HIMSS KICKS OFF FIRST-EVER DIGITAL HEALTHCARE WEEK IN SINGAPORE

90 leading industry speakers from 20 countries will showcase IT's potential to transform the full spectrum of patient care

21 October, 2013, Singapore: Leading global health IT experts will gather in Marina Bay Sands, Singapore, 21-24 October, 2013 to kick off the first-ever Digital Healthcare Week conference and technology showcase. Organized by the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) Asia Pacific, the event is a one-stop shop for policymakers, hospital senior executives, care providers, clinicians, nurses, healthcare IT professionals and technology companies to come together to collaborate, share and learn how to improve quality and accessibility of care for patients. Dr Amy Khor, Singapore's Senior Minister of State for Health and Manpower is the guest of honour and will deliver the opening address.

"We are honoured to host the inaugural Digital Healthcare Week in Singapore, which is an excellent platform for industry leaders in our region to network and share their practical experiences and challenges here in Singapore. Technology continues to play a significant role in driving the transformation of healthcare and our continued efforts in advancing the quality of patient care and safety is highlighted by Changi General Hospital (CGH) becoming the latest Singapore hospital to achieve HIMSS EMRAM Stage 6 IT capabilities. They join several other hospitals in attaining this capability and this bodes well in the delivery of patient care. In addition, CGH is the first to implement the Closed Loop Medication Management with QR Code. This helps to enhance patient safety, improves staff productivity and reduces human error. Unlike the conventional barcode, the QR Code technology has greater storage capacity. It is also capable of being read in 360 degrees, from any direction, thus eliminating any interference and negative effects from backgrounds," said Dr Amy Khor.

 "This is the first time HIMSS is organizing a digital healthcare event in Asia Pacific. Singapore has built a strong healthcare IT platform and continues to have the highest number of public hospitals in the Asia Pacific region with such advanced HIMSS EMRAM Stage 6 IT capabilities. Singapore is a hotbed of health

IT innovations so it is very fitting that we kick off our first Digital Healthcare event here," said Steven Yeo, Vice President and Executive Director, Healthcare Information Management Systems Society Asia Pacific.

"Our goal for Digital Healthcare Week is to showcase the latest advancements in health IT and to facilitate more sharing across the region. Aside from education sessions, delegates will have a unique opportunity to visit The Academia, a new state-of-the-art centre for diagnostics research and healthcare education in Singapore General Hospital," Mr Yeo added.

Digital Healthcare Week is the first-of-its-kind conference in the Asia Pacific region that will examine the impact and opportunities of health IT across the full spectrum of continuum of care, including government policies and infrastructure, mobile health and hospital infrastructure. The week-long conference will concurrently host industry-specific forums covering a wide range of health IT topics from policy to point of care.

Government HIT Summit - The Government HIT Summit is an all-day event on 21 October which will bring together global experts to discuss topics around new tools for surveillance of infections, national integrated care programs, legal frameworks, regulations of devices and security and privacy issues.

mHealth Forum – Spanning across three days (22 October – 24 October), the mHealth Forum will include sessions and case studies showcasing how technology and data can revolutionize the way health professionals work and deliver care.

Digital Hospital Forum – From 23 – 24 October, the Digital Hospital Forum will cover how digital hospitals attain cost-effectiveness through reducing operating costs, use technologies to achieve efficiency and improve patient safety, and leverage real-time network communication to improve clinical outcomes.

Nursing Informatics Forum – On 22 October, the Nursing Informatics Forum will present evidence showcasing how important and relevant nursing informatics is today. It will also highlight key challenges and obstacles in today's health systems that need to be addressed for the advancement of nursing informatics.

Physician's IT Leadership Forum –The Physician's IT Leadership Forum on 22 October is for senior executives, directors and clinicians involved in IT implementation to share their insights and experience in Health IT.

Technology and Infrastructure for Healthcare Forum – The forum on 23 - 24 October will explore the state of current healthcare systems, hospitals, care providers and major issues faced by the industry.

Keynote presentations include:

- **Innovation ICT for Healthcare IT/Elderly Independent living - Patient Centric Model To Meet the Aging Population**

  Eric Dishman, Intel Fellow and General Manager, Intel Health Strategy & Solutions Group

- **Bringing Medical Facilities With Eldercare To The Community**

  David Lane, Chairman of ThomsonAdsett, Australia

- **mHealth: Collaboration + Mobile Technology = Healthcare Transformation**

  Patricia Mechael, Executive Director, mHealth Alliance

- **Solving for X: An Action Plan to Sustain Health in Our Rapidly Aging World**

  Michael P. Birt, Director, Center for Sustainable Health, Arizona State University

For registration and more information, please visit:

http://www.himssasiapac.org/dhw13/home/index.aspx

For media enquiries and interviews, please contact:

Jasmine Chng, jchng@waggeneredstrom.com, +65 6303 8474

About HIMSS

HIMSS is a cause-based, not-for-profit organisation exclusively focused on providing global leadership for the optimal use of information technology (IT) and management systems for the betterment of healthcare. Founded 51 years ago, HIMSS and its related organisations are headquartered in Chicago with additional offices in the United States, Europe and Asia. HIMSS represents more than 52,000 individual members, of which more than two thirds work in healthcare provider, governmental and not-for-profit organisations.

HIMSS also includes over 600 corporate members and more than 250 not-for-profit organisations that share our mission of transforming healthcare through the effective use of information technology and management systems. HIMSS frames and leads healthcare practices and public policy through its content expertise, professional development, research initiatives, and media vehicles designed to promote information and management systems' contributions to improving the quality, safety, access, and cost-effectiveness of patient care.

To learn more about HIMSS and to find out how to join us and our members in advancing our cause, please visit our website at www.himssasiapac.org

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