



RADIOGRAPHY PROFESSION GETS A BOOST

● Radiographers and radiation therapists will get a boost in career opportunities next year, Health Minister Gan Kim Yong said yesterday.

Firstly, statutory regulation and registration will be introduced for diagnostic radiographers and radiation therapists under the Allied Health Professions Act.

The move, said Mr Gan, will help ensure higher standards of radiography practice in Singapore as well as better care for patients.

Speaking at the 20th Asia-Australasia Conference of Radiologic Technologists, the minister also announced two new degree programmes — in diagnostic radiography and radiation therapy. Both four-year programmes will be offered by the Singapore Institute of Technology.

Mr Gan said the degree programmes would be another step in equipping aspiring radiographers and radiation therapists with “deeper knowledge and skills to keep pace with the evolving healthcare landscape and technologies, and to improve patient care”.

He noted that even with advances in imaging technologies, without good radiographers and radiation therapists, the technology and equipment cannot be effective.

“Radiographers are an integral part of a multidisciplinary healthcare team and they must look beyond their immediate sphere of work to be an active contributor in patient care,” said Mr Gan. “Not only do you need to adapt to new and emerging practices, you can also give valuable and timely advice to doctors on the appropriate procedures. Radiation therapists need to not only ensure safe and accurate treatment delivery, but also provide evidence-based care to patients.”

He added that given Singapore’s ageing society, effective care delivery in the healthcare system will become increasingly more important.