

EVERY  
PERSON  
MATTERS  
LEND A  
HELPING  
HAND



THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
CANCER INSTITUTE,  
SINGAPORE (NCIS) CANCER  
FUND, A SUB-FUND UNDER  
NUHS FUND, PROVIDES FUNDS  
IN THREE AREAS – FINANCIAL  
ASSISTANCE FOR FINANCIALLY  
DISADVANTAGED CANCER  
PATIENTS, CANCER RESEARCH,  
AND THE EDUCATION AND  
TRAINING OF HEALTHCARE  
PROFESSIONALS.

NUHS Fund Limited is a Company Limited by Guarantee (CLG) and a registered charity with IPC status. The charity was set up to promote medical research and development as well as provide health related services for the benefit of the Singapore Community. Your compassion to support patients, especially those assessed to be in financial need, will make a difference in their journey back to better health.

© This report is intended for donors. Please contact the National University Cancer Institute, Singapore at +65 6772 7884 or email [ncis@nuhs.edu.sg](mailto:ncis@nuhs.edu.sg) should you wish to share this report with others.

## DIRECTOR' S FOREWORD



2023 marks a monumental milestone for the National University Cancer Institute, Singapore (NCIS), as we celebrate our 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We are where we are today because of the continuous support from our donors and partners like yourself.

NCIS has grown so much, from the humble beginnings of a single outpatient clinic in the National University Hospital (NUH) some 30 years ago, to offering a comprehensive range of cancer care services across several healthcare institutions in Singapore. NCIS's flagship outpatient centre at the NUH Medical Centre spans three floors and offers one-stop holistic and comprehensive care, management and treatment for adult and paediatric oncology and haematology patients.

For close to three years, the pandemic has negatively impacted our lives, including our fundraising efforts, and the effects have had substantial repercussions on our financially-disadvantaged patients. Despite the restrictions and reduced social activities, NCIS has raised slightly over a million dollars in 2019 and 2020 combined, close to three-quarters of a million in 2021 and more than half a million in 2022.

I wish to express my heartfelt thanks to all our donors for donating to the NCIS Cancer Fund. Your generous and unwavering contributions have helped our patients receive necessary cancer care, from embarking on their treatment to ensuring continuity in their medical followups, without which their lives may be severely shortened.

Please help us spread the word and encourage your family and friends to donate generously so that our patients have one less worry in their fight against cancer. No amount is too small. No effort is too insignificant. Together, our collective efforts can make a big difference.

Do stay in touch with us through NCIS's social media channels and be updated on our upcoming activities, fundraising campaigns and NCIS15 celebrations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chng Wee Joo'.

Prof Chng Wee Joo  
Director,  
National University Cancer Institute, Singapore



## HELPING CANCER PATIENTS

Every year, about 60 applications are provided with financial assistance by the **NCIS Cancer Fund**.

This fund makes it possible for NCIS to assist less fortunate cancer patients with critical cancer treatments. This support can vary from initiation of treatment to ensuring continuity in their treatment and medical follow-ups.

Many NCIS patients expressed their gratitude for having benefitted directly from the fund.

"I am grateful to the NCIS Cancer Fund for supporting my treatment at NUH. As a PR with two young school-going children, I faced difficulties in coping with the medical expenses. With the assistance, I was able to complete my cancer treatment without having to worry about my medical bills. Every donation counts, and it will help many family members along the way."

Ms Kiki M, age 40, diagnosed with sigmoid cancer

"Without the financial help from the NCIS Cancer Fund, my dad might not have been able to live on with us till March 2023. The funding has greatly reduced the financial stress on our family, allowing us to provide emotional and practical support for my dad during his cancer treatment. Thank you".

Mr Ng WS, age 21, son of the late Mr Ng KC, diagnosed with nasopharyngeal cancer

"I would like to express my gratitude to all the donors for their generosity which has allowed me to focus on my cancer treatment and recovery."

Mr Lim KP, age 68, diagnosed with prostate cancer

**Join us in the fight against cancer and provide for those less fortunate.**

To find out more about the NCIS Cancer Fund, please visit:  
<https://www.ncis.com.sg/Give-a-Gift/Pages/NCIS-Cancer-Fund.aspx>



## NCIS DREAM MAKERS

The NCIS Dream Makers Fund, a sub fund under NUHS Fund, helps patients with advanced cancers fulfil their dreams, give them hope and encouragement towards their cancer journey, as well as help improve their quality of lives beyond just clinical care.

