

Eyeing Care from Hospital to Community: The NHG Experience for Community Eye Clinic (CEC)

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Background & Objectives

The Eye Specialist Outpatient Clinic (SOC) in Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH) sees about 150,000 patients annually, consisting of a casemix of patients with complex and stable eye conditions. The high patient workload puts a strain on the clinic resources. TTSH started a Stable Eye Condition Clinic (SEC-C) since 2014, where stable patients were followed up at a clinic session run by trained optometrists (upskilled to see non-complex eye cases). The SEC-C model had successfully helped isolate stable cases and thus freed up doctors' time to manage acute cases.

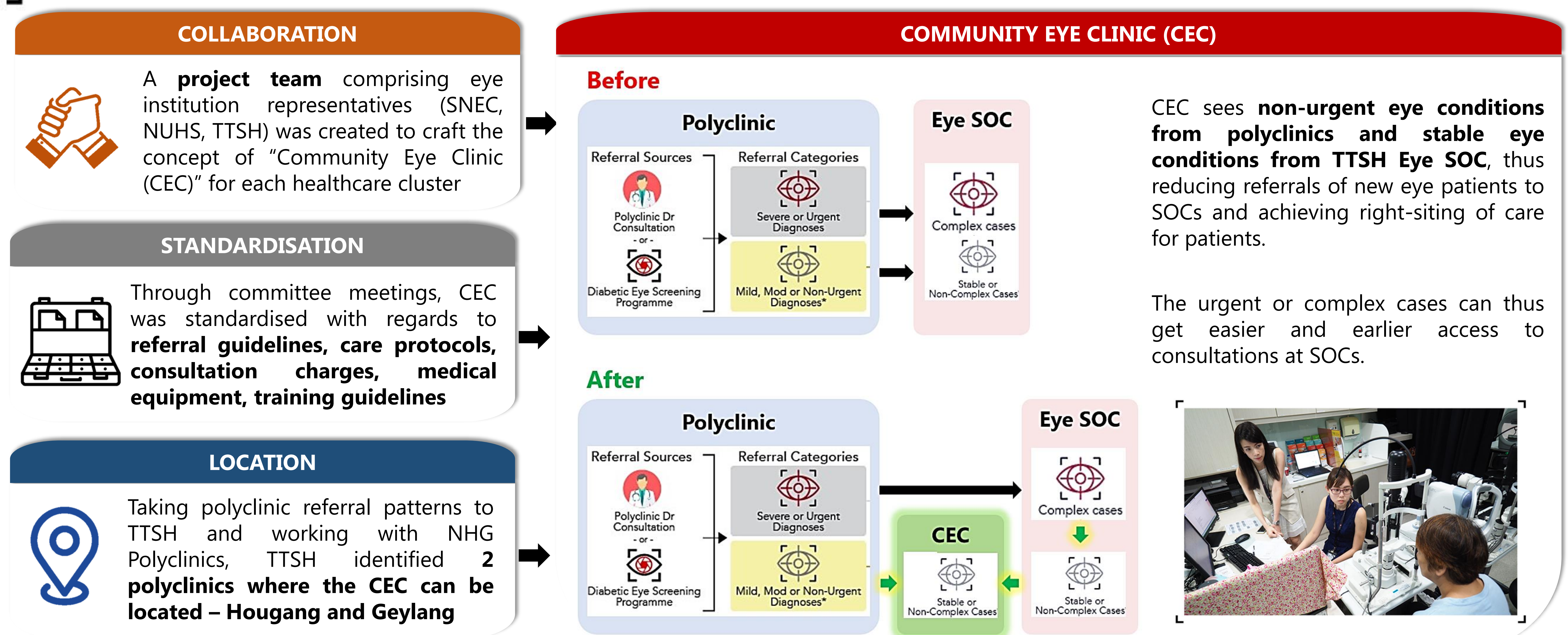
With the success of SEC-C in TTSH, the 3 healthcare clusters (TTSH, SNEC, NUHS) came together to create a **structured primary eye care service in the community** under the MOH Hospital Service Development Programme (HSDP) with the objectives of

- Managing stable eye cases in the community
- Provision of accessible and timely quality eye care
- Decreasing unnecessary referrals to hospitals

