

# Studying Maternal and Child Health in Birth Cohorts

A/P Chong Yap Seng and Dr Soh Shu E,  
Singapore Institute for Clinical Sciences, A\*STAR

28 October, Friday | 12nn - 1.30pm | Ventus Evans Room

Epidemiological studies strongly suggest that maternal health and environment over the life course – pre-conceptual, fetal and postnatal development – influence the risk for non-communicable diseases (NCDs) in the offspring. Our research programme's objectives are to more precisely define the critical developmental pathways and mechanisms that link maternal and perinatal health to subsequent development, with the goal of developing more effective approaches to prevention/intervention. Since its inception in 2009, GUSTO (Growing Up in Singapore Towards healthy Outcomes) birth cohort has recruited 1,247 families and deeply phenotyped them through pregnancy and early childhood. The oldest child is now 6.5 years of age. In addition, a cohort study of women recruited before pregnancy, S-PRESTO started in 2015 to investigate the potentially important clinical window of the pre-conceptual period. Other studies have been undertaken to test potential clinical interventions. Taken together, our studies placed emphasis on the importance of scientific innovation together with a responsibility for both the expansion of translational research capacity and for building research with clinical and economic impact across Singapore.

Seminar chaired by: Prof Yeung Wei-Jun Jean, CFPR Director and Dept of Sociology, ARI, NUS

All are welcome! Light lunch will be provided.

Register at <http://goo.gl/forms/XLkMnkGFIQ> by 27 Oct 2016.

## ABOUT THE SPEAKERS



Associate Professor Chong Yap Seng is the Executive Director for Singapore Institute for Clinical Sciences, A\*STAR and the founding Director of the A\*STAR-NUS Singapore Centre for Nutrition Sciences, Metabolic Diseases, and Human Development (SiNMeD). He is also a Senior Consultant in the Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology, National University Hospital. As the lead PI who started the Translational Clinical Research (TCR) Flagship Programme on Developmental pathways to health and disease, he is committed to capacity development through fostering of collaborations within and beyond Singapore by bringing multidisciplinary talents together.



Dr Shu E is a research scientist at Singapore Institute for Clinical Sciences, A\*STAR and Department of Paediatrics at the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore (NUS). Before joining A\*STAR, she worked as a postdoctoral fellow at the Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health and Department of Paediatrics, NUS. She was given the great opportunity to work closely with the Principal Investigators to oversee the developmental cohorts under the TCR Programme on Developmental pathways to health and disease: metabolic, neurodevelopmental and related outcomes.