Since its launch in 2018, we have fulfilled the dream of 12 patients, with four dreams completed in the past year. Each patient's dream is unique and has a special meaning to the individual. Some of them include a family staycation with a photoshoot and a close-knit gathering at home with a specially curated menu.

One recent dream we helped fulfill was Mr Haris'. Diagnosed with stage 4 bladder cancer, he expressed his wish to go seaside glamping with his loved ones. NCIS Dream Makers sprang into action - detailed arrangements were made for his family of 25 to have seaside glamping gathering at Pasir Ris Park. With Mr Haris' agreement, this was reported by the local media including The Straits Times and BERITA MediaCorp.

We strive to do our best to realise the last wishes of our patients and hope that in doing so, they can have contentment and peace, whatever the outcome of their cancer journey.

1	3
2	4

1. Mr Haris and his family enjoyed seaside glamping at Pasir Ris Park
2. Mdm Tan and her extended family members had a chalet stay at CSC Loyang
3. Mr Cheong and his wife had a staycation at Mandarin Oriental Hotel
4. Mr Jabrullah had a gathering at home with family and friends

## FUNDING AT A GLANCE

# 53

Patients assisted by the NCIS Cancer Fund in the past year

# 63

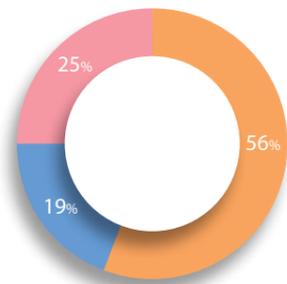
Applications approved over the past 12 months

# 8

Patients had more than one application approved

### CITIZENSHIP

(by application data)

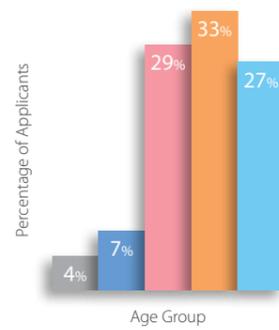


- Singapore Citizens
- Permanent Residents
- Resident Foreigners

• Support is given to Singaporeans and Permanent Residents for costs not supported by other assistance schemes. The fund also supports Resident Foreigners who have spent a "reasonable" time in Singapore and are part of our Singapore community.

### AGE GROUP

(by dollar amount supported)

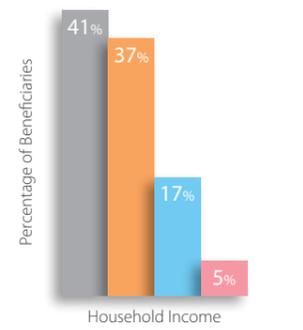


- 29 and below
- 30 - 44
- 45 - 54
- 55 - 64
- > 65

• The largest segment (aged 65 and above) reflects the prevalence of chronic diseases in an ageing population.

### PER CAPITA INCOME

(by application data)



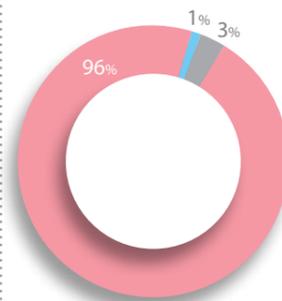
- \$560 and below
- \$561 - \$1,120
- \$1,121 - \$1,999
- > \$2,000

• Approved funding amount is based on financial assessment by Medical Social Workers.

• 78% of our beneficiaries belong to the lowest 20% of our community by Household Income (Dept of Statistics), Year 2021.

### SUPPORT CATEGORY

(by dollar amount supported)



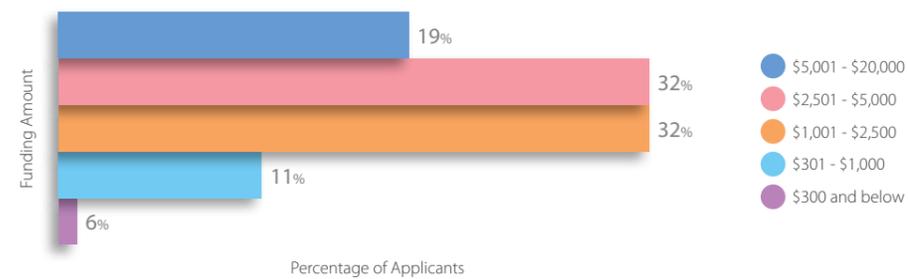
- Medical Treatment
- Medication & Consumables
- Surgery & Cost of Implant

• Funding is provided to support treatment costs not funded by existing assistance schemes.