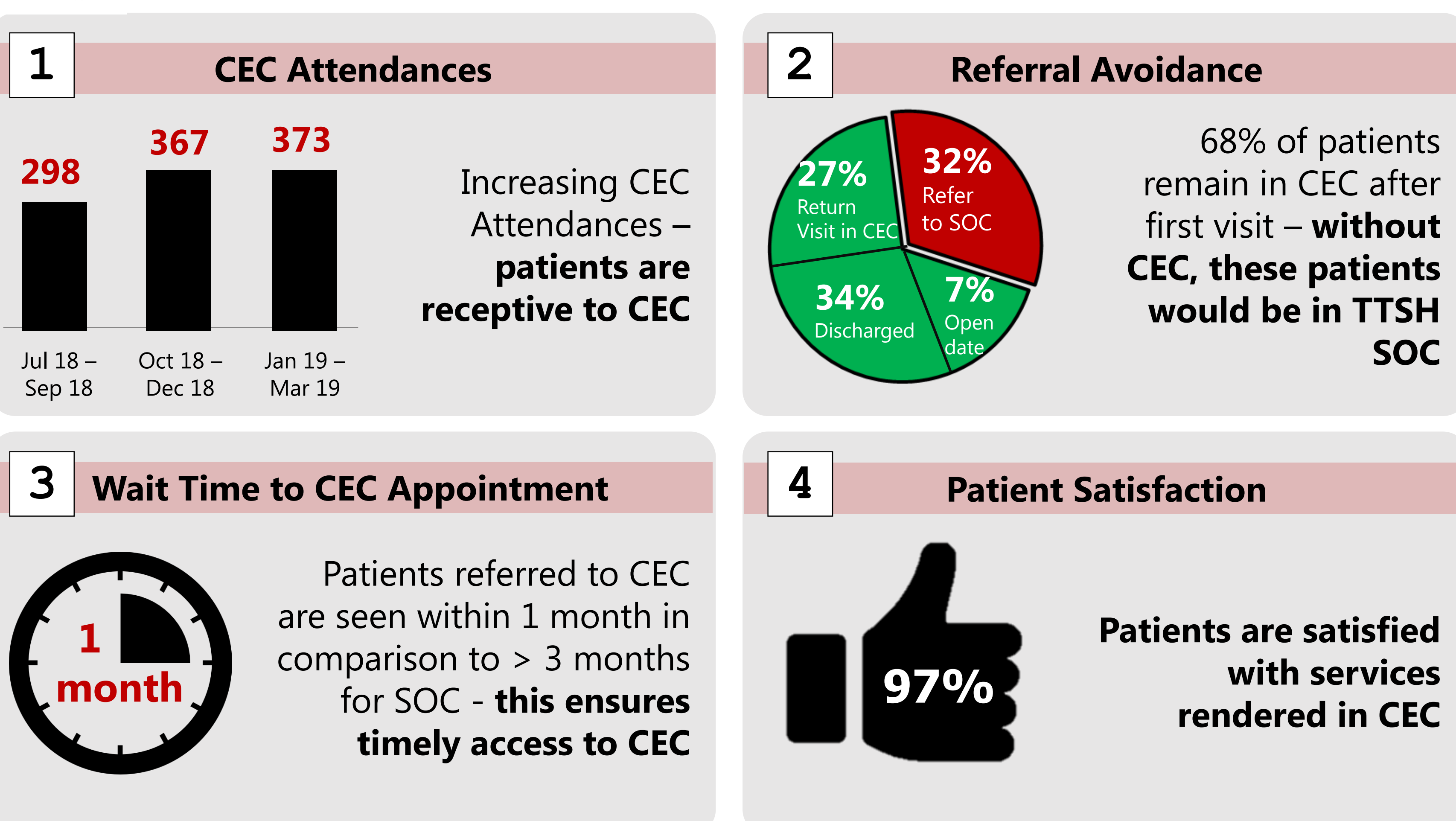
With a structured primary eye care service, stable eye conditions can be seen in the community by trained optometrists, thereby freeing up doctors' resources to manage complex conditions in Eye SOC.

The team also collaborated together with polyclinic partners (NHGP, SHP, NUP) to embark on a journey to envision and crystallise the programme.

Methodology



Results



Conclusion

CEC will **transform the delivery of eye services beyond the hospital into the community.**

With the success of CEC in Hougang and Geylang Polyclinics, the team hopes to scale the service to other NHG Polyclinics - Together with primary care partners, the team will develop better care for the population that we serve.

