



# Connect

ISSUE 01  
APR - JUN 2020



Bringing

*Hope*

and top quality  
cancer care to Asia

**PATIENT ADVISORS**

Walking with patients  
hand-in-hand

**CLIOC LAUNCH**

A network of collaboration and  
knowledge sharing

**TTFIELDS**

How a novel treatment  
brings hope to brain  
cancer patients



# Editor's Note

Integrated Oncology Centres (IOC) welcomes you to the inaugural issue of our quarterly newsletter.

IOC represents a network of cancer centres in Hong Kong, Indonesia, the Philippines and Vietnam, bringing together medical experts for collaboration and quality care to the region. This newsletter is a community to share updates within the big family to our doctors, staff and patients.

Each issue will cover the latest activities and services across IOC's Operating companies (Op-Cos) to showcase how we strive to provide better cancer care. **New Drugs and Technology** dives into the latest treatment advances in our centres. **The Staff Column** features the faces and passionate minds behind the everyday operation of IOC. In this issue, the Staff Column introduces IOC's corporate members guiding the IOC family towards bringing hope to patients.

At IOC, every patient's journey is a unique story as a result of the efforts by our care team. We invite you to submit your patient stories or their testimonials, to share with us your practice to bring hope to patients through top quality oncology care. We will feature the inspirational patient stories starting from our next issue in Q3 2020.

**IOC Connect** is an open platform for IOC Op-Cos in Asia to share insights and celebrate success. All members of our Op-Cos are welcomed to share their stories in the upcoming issues. Please connect with us at [admin@iocasia.com](mailto:admin@iocasia.com).

We hope you enjoy our very first issue of this newsletter!

# The launch of CLIOC

## marks a milestone in IOC's network of collaboration



April 2020 marked the soft launch of Central Luzon Integrated Cancer Centre (CLIOC), IOC Asia's Op-Co in Pampanga, Philippines.

Formerly known as The Cancer Center at Mother Teresa of Calcutta Medical Center (TCCMTCMC) since 2017, CLIOC is a one-stop specialist centre providing integrated cancer care through tomotherapy, chemotherapy and nuclear medicine.

Equipped with advanced technology along with medical experts in oncology, Central Luzon Integrated Oncology Centre aims to create a positive impact to patients and the field of oncology through excellent and integrated cancer treatment.

