



# COLORECTAL EXCELLENCE

Dr Dean Koh and Dr Charles Tsang have joined forces to provide patients with an unprecedented level of colorectal care

Walking into Dr Dean Koh's and Dr Charles Tsang's Colorectal Clinic Associates' office is more like walking into the front room of someone's home than a doctor's office. With comfortable couches arranged in an informal manner in the spacious waiting area, one can sit back, relax and watch the fishes swim idyllically along the two-metre long aquarium that – interestingly enough – also doubled as the registration counter.

"The 'living room' feel was an intentional decision for us," Dr Koh says with a smile when we spoke with him. "We wanted our patients to feel at home when they come to see us, especially since most of them would be here seeking treatment for medical problems in a part of their body commonly seen as embarrassing."

"Our patients' comfort is always at the top of our list of priorities," Dr Tsang adds. "We want our patients to always feel like they can come to us with any problems, that there is nothing they cannot broach or discuss with us."

An attitude like this would explain why both partners have so carefully chosen the location of their office. With a pleasant window view and soothing lighting, everything about the office is specifically designed to put one at ease: from the scent of specially picked oils in the air to the cup of freshly brewed espresso they put in your hand the moment you arrive, one truly does feel at home here.

Both Dr Koh and Dr Tsang, who had completed advanced colorectal training in the U.S. Accredited Council for Graduate Medical Education's co-residency program, decided to establish the practice in Mouth Elizabeth's Novena Specialist about half a year ago. With over 30 years of co-practice experience, both doctors are highly highly trained and extremely capable doctors.

Prior to setting up Colorectal Clinic Associates, both doctors were Associate Professors at the Department of Surgery in the National University of Singapore and Senior Consultants in the Division of Colorectal Surgery in the National University Hospital. They are now also Visiting Consultants in the National Cancer Institute (Singapore) and the Department of Colorectal Surgery in Singapore General Hospital. They have worked on many projects and publications.





that they work extremely well together. This natural camaraderie allows them to use their individual skills to complement each other, allowing them to afford their patients a consistently high standard of surgical care that is regularly reproduced in the long term.

"Our goal is always to provide our patients with the best in treatment outcome and quality," Dr Tsang tells us. "From the movement of the patient from point of entry to waiting room, consultation room, examination room and counselling room, we have always focused on the patient experience, to ensure that they will always feel comfortable with us."

Dr Koh agrees. "We solicited opinions from our friends and family when designing the clinic. We wanted Colorectal Clinic Associates to be a place where patients would be put at ease, and I think the results speak for themselves." Sipping our espresso and admiring the decor, we cannot help but agree.

**COLORECTAL CLINIC ASSOCIATES**  
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independently and together.

Through Colorectal Clinic Associates, the pair provide a full subspecialty service in treating all surgical conditions of the colon, rectum and anus. This ranges from the most basic of tools for evaluation and investigation – such as endoluminal ultrasonographic equipment, anomanometry and videoproctoscope – to the state-of-the-art modalities of treatment including the latest in endoscopy, minimally invasive surgery, robotic surgery, hemorrhoid and fistula surgery.

As active partners, both doctors are always involved in the care of all the patients who walk through their front doors regardless of who the primary attending doctor may actually be. This makes them distinctly different from solo subspecialty practices or even group multispecialty practices, where only one doctor will ever be assigned to a patient.

"We feel that this arrangement [of having two doctors work on the same case together] facilitates discussion, opinion gathering and auditing," Dr Tsang says. "Simply having another person to bounce ideas and opinions off is always helpful, allowing us to discuss treatment options to find the absolute best for our patients."

Dr Koh adds that all major operations are also always performed as a team. "This lets us ensure that all facilities are efficiently used, enabling shorter operating times and better surgical outcomes with fewer complications."

It is obvious from watching the two doctors talk, laugh and interact with each other