

# Presenting Our Wish List

The Diabetic Society of Singapore would like to congratulate the new Minister of Health Mr Gan Kim Yong on his new appointment and sincerely hope that he would consult organisations and individuals working on the ground, discuss with industrial stake holders, and look out for blind spots before proceeding to make any changes in healthcare policies. DSS has a wish list and recommends the following for the powers that be:

1. Ensure that the cost of health care is affordable for the majority of our population especially the low income group and senior citizens suffering from chronic diseases, while still maintaining high standards.
2. Keep up with the short and long term needs to increase recruitment of healthcare professionals and workers. We hope that the Ministry of Health will offer more funds for on-the-job training and encourage the acquisition of new knowledge.
3. Building of healthcare infrastructure to provide better support or services for our rapidly ageing population.
4. Review and make adjustments to the existing financial assistance scheme to help Singaporeans cope with increasing healthcare costs. Increase the annual financial grant to chronically sick residents for immediate and long term care.
5. Fine-tune the funding framework and subvention scheme to help healthcare non-profit organisations such as DSS to strengthen their community effort for education and offer subsidised services to ensure that Singaporeans lead a meaningful life.
6. Ministry of Health to coordinate healthcare activities to prevent duplication and to administer the bulk purchase of medicine and medical-related products such as diapers or glucose test strips.

Let's work together to make this wish list come true. Wishing you all good health and a life filled with hope and love.

Yours truly,  
**YONG Chiang Boon**  
 President, DSS