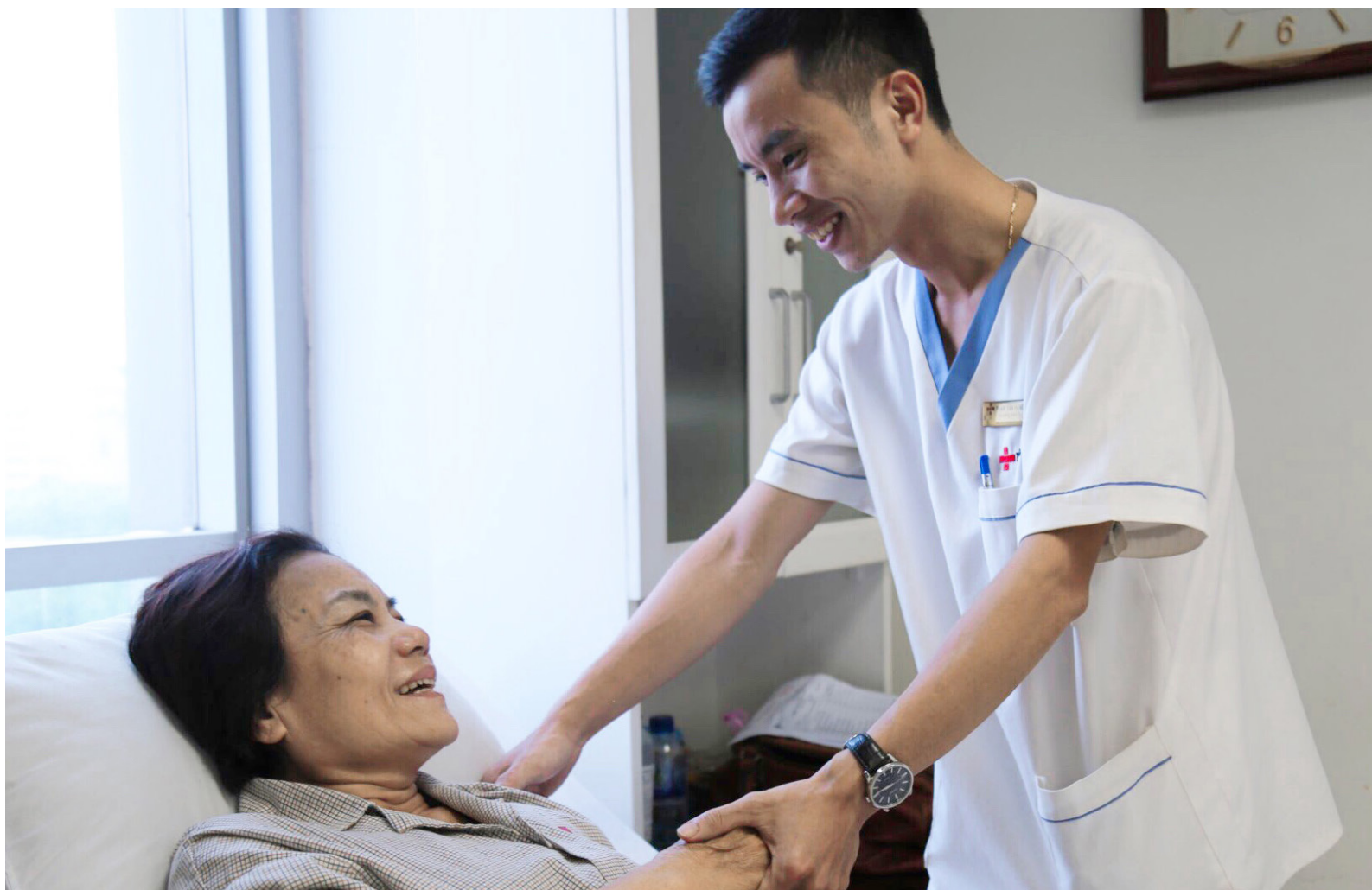
This launch brings CLIOC into a bigger family under the same roof of IOC – a regional network of medical experts and healthcare operators that specialise in delivering high quality oncology care in Asia. This network fosters cross-collaboration and knowledge sharing between medical experts in the region.



**Central Luzon  
Integrated Oncology Centre**



## Seamless care for cancer patients



Hung Viet Cancer Hospital (HV) proudly launched its new chemotherapy services dedicated to cancer patients in need.

Oncology drugs like chemotherapy and target therapy are common treatment modalities for most cancer patients. According to the cancer type and stage, different drugs are used in single or combination with a variety of treatment cycles. Chemotherapy and target therapy are often administered via intravenous infusion or injection that lasts from a few minutes to several days. Therefore, a comfortable and relaxing environment is important to facilitate a better treatment experience for patients undergoing chemotherapy.

Hung Viet Cancer Hospital's chemotherapy service aims to provide comprehensive patient care during the course of treatment. The facility consists of a 4-storey medical outpatient building and a 15-storey inpatient building, equipped with 80 spacious inpatient treatment rooms, as well as diagnostic and operating facilities. The medical team at Hung Viet consists of established full time and visiting surgeons and oncologists who offer seamless care to patients.

Besides oncology drug therapy, other treatment modalities including radiotherapy are also expected to be introduced later this year to offer more comprehensive treatment options to cancer patients. At Hung Viet, we aim to bring hope and peace of mind to patients and families beyond healing the sick.

# Patient Advisors

## walking with patients hand-in-hand



▼ Meet our Patient Advisor team (left to right): Mei Munawaroh (Patient Advisor Manager), Dav Yusuf, Rini Iswanti, dan Virgie Keen.

AHCC invited all staff for the launch of their Patient Advisor service.



In February 2020, Adi Husada Cancer Center (AHCC) announced a newly added service - the Patient Advisor team, a patient-centric service that supports patients in their journey in cancer treatment.

For cancer patients, on top of the complicated treatment, the journey to recovery is often coupled with emotional, psychological and financial burdens. Previous research suggested that effective stress-coping strategies also play a role in successful cancer management.

