## Singapore Healthcare Management 2021

**Supporting Private Primary Care** and Public Healthcare Integration: Establishing financial conduits for effective management of claims and ensure financial integrity in the Primary Care Network (PCN)

SingHealth

Pamela HWEE, WOO Wai Chee, A/Prof HOW Choon How **SingHealth Office of Regional Health** 

## INTRODUCTION

Background

• The rise of ageing population and chronic disease in

**METHODOLOGY** 

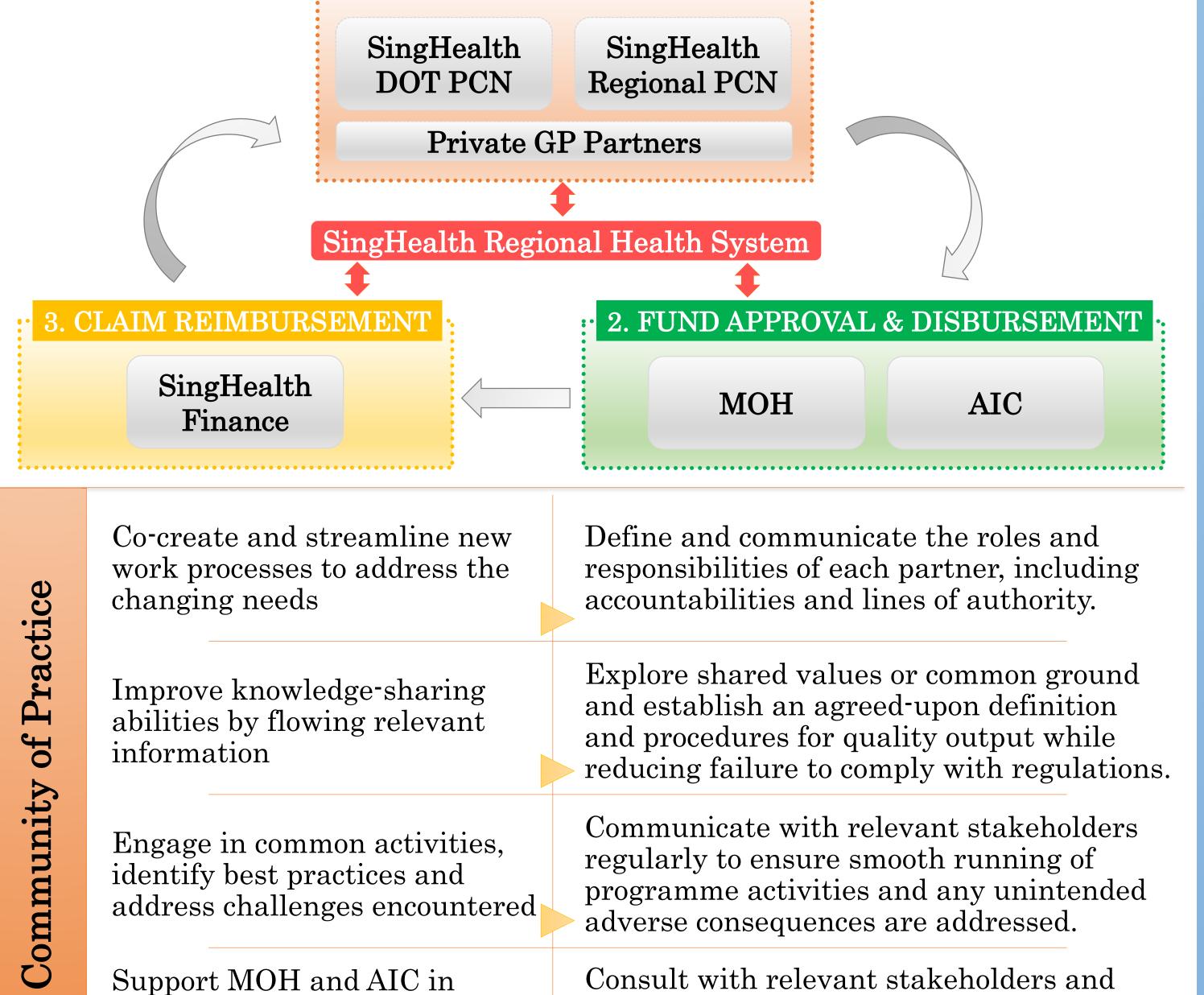
SingHealth Partners PCN Claims and Funding Conduit

**1. CLAIM SUBMISSION** 

Singapore is accelerating and there are growing concerns regarding affordability and accessibility of healthcare. Giving greater emphasis to disease prevention and population health, as well as the integration of health and social care, private GPs' participation (formed by 80% of primary care doctors) is crucial to help close the gap through closer collaboration with public and other providers.