• Funding support provided to cancer patients are mainly for PET scans. This helps physicians detect cancer, evaluate the extent of disease, select the most appropriate treatments, determine if the therapy is working and detect any recurrent tumours.

### FUNDING AMOUNT

(by application data)



• Funding support provided is crucial to our beneficiaries as their medical expenses exceed their Per Capita Income.

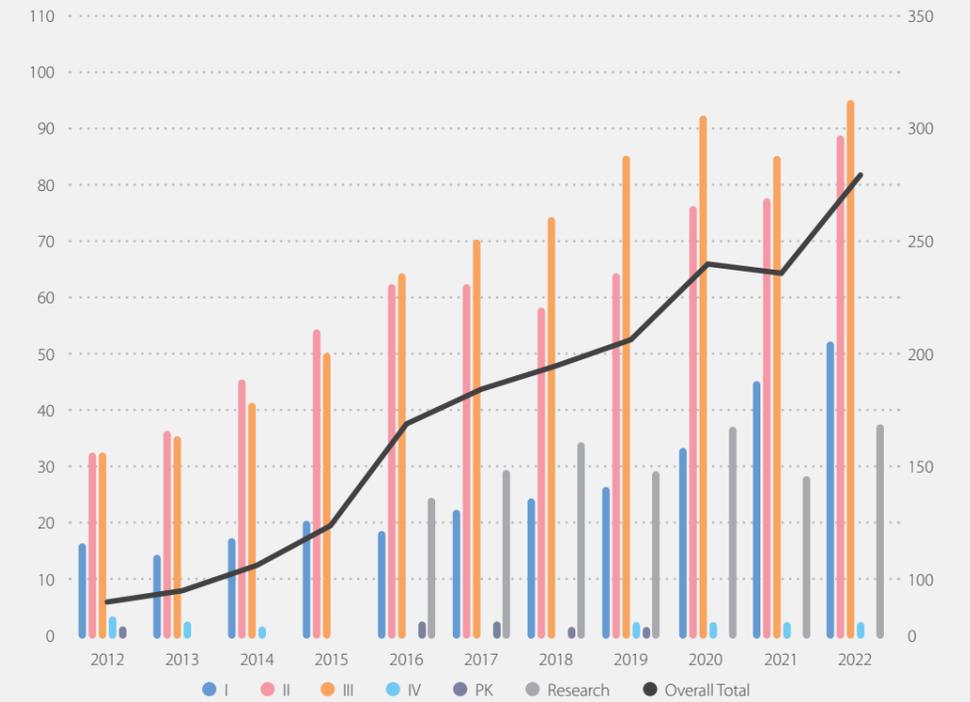
• In order to help as many patients as funds allow, the cap for financial assistance is currently set at \$20,000.