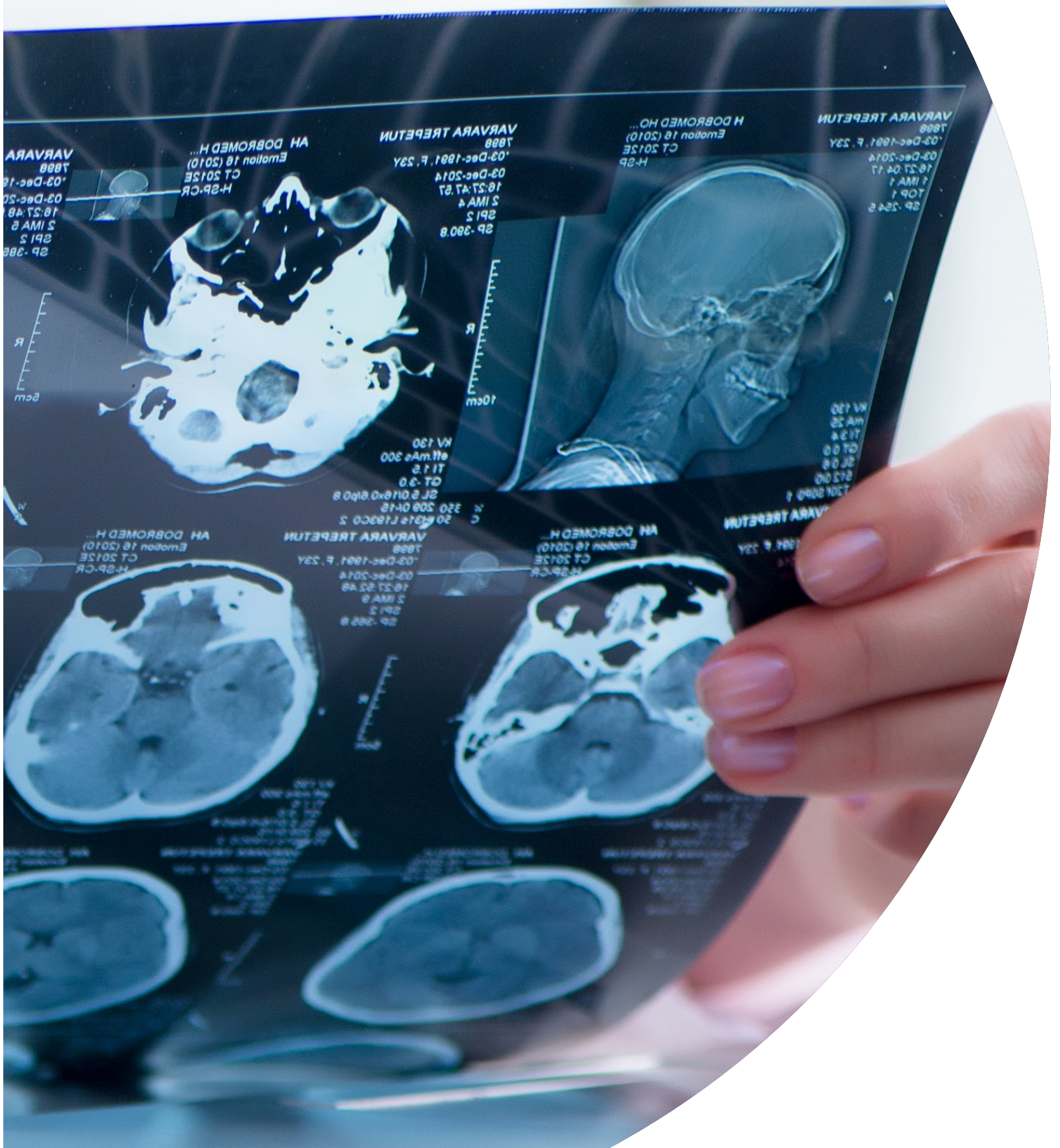
The Patient Advisor service aims to provide practical and emotional support for patients and caregivers

along their journey to recovery. Patients and their families will get to know their advisors from day one, who become their close “buddies” at AHCC and greet them at each visit. Patients can discuss their needs and concerns during private consultations with advisors and receive advises on a wide range of topics, from practical tips on managing treatment side effects and financing, to psychological help on overcoming emotional challenges.

While the road to cancer survivorship could be long and winding, the Patient Advisors will be always there to listen, care and support patients and families every step of the way.



