100 nurses honoured for their exceptional performance

Recipients of MOH award also recognised for contributions to raising the nursing profession

Cheryl Tan

Nurse Antoinette Goh says her patients stay out of hospital. Beyond providing medical care and support to patients while they are in hospital, she sees the role of nurses as helping them "continue to stay healthy after their discharge and transition into normalcy," said the assistant nurse educator at the National University Health System’s Regional Health Office.

As part of her role, she helps recovering patients transition from the hospital to their home environment, easing them into an active role in their health and well-being.

"The patients we work with are often elderly, with complex medical conditions. Sometimes, they are alone when they need care," she said.

"I believe in empowering people by helping them take ownership of their medical conditions," said Ms Goh, 25.

This entails identifying their needs, helping them to understand their medical condition, and teaching them how to take care of themselves.

Outside of work, she volunteers at nursing homes and hospitals and is regular on humanitarian trips to Cambodia, where she helps set up mobile medical clinics and reaches out to the community there.

Ms Goh was one of 100 nurses presented with the newly launched Nursing Award by the Ministry of Health (MOH) yesterday.

The award is given to nurses who have "demonstrated exemplary and exceptional performance, particularly in their work environment and contributed to raising the nursing profession," said MOH.

They come from a variety of care settings, spanning the community care sector, private hospitals and public healthcare institutions.

Each award comes with a medal. The award was presented by the minister for health and senior minister of state for health, Ong Ye Kung.

The nursing workforce has grown over the years to number 45,000 today, and its role has expanded to encompass community nursing, education, research and technology, as well as to improve the quality of care for patients and their families.

"The role of nurses is one of the most critical roles in the healthcare system," said MOH.

Nurse Antoinette Goh conducting a check-up on a patient in the emergency ward. Beyond providing medical care and support to patients while they are in hospital, she sees the role of nurses as helping them "continue to stay healthy after their discharge and transition into normalcy." She was one of 100 nurses presented with the newly launched Nursing Award by the Ministry of Health on 9 July 2020. Photo: National University Health System Institute of Mental Health

Source: The Straits Times © Singapore Press Holdings Ltd.
Permission required for reproduction