## RESEARCH @ NCIS

# 239

active clinical trials

Focus on early Phase I trials and Immunotherapy trials



# 200

Targeted clinical trials per year

# 87

Collaborations with industry partners since 2010\*

# 97

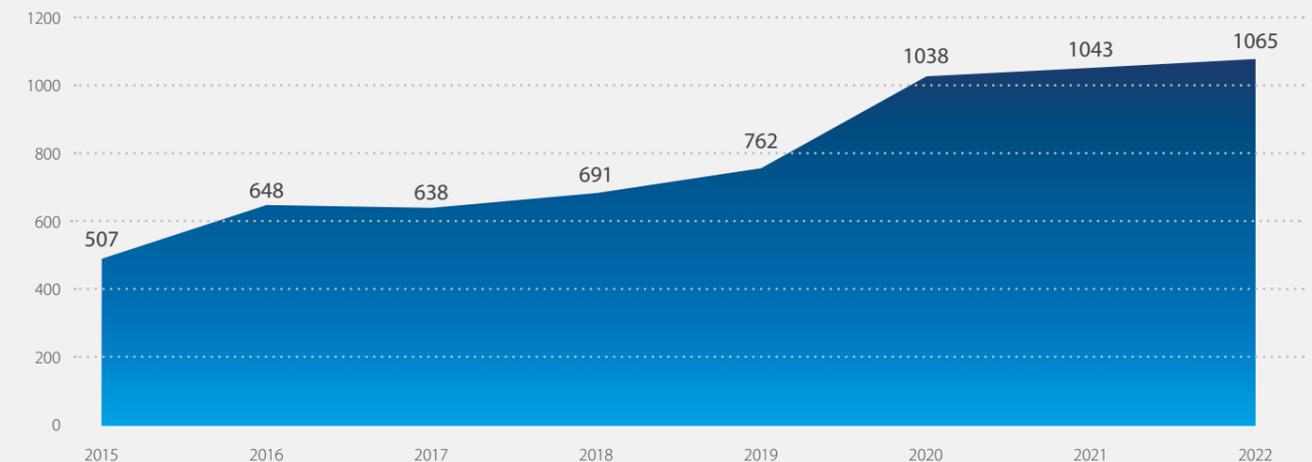
Early Phase I Trials since 2010\*

# 125

Immunotherapy trials since 2014\*

\* Cumulative total

## NCIS RESEARCH PUBLICATION



Find out more at:

<https://www.ncis.com.sg/Research-and-Education/Pages/Research-Publications-Highlights.aspx>

# FUNDRAISING EVENTS

## SARCOMA STRONG SINGAPORE RUN 13 AUGUST 2022

This was the first Sarcoma Strong Singapore (SSS) run led by the Musculoskeletal Oncology Division of NUH, and it joins the growing international community in the annual five-kilometre run. A collaboration effort with the United States-based Sarcoma Strong, the event aimed to raise awareness for Sarcoma, a rare group of cancers that starts in tissues like bone or muscle, which can affect people of all age groups.

The inaugural run was helmed by Dr Chan Chung Ming, a consultant at the Department of Hand and Reconstructive & Microsurgery, NUH alongside the larger international Sarcoma Strong community. Dr Chan, also an associate of Prof Matt DiCaprio who founded and headed the Sarcoma Strong organization, hoped that besides creating awareness, the



marathon would also lend strength to the patients fighting this condition.

The Philippines and Japan were among other international teams from Asia that joined the marathon in their own countries.

## BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH 30 SEPTEMBER - 31 OCTOBER 2022

Jointly organised by Breast Cancer Foundation (BCF), Health Promotion Board (HPB), Singapore Cancer Society (SCS), Singapore Health Services (SingHealth), and Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH) and NCIS, the annual National Breast Cancer Awareness Month (BCAM) in October aims to bring awareness of breast health to the forefront.

Themed 'A Mammogram in Time Saves Lives', the campaign was a timely reminder for eligible women to proactively go for regular breast cancer screenings. The messaging in the campaign 'It's Not Scary, It's A Mammogram', aimed to encourage more women to better understand and go for the potentially life-saving screening.

Throughout the month, there were several (mostly hybrid) exciting programmes such as the BCAM press conference and official launch at the Fullerton Hotel, public awareness webinars and Pink Ribbon Walk.

NCIS breast cancer survivors Ms Isurika Mabulagei and Cik Fauzah Mohd Noor, who is a familiar face on local Malay TV channel Suria, shared their cancer journey. Both ladies reinforced the importance



of conducting monthly breast self-examination and yearly mammograms. Ms Isurika and Cik Fauzah also appealed to the public to give generously to less fortunate cancer patients.



Three new partners, namely Baking Industry Training College (BITC), The Carbon Chef, and OHolyJolly (a home-based handmade pet accessories online store) joined the ranks as NCIS advocates and good Samaritans, alongside Bakery Brera, eLove, Maprao by Marie, Pandan Street Bakery and Ugly Cakes, who have pledged to donate a percentage of sales in support of the NCIS Cancer Fund.

In addition, BITC sponsored a 'Pink Violet Lotus Buns' workshop on 9 October for cancer survivors and their caregivers, which was conducted by respected dim sum sous-chef Richard Tan, who hails from a Michelin Star restaurant. The workshop was attended by about 20 survivors and caregivers who had fun kneading, folding, baking the dough, and bonding. Senior dietician Ms Wong Wei Yee from NUH's Department of Dietetics was consulted on the ingredients used at the planning stage of the workshop. BITC, Pandan Street Bakery, and The Carbon Chef also sponsored prizes for social media contests to engage NUHS staff and the public.

The NCIS Cancer Fund raised a total of \$25,326 during BCAM 2022.