# New technology brings hope to brain cancer patients



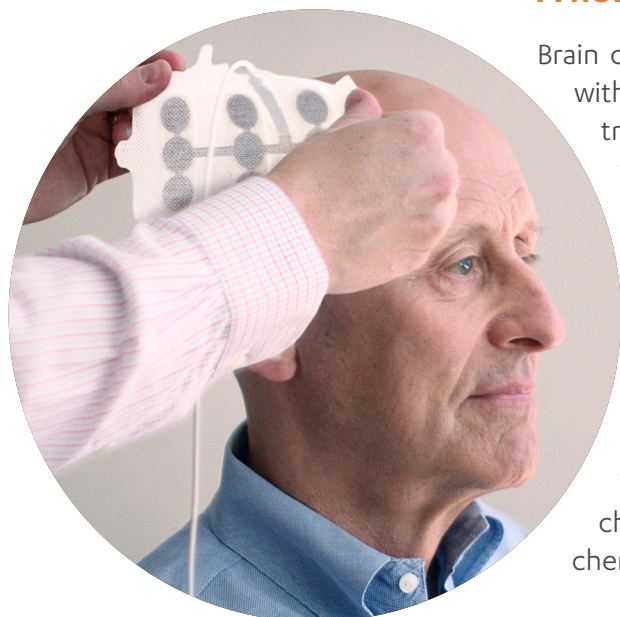


## A new option that brings hope

Brain cancer, although relatively uncommon, is an aggressive cancer with low survival rate. In January 2020, HKIOC introduced a new treatment technology for patients with glioblastoma (GBM), a life-threatening brain cancer.

Brain cancer are malignant tumours that either originated from the brain (primary brain tumours) or when existing cancers in other organs (such as the breast and lung) spread to the brain (metastatic brain tumours).

Among different primary brain tumours, glioblastoma (GBM) is the most common yet aggressive type that can spread rapidly. With a devastating survival rate of 5%, treatment of GBM has been challenging and has long depended on surgery, radiotherapy and chemotherapy<sup>1</sup>.



## A novel treatment that extends survival

Fortunately, advances in medical technology has brought a new treatment modality to GBM patients who have been treated with surgery follow by concurrent radiation therapy and chemotherapy. The treatment, termed **Tumour Treating Fields (TTFields)**, takes advantage of the fast-growing characteristics of GBM tumour cells. TTFields is a low-intensity, wave-like electric fields that can disrupt the replication of tumour cells, thereby slowing tumour growth.

The technology is capsulated in a wearable, portable electric field generator. Using the device, patients can undergo treatment at home by attaching transducer arrays to specific locations on their head daily. The arrays deliver TTFields to the tumour. In clinical research, the technology, when used with oral chemotherapy, could increase patients' 5-year survival rate up to 13% and lengthen their median survival time to 20.3 months<sup>2</sup>.



## With the patient

In January this year, a patient from Singapore became the first to undergo TTFields treatment at HKIOC. In partnership with **Can-Care Pte Ltd**, the patient also received comprehensive support services, in which dedicated nurses visited the patient to assist in the initial set-up and conducted follow-up calls to answer any queries raised by the patient and family.

As the coronavirus pandemic had hindered travelling and the supply of treatment accessories to patients, HKIOC also took an unprecedented step to deliver the necessary equipment to Singapore. This could not have been achieved without close communication with the patient, family and partners. This was an example of HKIOC's dedication towards patient care and satisfaction.

Thanks to the advances in technology and the support from our care team, we will continue to introduce novel treatments, expand our patient care services and strive to bring hope to cancer patients and families.

<sup>1</sup> Survival Rates for Selected Adult Brain and Spinal Cord Tumors. American Cancer Society. Last Revised: 7 November, 2017. Url: <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/brain-spinal-cord-tumors-adults/detection-diagnosis-staging/survival-rates.html>

<sup>2</sup> Weinberg U. Novocure's Tumor Treating Fields: Innovative brain cancer therapy with survival and safety benefits. *Nature*. 2018;561(7724).

# Meet Our Leaders

At IOC, we believe in the collaborative efforts of healthcare professionals and staffs. The Staff's Column introduces the faces who work together for a common goal in our everyday operation, from your local centre to teams across Asia.

In this issue, meet the leaders who guide us to bring hope and quality care for patients. More team members will be featured in the future issues.



## **MR. ENG AIK MENG**

### **Chairman**

Aik Meng is the Chairman of IOC, as well as the founding board member of TE Asia Healthcare Partners and CEO of TE Healthcare Advisory Pte Ltd. He also serves as a senior advisor at TPG capital, where he holds various directorship positions in TPG Capital's portfolio companies.



