Post-acute care in Singapore

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Project Description:
Community hospitals in Singapore are step-down care facilities, offering principally rehabilitation, but also sub-acute, chronic sick and respite care, as part of the Intermediate and Long Term Care (ILTC) sector. There are currently five community hospitals in Singapore, the oldest being St Andrews Community Hospital (SACH), which started in 1992, and the newest being Ren Ci Community Hospital, which began operations in 2008. The total bed strength available in 2014 was 1047, and this is expected to double by 2020 with the opening of four new community hospitals.

The ILTC sector in Singapore has expanded significantly in the past few years in order to address the health care challenges of an older demographic, as well as to contain health care costs. Residents aged 65 years and above comprised 11% of the total population in 2014, with the median age increasing to 39.3 years from 29.8 years in 1990. This “greying” of Singapore is contributing to the rising prevalence of chronic disease conditions, which demand longer term care, and support from the health system.

This project will examine the evolution of community hospitals as post-acute care facilities and the trends in care utilization and outcomes for specific conditions of key interest.

Remarks:
For PhD students only