

The Elements of

Meet four doctors with vastly different but equally sharp personal styles. SMA News gets this fabulous quartet to share their sartorial secrets, so that you can be just as inspired to dress with both comfort and chic to work or to play.



Dr Yvonne Lim

Consultant anaesthetist in private practice

How would you describe your style? Comfortable, confident, chic. **What is your go-to daily outfit?** A dress from Herve Leger, Roland Mouret or Alexander McQueen teamed with Charlotte Olympia Dolly heels and a Hermes Lindy. **How does your occupation influence your style?** My clothes must be comfortable! Juicy Couture tracksuits are my staples when I review patients at night. **Who are the style icons you look to for inspiration?** Olivia Palermo, Lee Hyori and Elaine Lim-Chan (who won *Prestige* magazine's Most Stylish Award 2013). **What was your worst fashion mistake?** Thigh-high boots and shorts – I don't know what I was thinking. **And your finest fashion moment?** Whenever my patients compliment my outfit, it means they are well enough to be discharged! **If you were an accessory, what would you be?** The best accessory a girl can have is her best friend – better than any Louboutins, Birkins or Pateks.

Personal Style



A/Prof Ong Biau Chi

Senior consultant and Head of the Department of Anaesthesiology, and also Director of Patient Safety and Clinical Governance at Singapore General Hospital; and Pro-Tem Chairman, Medical Board for Sengkang Hospital

How would you describe your style? I like ethnic looks and prefer prints to solid colours. **What is your go-to daily outfit?** I am usually in a cheongsam or other ethnic styles, although they may be modernised cuts. But they must be convenient to wear since I change into operating theatre (OT) scrubs on a daily basis. **How does your occupation influence your style?** I work in the OT so I need to change in and out frequently. Thus, I prefer convenient styles like dresses, as opposed to tops and bottoms, and with zips instead of buttons. This is also faster because I don't need to spend time mixing and matching colours! **Who are the style icons you look to for inspiration?** None in particular! **What was your worst fashion mistake?** A black dress which I did not feel comfortable in. **And your finest fashion moment?** Can't really think of one. Sometimes the external observers have a different opinion! **If you were an accessory, what would you be?** I would be a pair of elegant earrings which are simple but special! They are just so versatile and do attract a lot of attention.



Dr Penelope Wong

Consultant at the Department of Renal Medicine,
Tan Tock Seng Hospital

How would you describe your style? Modern and eclectic with a preference for clean crisp cuts. **What is your go-to daily outfit?** You can never go wrong with a 60s-style A-line shift dress. **How does your occupation influence your style?** Clothes have to fit well, adjust according to my movements and be comfortable; they shouldn't be too wide-necked as there is a lot of bending forward and over involved in bedside Medicine! There is also no excuse for scruffiness, and this includes being post-call. **Who are the style icons you look to for inspiration?** Brit girls like Alexa Chung and Kate Moss for low key elegance, and Audrey Hepburn for beautiful understated style. **What was your worst fashion mistake? And your finest fashion moment?** I think it is best not to dwell too much on hits and misses, but rather to treat every day as a new clean slate. **If you were an accessory, what would you be?** An oversized 70s gold wrist cuff from a vintage flea market.

Dr Goh Shen Li

Senior consultant at the Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, KK Women's and Children's Hospital; and Associate Programme Director at SingHealth O&G Residency

How would you describe your style? Classic. I like dresses, pencil skirts and slim cardigans for work. For weekends, mostly capri pants with chiffon tops, and cotton dresses. I also fancy blue a lot, in all its different shades. Currently, clothes with lace accents catch my eye. **What is your go-to daily outfit?** A pencil dress, in any fabric, and uncomplicated accessories, like a string of pearls. **How does your occupation influence your style?** I try to avoid sleeves that end at my wrists, because I always end up rolling them up once I start work. Nothing too low cut, revealing or white in colour. Accessories should not be loud and jangly – too distracting. **Who are the style icons you look to for inspiration?** I have no specific style icon, but my mother is someone from whom I first learnt about fashion – that elegance is simple, and not to look sloppy no matter how old you are. **What was your worst fashion mistake?** When I was in junior college, I permed my hair. It made me look older than my age, so I never dared to try it again. **And your finest fashion moment?** I think I looked my best on my wedding day (who doesn't?!). I wore a Grecian-style toga chiffon gown I designed myself and the wedding dress designer perfected it. The fact that it was worn for such a special occasion made it really precious. **If you were an accessory, what would you be?** Earrings – happy to be in the background, and only noticed when you look closely.