## **MS. PHOEBE HO**

### **Chief Executive Officer (CEO)**

Phoebe is the CEO of IOC, after having served for 3 years as CEO of HKIOC - Hong Kong's first ambulatory integrated oncology centre.

A pharmacist by training with more than 20 years of experience in healthcare, Phoebe has served in various senior executive positions with Fortune 500 pharmaceutical companies.

Phoebe will continue to strengthen clinical partnerships between doctors and health professionals in the IOC network, and foster cooperation with support groups for cancer survivors.



## **MR. PHILIP JENG**

### **Head of Business Development & Commissioning**

Phillip is Head of Business Development and Commissioning and leads the strategic plans of the group.

Philip has extensive experience in hospital operations across Singapore and Malaysia, as well as merger & acquisitions. He will continue identifying niche growth opportunities and drive revenue growth of IOC.



**MS. RITCHIE KWOK****Chief of Staff**

Ritchie is the Chief of Staff of IOC. Serving HKIOC as Business Director in the previous 3 years and as an oncology pharmacist by training, she will be supporting IOC to strengthen the operations and execution of business strategies.

Ritchie is a Board Certified Oncology Pharmacist (BCOP) from the American Pharmacists Association and holds a Master of Philosophy in Clinical Pharmacy.

**MR. VU PHUONG TRAN****Country Lead, Vietnam**

Phuong is the Country Lead of Vietnam at IOC, leading healthcare investments and deal negotiations of the group in the country.

Phuong has more than 10 years of proven records in C-level management roles and business development, and obtained a Master of Business Management (MBA). Phuong is well-known as a “people person” who can make connections with people from all walks of life and build long-term partnerships.

**MR. SUWANDI LEO****Country Lead, Indonesia**

Suwandi is the Country Lead of Indonesia at IOC, leading healthcare investments and deals of the group in the country.

With more than 18 years of track records in marketing, business development and a Master degree in Business Management (MBA), Suwandi is another charismatic leader also known for his ability to interact with all levels of people as well as managing brands strategically.

**DR. RONNIE POON****Chairman, Medical Advisory Council**

Dr. Ronnie Poon is the Chairman of the Medical Advisory Council of IOC and overseas medical affairs and operations.

Dr. Poon received his medical and surgical training in Sydney and Hong Kong. He is dedicated to research in Hepato-Biliary-Pancreatic Surgery and has introduced novel treatment techniques for liver tumors.



# Staff of the Quarter Nomination



Quality services is the product of collaboration and teamwork between our healthcare professionals and every staff at IOC with a shared goal of excellent cancer care.

To recognize our team members who have brought hope to patients through high-quality services, we invite you to nominate one colleague whom you think has gone the extra mile to achieve these goals.

Nomination opens to all Op-Cos every quarter. We will invite nominees to an initial interview, where selected nominees will enter a final interview with the Group’s management and HR.

One winner will be selected each quarter and featured in the next issue of the newsletter. As a token of appreciation, the staff of the quarter will receive special rewards including invitations to exclusive events!

Simply nominate by filling a nomination form and return to your HR Department by 31 July 2020.



## Staff of the Quarter Nomination Form

### A) Information of the nominee

Name of nominee

Job Title

Department

### B) Details of nomination

How does the nominee demonstrate IOC's mission of top quality care during his/ her services?

How do the actions of the nominee demonstrate a patient-centric mindset to bring hope to patients?

How do the actions of the nominee build community in the workplace and relationships with external partners?

Lastly, please explain why you believe the nominee is an outstanding employee deserving recognition?

Nominator

Signature

Date

*Please complete this form and return to your HR Department by 31 July 2020.*



## Our centres across the Asia Pacific region

Find IOC centres at:

**Hong Kong Integrated Oncology Centre**  
Central and Kowloon, Hong Kong  
[www.hkioc.com.hk](http://www.hkioc.com.hk)

**Hong Kong Adventist Hospital Oncology Center**  
Hong Kong  
[www.hkah.org.hk](http://www.hkah.org.hk)

**Adi Husada Cancer Center**  
Surabaya, Indonesia  
[www.ahcc.co.id](http://www.ahcc.co.id)

**Hung Viet Cancer Hospital**  
Hanoi, Vietnam  
[www.benhvienungbuouhungviet.vn](http://www.benhvienungbuouhungviet.vn)

**Central Luzon Integrated Oncology Centre**  
Pampanga, Philippines  
[www.clioc.com.ph](http://www.clioc.com.ph)