International Diabetes Federation (IDF)
World Diabetes Congress 2013
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International Diabetes Federation (IDF) is an umbrella organisation of over 200 National Diabetes Associations in over 160 countries. Diabetic Society of Singapore (DSS) is one of the associations under IDF. IDF’s mission is “to promote diabetes care, prevention, and a cure worldwide.”

As a member of IDF, DSS receives the latest diabetes information or research outcomes that have been conducted worldwide; we also have opportunities to participate in IDF courses to upgrade our nurse educators. This helps to improve our healthcare system and the care that we would like to provide our patients. Delegates from DSS consisted of our president Mr Yong Chiang Boon and me. We met delegates from other countries and shared about local healthcare systems towards diabetes care.

Diabetes is a worldwide issue and its impact is painful and costly, to the individual who suffers, the caregivers, and to the community at large.

After attending this conference, I strongly feel the urge and importance to decrease the number of diabetic cases globally including Singapore. I believe the aim of most medical professionals and researchers is to develop a better solution for diabetes patients and promote a healthy lifestyle in the community.

Next year, Singapore will be hosting the IDF Regional Congress at Suntec Singapore from 21 to 24 November 2014. DSS the organiser will be inviting international speakers to share about their expertise and other activities. It will be a great opportunity for delegates from different countries to share their vast knowledge and experience with one another. At the same time, we can learn and understand how each country handles this group of patients.