

Singapore announces first national research grant of \$10 M for lung health

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TARIPH research programme will run for five years until 2029



The Academic Respiratory Initiative for Pulmonary Health (TARIPH) Centre, a national research platform led by NTU's Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, will lead a multi-institutional research programme after being awarded Singapore's first national research grant for respiratory health to date.

Under the \$10 million Open Fund-Large Collaborative Grant (OF-LCG) supported by National Research Foundation (NRF) and administered by the Singapore Ministry of Health (MoH) through the National Medical Research Council Office, MOH Holdings, the TARIPH Centre will collaborate with partners to conduct patient-centric translational research on respiratory health.

The NTU-led research programme brings together researchers from nine organisations to conduct Asian-centric lung health research across five integrated themes. It examines the rise in chronic lung diseases in Singapore, such as asthma and Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), and the best practices for post-intensive care patients.

It will also study the emerging respiratory health effects of climate change; the impact of climate and environmental factors on the development of respiratory allergies and diseases in Singapore; and establish a national repository of cellular airway models for research on targeted and personalised treatment for lung diseases.

Researchers involved in this interdisciplinary collaborative initiative hail from NTU, Singapore General Hospital (SGH), National University Hospital (NUH), Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH), National University of Singapore's (NUS) Faculty of

Science, National Healthcare Group Polyclinics (NHG Polyclinics), Alexandra Hospital, NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, and A*STAR Institute for Human Development and Potential (A*STAR IHDP), allowing for a comprehensive and integrated programme that taps the full spectrum of research capabilities in Singapore, ranging from academic research to clinical innovation.