## LET'S RIDE! SINGAPORE VIRTUAL CYCLATHON 14 AUGUST - 10 SEPTEMBER 2022

Let's Ride! Singapore was a month-long virtual cycling event organised by MiRXES, with support from the People's Association, Community Sports Network, Singapore Cycling Federation, Safe Cycling Task Force and NCIS.

The event aimed to get the public to take charge of their health with regular physical activity while highlighting road safety and etiquette, as conveyed through its theme of 'Go the Distance: Be Healthy, Stay Safe'. Aligned with the nation's efforts to build a 'Healthier SG' through preventive care and early intervention, it also complemented MiRXES's mission to improve and save lives through discovering, developing, and delivering accurate preventative healthcare solutions for cancer, cardiovascular, metabolic and infectious diseases, and to make them accessible to all.

The closing ceremony of Let's Ride! Singapore was held on 18 September, with Guest-of-Honour Minister of State Ms Low Yen Ling, alongside local artists such as Andie Chen, Benjamin Tan, Calvert Tay, Carole Lin, Chen Hanwei, Hong Hui Fang, Hong Zhao Rong, Phyllis Quek, Sora Ma, Tay Ying and Zheng Geping.



Together with MiRXES management and staff, and 300 other cyclists, everyone took part in the Closing Ride where they clocked over 30,000km collectively. MiRXES donated a dollar for every kilometre clocked during the ride in addition to their \$50,000 pledge, amounting to a total contribution of \$88,902.

The donation was presented to Prof Chng Wee Joo, Director, NCIS by Ms Low and Dr Zhou Lihan, Co-founder and CEO for MiRXES, at the closing ceremony, in support of NCIS's mission to raise \$20 million in the next three years to help less fortunate cancer patients with critically needed treatments, advance cancer research, and the education and training of healthcare professionals.

## THE LAST MILE (FRIENDS OF NCIS EVENING) 2 DECEMBER 2022 - 15 JANUARY 2023

The Last Mile is an initiative that aims to provide an essential component of high-quality end-of-life (EOL) care or goal-concordant care. This translates to providing medical care in a way that honours the patient's goals and values, including the patient's preference of place to pass on. This was also shared at the event launch on 2 December by Dr Noreen Chan, Head and Senior Consultant, Division of Palliative Care, NCIS.

In his opening address, Prof Chng Wee Joo, Director, NCIS expressed his gratitude to the donors and partners for their continuous support.

What made the evening more special was that it was held in conjunction with 'The Friends of NCIS', a signature NCIS event. The latter was revived after more than two years of hiatus due to the pandemic. The return of this annual soiree was well received by more than 90 guests, including NCIS Cancer Fund donors, partners and friends.

Host and emcee for the event, Dr Samuel Ow, Senior Consultant, NCIS who also spearheads fundraising efforts, introduced well-known piano maestro Dr Azariah Tan. A graduate of the NUS Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music and the University of Michigan (Chamber Music & Piano Performance), Dr Tan played



'A Million Dreams' while NUH Medical Social Workers Ms Hazel and Ms Maygalai recounted heartwarming patient stories.

The event was brought to a crescendo with a group performance by Dr Tan and Meditones, a trio of musicians from NUHS, which comprised Dr Ellie Choi, Division of Dermatology, NUH, Dr Chee Yu Han, Division of Foot & Ankle Surgery, NUH and Dr Chelsea Chia, Department of Medicine, NUH. Guests were treated to a repertoire of tunes such as 'One Moment in Time', 'Somewhere Out There', 'Stand By You' and a medley of Christmas carols.

The Last Mile raised a total of \$43,656 for NCIS Cancer Fund (Palliative Care), which provides support for financially disadvantaged cancer patients who are on terminal discharge or require terminal care at home, as well as research, professional development and public education related to Palliative Care.





# Your Help Empowers.

Every year, the NCIS Cancer Fund provides financial assistance to about 60 financially-disadvantaged cancer patients. Your generous gift will also help us develop better methods to diagnose and treat the disease, improving the survival rates of cancer patients.

For further enquiries on the NCIS Cancer Fund, please call +65 6772 7884 or email [ncis@nuhs.edu.sg](mailto:ncis@nuhs.edu.sg).



**Make a Donation**

[www.giving.sg/nuhs-fund-limited/nciscancerfund](http://www.giving.sg/nuhs-fund-limited/nciscancerfund)

[www.ncis.com.sg](http://www.ncis.com.sg)