



Speech by Dr William Chong, CEO Pacific Healthcare Holdings Ltd, at the Opening of Pacific Healthcare Nursing Home II on 21 January, 2009 at 11.05am

Mr Lim Boon Heng, Minister Prime Minister's Office,
Honoured Guests,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

History and Development

Thank you for taking the time to attend the official opening of Pacific Healthcare's Second Nursing Home. Eight years ago, my colleagues and I got together with the vision of building a Healthcare Institution of Excellence in the private sector. Today, Pacific Healthcare is one of the region's leading providers of Specialist Healthcare and Dentistry.

A lesser known side of our Group however is our involvement in the field of Eldercare, which we view as an important part of our Social Responsibility.

Life Extension through Modern Medicine

One of the marvels of modern medicine is the increase of life expectancy. In the year 1900 it was 47 years. Today we have added 30 or more years to this number and life expectancy in developed countries is now close to 80. However, statistics show that the number of disease free years is only 48, and that many people spend the last decade of life with some form of physical limitation. So while preventive healthcare programmes are crucial, the stark reality remains that we need a system of care for our Elderly. This need becomes even more critical in countries like Singapore, with an aging population.

Eldercare, a Duty and Responsibility

Singapore as a Nation is where we are today because of the hard work and toil of the generations before. It is therefore our duty and responsibility to provide the best possible care for our elderly. While all of us wish to take care of our loved ones at home, the reality is that this may not always be possible. Family units are smaller and many households are dual-income. It is thus logistically as well as medically challenging to provide the care when disability strikes our parents and loved ones.

Pacific Healthcare Nursing Home

Pacific Healthcare Nursing Home is custom built to provide optimal professional care, in an environment designed to simulate your own home.

When we were drawing out the original specifications, we asked the architects to create a tranquil environment where our residents can relax and recuperate. Hence, the open atrium and skylight, as well as the lush tropical garden; in short – a home away from home. In addition, our team of well-qualified and dedicated nursing staff can attend to the needs of residents around-the-clock.

Our normal day is packed with work and other obligations such that life often passes us by. But our time on earth is finite – so let us all make the best use of it and also strive to make a difference to the lives of others. Pacific Healthcare Nursing Home will continue to provide a high level of eldercare at affordable prices as part of our commitment to serving the community at large.

Thank you once again for sharing this moment with us.