



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Harvard Medical School Center for Primary Care Expands Global Reach to Korea and Singapore with the Signing of Two Memorandum of Understandings**

Harvard is expanding international cooperation through its [Program in Global Primary Care and Social Change](#) with the recent signing of two Memorandums of Understanding, one with the National University of Singapore, and another with the Korean Academy of Primary Healthcare.

The Center's Program in Global Primary Care and Social Change works through public, academic and private partnerships to accelerate the development of sustainable, reliable primary care systems that advance health equity and access for communities worldwide. Expansion into new parts of the Asia Pacific region will also allow for the Program to expand its research portfolio, collaborations, resources for medical students and executive education portfolio.

#### **Partnership with the National University of Singapore**

Harvard and the National University of Singapore (NUS) are collaborating to launch an executive education program targeted at primary healthcare leaders in Southeast Asia. For years, Harvard has run executive education programs in the United States and around the world, aimed at educating primary care leaders. Harvard has pursued this close working relationship with NUS to advance its mission of nurturing a diverse, inclusive community dedicated to alleviating suffering and improving health and well-being for all through excellence in teaching and learning, discovery and scholarship, and service and leadership. NUS will be acting through its Saw Swee Hock School of Public Health (SSHSPH).

SSHSPH is the first and only full-fledged public health tertiary education institution in Singapore. Moving beyond the traditional domains of chronic disease etiology and risk factors, the SSHSPH emphasizes new technologies and methods to measure and monitor exposure and disease, as well as new approaches to analyze public health programs, health systems and policies, including healthcare financing. SSHSPH focuses also on healthcare management capacity building, given the pressing need to drive better access, higher quality and the eventual shift to value. SSHSPH will advance its mission to continually foster healthier communities in Singapore and impact public health programs and policies through this working relationship with Harvard.

#### **Partnership with the Korean Academy of Primary Healthcare**

Harvard is forming a close working relationship with the Korean Academy of Primary Healthcare (KAPHC) to advance Harvard's mission and the Center for Primary Care's vision of saving and improving lives through primary healthcare. KAPHC is a multidisciplinary academic society that shares knowledge and transformative ideas on primary health care. KAPHC also goes beyond academic to field activities, and focus on a whole-of-society approach that sees to address the broader determinants of health through research projects, policy consultation, field training and education for primary care workers. By partnering with the Medical School, KAPHC seeks to advance its mission of research, systems transformation, field training and education of primary care workers.

Through this collaboration, Harvard will provide primary care system experts for the Republic of Korea, provide technical assistance related to the KAPHC strategy and the implementation of primary care, and develop educational programming for both students and healthcare professionals, and implement, alongside KAPHC immersion experiences in Boston at Harvard and affiliated community health centers.

#### **Media Contact**

Caroline Barnaby: [Caroline\\_Barnaby@hms.harvard.edu](mailto:Caroline_Barnaby@hms.harvard.edu)  
<https://info.primarycare.hms.harvard.edu/pgpcsc>