

## Testimonial by Tan Cheng Keat Class of 2022

- **Why study Pharmacy? And how has the journey been thus far?**

*“How discoveries in Pharmacology translate into clinical practices?”*

After attending two pharmacology modules in Singapore Polytechnic, this was the million-dollar question that sealed my decision to major in Pharmacy. The modules provided a very brief overview from drug discovery, drug research and a couple of drug classes, but that was all. The desire to explore deeper into pharmacology, and understand how drugs are used to manage chronic conditions supplanted the thought of continuing Chemistry, and became the leap of faith to study Pharmacy.

My learning journey in becoming a pharmacist have been by-far meaningful. The triad of academic curriculum, community activities and student life events complemented each other to form a synchronous and fulfilling experience to not just develop intellectually, but grow interpersonally too.



- **What interest you most in your studies?**

The Pharmacy coursework granted opportunity to explore the arts and sciences of clinical pharmacy; how researches became succinct clinical guidelines followed globally, and how to deal with the occasional grey-area scenario. Amongst the topic discussed, pharmacotherapy, specifically in ambulatory care and cardiology captivated me most. The former deals with common chronic conditions, such as Hypertension, and the latter deals with heart conditions, such as Heart Failure.

The lesson objectives of Pharmacotherapy classes were aligned to my decision to partake Pharmacy, and hence, I did enjoyed the process of learning how to deal with these ubiquitous conditions. Furthermore, the two specialties were disciplines of my interest, which motivated me to explore deeper, beyond the scope of the modules, when I undertook the modules.

- **Apart from academic lessons, what other programmes (e.g. NOC, SEP, Summer/Winter Schools/Research/Internship, etc.) did you participate? And how did the experience(s) benefit you in your (a) personal growth and development, and (b) academic pursuits?**

## CHAMP Cycle 7 Welcome Tea

CHAMP offered us an insight onto real disease- / drug-related problems that are frequently encountered by the elderly. Supported by a team of dedicated volunteers, our ability to build rapport, and communicate freely with the client became crucial to capture and resolve the problems. This exposure was cannot be replicated within classrooms, which allowed CHAMP to complement and value-add our takeaways from the coursework.

- **What other interesting activities did you partake in to further enrich your student life, e.g. extra-curricular activities on campus (e.g. NUSPS, House, etc.)?**

From freshmen, project director to Vice President (Special Projects) of NUS Pharmaceutical Society, Pharmacy Rag (RxAG) was eminent in enriching my student life. As the longest orientation programme in Pharmacy, RxAG is an avenue for inter- and intra-cohort supports. This allow individuals to step out of their comfort zone and every cohort of freshmen to create collective memories in a wholly new environment.

Helping the project for the freshmen from Class of 2023, I branded RxAG as an ebullient learning journey; *a safe space for all participants to foster camaraderie and attain breakthrough.* Albeit a languorous ride, the chance to witness and grow with all freshmen and seniors was one of the key memories in Pharmacy thus far!



### Post-Performance (RxAG'18)



**Floaters @ RxAG'19**



**NUSPS 58th & 59th EXCO**



**Pharmacy Rag 2019 - The Finale @ Bishan Park**

To further refine the newly harnessed skills from RxAG, I stepped up as the Vice President to share my experience, advice the new generation of leaders and coordinated the Orientation Projects for the Class of 2024. From Class of 2022 to Class of 2024, Orientation was a stage for me to rehearse, execute and refine soft skills, which I believed are valuable and useful inputs for future work as a pharmacist.

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