **nudge mechanism** for behavioural interventions
- ❖ **Evaluation of Primary Care Enrolment**
- ❖ Co-validation of **evaluation toolkit**
- ❖ **Caregiving** needs assessment and interventions
- ❖ **Social Prescribing** research and capability building in the community

# Growing Impact of Population Health Research

## Harmonized Population Segmentation Framework with NUHS & HPB

Healthy and Non-Healthcare Utilisers	Healthy with Outpatient Utilization	Healthy with Inpatient Admission	Low Complex Chronic Conditions	Medium Complex Chronic Conditions	Frail in the Community	Mental Health Condition	High Complex Chronic Conditions	Frail in Community with High Complex	Cancer	Frail in Care (Residential Care)	End of Life
<b>Healthy Non-User</b> - With no known condition and neither clinical nor social risk factors* At Risk Children & Adults with no known condition [0 -64 years] [65 years & above]	With one or more clinical and/or social risk factors* With non-chronic conditions, but with >1 polyclinic or SOC visits and no inpatient admissions Child & Youth [18 years and below] Adults [19 - 64 years] Seniors [65 years and above]	With non-chronic conditions, but with >1 inpatient admissions Child & Youth [18 years and below] Adults [19 - 64 years] Seniors [65 years and above]	Diabetes; Hypertension; Osteoporosis; Osteoarthritis; Asthma; Epilepsy; Hyperthyroidism; Hypothyroidism; BPH; Lipid disorder; Episodic Depression	Angina; COPD; Pre dialysis CKD; CHD; Rheumatoid Arthritis; Parkinsons; Moderate Liver Disease; PVD	Require home and community center services (except for palliative home services)	With mental health condition(s)	Dementia; Heart Failure; Kidney Transplant; Severe Liver Disease;	In both Frail in Community and High Complex Chronic Conditions groups	Cancer; Metastatic Cancer	Utilise services in nursing homes and chronic sick hospitals	Utilise home palliative or inpatient hospice services
In Registry for this Combination											
			Osteoporosis & Spine Fracture; Osteoporosis & Hip Fracture; Diabetes & Depression; Hypertension & Osteoarthritis; Hypertension & Osteoporosis; Osteoarthritis & Osteoporosis; Rheumatoid Arthritis & Osteoporosis				Angina & COPD; AMI & Pre-dialysis CKD; Diabetes; Hypertension & Osteoarthritis;				
Had this Event or Intervention											
			Coronary Artery Bypass Graft (CABG); AMI (Heart Attack); PCI; LEA				Stroke; CKD on Dialysis				

## Joint Resident Profiling & Segmentation with HPB and NUHS

-  Sociodemographic
-  EISS screening data
-  RHS clinical data
-  National Step Challenge

Overall, 12k improved their diabetes management under NSC

## AI4HealthyCities Singapore: Harnessing the Power of Data to Improve Cardiovascular Health Outcomes and Equity

Multi-agency and cross-cluster effort, in collaboration with Novartis Foundation (AI for Health Cities)

Building on **national and cluster databases:**

- National Diabetes Database
- SingCLOUD
- MOH Omnibus
- HPB National Step Challenge
- MOH TRUST Platform



# Summary

- **Inter-disciplinary, multi-sectoral** and **whole of system** approach for population health research is key to achieve greater societal impact
- Leverage **complimentary strengths** to build population health research capabilities
- Further strengthen **‘public-private’ partnerships** for innovative solutions to improve population health outcomes

***Thank You & Acknowledgements  
to all our  
CPHRI team and partners***

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