In January 2018, SingHealth embarked on a national PCN initiative to work with more than 100 private GPs in the establishment SingHealth Partners Primary Care of Network (PCN). The PCN scheme is funded by MOH to resource and equip the private GPs to play a larger role to



meet the growing healthcare needs of Singaporeans.

SingHealth Partners PCN is represented by SingHealth DOT PCN and SingHealth Regional PCN administered by SGH and SKH respectively. Each PCN is guided by its own leadership and unique operating model to deliver the capabilities, patient care and financial outcomes required.

> Allows stakeholders to build collaborative effort and take joint action to build stronger and sustainable primary care.

Enhance efforts in delivering primary health care services more effectively and efficiently and enable successful pilot PCN model to scale up.

> Establishing sustainable financial mechanism and

Public-private healthcare partnership is an integral part of effective health interventions

Various sectors work together to share responsibilities, resources and benefits to achieve a common purpose in addressing care needs across the continuum.

of

Theory

Improving integration of care across our healthcare

system often will

reduce competition

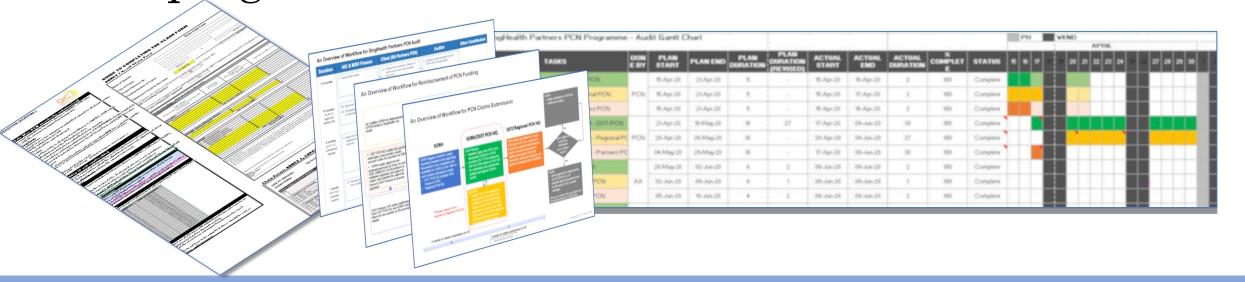
and gaps that break

down trust

facilitate discussion on a common baseline and routine data programme evaluation framework, collection to ensure programme including GP/Patient Satisfaction Survey. monitoring and evaluation Establish a timeline that is feasible and Support MOH and AIC to communicate the scope, time, cost and establish the audit of PCN requirements to all partners and relevant stakeholders, including audit engagement programme process.

## RESULT

- Established new work processes to harmonise governance arrangement and oversight of PCN claims.
- Conducted audit successfully amid COVID-19 outbreak, with extra measures taken to mitigate the impact of constraints and keeping auditors and stakeholders safe.



## **CONCLUSION**

practices for publicprivate healthcare partnership initiatives

Aim PRIVATE PRIMARY CARE & PUBLIC HEALTHCARE **INTEGRATION** 

Funding private primary care network formation and transformation of care support

Facilitate better access and coverage of the population (E.g. better geographic access, shorter waiting times, easier access to specialist services and more affordable out-of-pocket charges for direct patient services)

Improving service uptake and quality of care of integrated primary care services for chronic disease management will alleviate the load on our public healthcare system

3

E.g. Right-siting initiatives by polyclinics and hospitals' specialist outpatient clinics.

Cross-sector collaboration between private and public provides a framework for adapting existing structure and developing new ones to meet our healthcare needs.

**COVID-19 COMMUNITY** CARE FACILITY

EGIONAI

SWAB

TASKING

**POPULATION COVID-19 VACCINATION** 

✓ The availability of PCN funding and establishment of a sustainable financial mechanism to support the partnership initiatives has allowed private GP partners to step up involvement in the national healthcare initiatives.

An important foundation stone for private GP partners to journey together with SingHealth in our population health and healthcare finance transformation initiatives as

"One Singapore Healthcare" system.