

TECHNOLOGY: THE NEXT FRONTIER IN ASIAN HEALTHCARE

By UBS Wealth Management Singapore



Healthcare industry experts at the UBS Healthcare Entrepreneurs Forum 2014

OVER 80 leading practitioners, entrepreneurs and thought leaders from Asia's healthcare industry gathered at UBS Business University in Kheam Hock Road for the UBS Healthcare Entrepreneurs Forum 2014.

The annual forum, held on 16 July last year, provided an avenue for guests to debate on the impact of technology on the healthcare landscape. Participants also got to hear valuable insights from influential industry speakers and panellists, whose varied business interests included medical device innovation, private healthcare management, and med-tech solutions, alongside UBS specialists in wealth planning and equity in the global technology sector. Topics such as overall trends and key influences in healthcare innovation and technology were discussed.

Specialist consultants, Dr Jeremy Lim from Oliver Wyman and Mr David McKeering from PricewaterhouseCoopers, provided a macro outlook on megatrends influencing the rapid increase in the use of technology within healthcare, and insights into mHealth.

Subsequently, Dr Chong Yeh Woei, a previous president of SMA, led an engaging panel discussion on the technological advances that are "disrupting" healthcare for the better. The other panellists were: Mr Sundeep Gantori, Equity Analyst, Chief Investment Office, UBS Wealth Management; Dr Eitan Konstantino, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), QT Vascular Ltd; Dr Kelvin Loh, CEO, Mount Elizabeth Hospital and Mount Elizabeth Novena Hospital; Dr Low Lee Yong, Founder and CEO, MHC Asia Group; and A/Prof Tan Sze Wee, Deputy Executive Director, Biomedical Research Council, Agency for Science, Technology and Research.

Mr Gan Seow Ann, Vice Chairman of UBS Wealth

Management, Southeast Asia and APAC Hub, drew parallels between the healthcare and wealth management industries in the face of changes brought about by digitisation. He observed that the opportunity to change the game through investing in, innovating and embracing new technology in both industries has presented itself. However, he also noted that a personal touch and customised advice from trusted specialists in their respective fields remained a fundamental expectation of patients and clients alike.

The evening proceeded with dinner presentations from med-tech trailblazers, whose bold and exciting innovations that would transform medical practice in the coming years were showcased. The adoption of 3D printing and bioprinting with the potential to clone organs for transplants, molecular diagnostic tool via microchips, and brain-computer-interface technology using brainwaves to treat cognitive conditions such as attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, autism, Alzheimer's disease and dementia; and motor rehabilitation for stroke or Parkinson's patients, were among those exhibited.

Pioneered by Yang Vi Sun, head of the Singapore healthcare segment at UBS Wealth Management Asia Pacific, the forum provided a unique platform for attendees to exchange best practices, deepen networks with industry peers, strategically align healthcare business models in anticipation of future developments, as well as to drive potential collaboration within the healthcare landscape.

If you are interested to participate in or be kept informed of UBS healthcare-related events, please email vi-sun.yang@ubs.com with your name, contact details, designation and name of company. ■