

Much similarities between exams and giving birth

by Dr Low Sher Guan Luke, FCFP(S), Council Member, Editor, College of Family Physicians Singapore

"Dear tutors, on behalf of the fellowship class, we will like to thank all our fellowship tutors for the help and guidance given for the past 2 years. We will like to invite you to an appreciation dinner at Tze Lee's residence."

Each and every tutor who believes in training the next generation of family medicine physicians, holds his deepest wish that his trainee will do well during exams and pass. It is like labor and childbirth which is a long and laborious process. For the candidate, it's akin to being the mother going through a tumultuous 40-weeks of labour which culminates in childbirth. For the tutor, it's akin to being an obstetrician who conscientiously monitors and screens the pregnancy over the 40 weeks and facilitating the final delivery. The candidate bears the pain, learns and grows through the process. The tutor provides guidance and pretty much goes through a similar roller coaster suspense before the release of results. Some end up in successful deliveries, and some requires

a longer process as a result of complications. In the end, if the mother is determined to give birth no matter how long it takes, the obstetrician will facilitate the process and see both mother and child till the very end.

So it was with much relief to hear of the successful candidates who wanted to show their appreciation with an appreciation dinner. Dr Tan Tze Lee and his wife graciously hosted all of us at his residence, and the wonderful food provided there complemented the joy and good company for the evening. And as the common saying goes, "a picture speaks a thousand words", I thought it best to show you what I mean, rather than waste thousands of words trying to illustrate the happy moments.

Congratulations to our successful candidates of the recent fellowship exams! And let us also continue to encourage those who have made the brave attempt, to help them to persevere on and finish the good race!

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Our long-supporting President and College Fellowship Programme Director



The happy faces of our newly minted fellows!



Kudos to Tze Lee and his wife, our kind hosts for the evening



What fleshy durians we have!



When the wife passes and is happy, her husband is also happy!



Through thick and thin together



Happiness written all over, from the durians of course!

Images courtesy of Dr Hu Peilin