



## Tor Phern Chern

Head Neurostimulation Service, Department of Mood and Anxiety, West Zone, IMH

Senior Consultant Psychiatrist, IMH

Assistant Professor NUS YLL SOM, LKCMedicine, Duke-NUS

### Research Interests:

- Psychiatric Neurostimulation
- Mood Disorders, Schizophrenia

Email: [Phern\\_Chern\\_TOR@imh.com.sg](mailto:Phern_Chern_TOR@imh.com.sg)

## Biography

Dr Phern-Chern Tor completed his medical degree at the National University of Singapore in 2001 under the Singapore Armed Forces Local Study Award and embarked on a dual career track in Medicine and Military Service. In his psychiatric career, Dr Phern-Chern distinguished himself by obtaining the Eli-Lily gold medal and the Singapore Psychiatric Association Book Prize for his undergraduate and postgraduate psychiatric examinations respectively. He is a national examiner and clinical core faculty member for the National Psychiatry Residency program. He has also been active in psychiatric leadership with positions in the Singapore Psychiatric Association committee and as Chairman of the Singapore Young Psychiatrists and Trainees Association and is currently the Vice-Chairperson of the Section of Neurostimulation, College of Psychiatrists, Academy of Medicine (Singapore). He underwent advanced research and neurostimulation training under the SAF Overseas Attachment program at the Black Dog Institute, University of New South Wales under Professor Colleen Loo and under the Ministry of Health Human Manpower Development program at the Poul Hansen Family Centre for Depression, Toronto Western Hospital under Professor Jonathan Downar. Dr Phern-Chern also gained proficiency in rTMS, DCS and advanced ECT techniques.

## Selected Publications

- Tor PC. New Challenges facing the Doctor-Patient Relationship in the Next Millennium. *Singapore Medical Journal*. 2001; 42(12):572-575.
- Tor PC, Ng TP, Lim L, Ng BY, Ang YG, Winslow M, Wong ST, Goh LG. Qualities of a good psychiatrist. *Asia Pacific Psychiatry*. 2009; 1:9-14.
- Tor PC et al. Adequacy of Psychiatric Training: A Singaporean Perspective. *Academic Psychiatry*. 2010; 34:50-53.
- Tor PC, Ng TP, Yong KH, Sim K, Xiang YT, Wang CY, Ho EML, Fujii S, Yang SY, Chong MY, Ungvari GS, Si TM, He YL, Chung KE, Chee KY, Trivedi J, Udomratn P, Shinfuku N, Kua EH, Tan CH, Sartorius N, Baldessarini RJ. Adjunctive benzodiazepine treatment of hospitalized schizophrenia patients in Asia from 2001 to 2008. *International Journal of Neuropsychopharmacology*. 2011; 14(6):735-45.
- Stuart H, Sartorius N, Liinamaa T, The Images Study Group. The images of psychiatry scale: development, factor structure, and reliability. *BMC Psychiatry*. 2014; 14:337. doi: 10.1186/s12888-014-0337-1.
- Tor PC, Bautovich A, Wang MJ, Martin D, Harvey SB, Loo C. A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Brief Versus Ultrabrief Right Unilateral Electroconvulsive Therapy for Depression. *J Clin Psychiatry*. 2015; 76(9):e1092-8.

- Tor PC, Chiam PC. APPRENTICE STYLE TO COMPETENCY STYLE PSYCHIATRIC TRAINING: 5 YEAR STUDY OF SINGAPORE PSYCHIATRIC TRAINING. *MedEdPublish*. 2016:5.
- Tor PC, Ying J, Ho NF, Wang M, Martin D, Ang CP et al. Effectiveness of Electroconvulsive Therapy and Associated Cognitive Change in Schizophrenia: A Naturalistic, Comparative Study of Treating Schizophrenia With Electroconvulsive Therapy. *J ect*. 2017; 33(4):272-277.
- Tor PC, Tan JS, Martin DM, Loo CK. Outcomes in patients with and without capacity in electroconvulsive therapy. *J Affect Disord*. 2020; 266:151-157. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2020.01.150>.
- Tor PC, Tan J, Loo C. A Model for Ethical triaging of ECT patients during COVID-19. *BJPsych Bull*. 2020; 1-4. doi: 10.1192/bjb.2020.99.

### Notable Research Awards & Grants From Past 5 Years

Name of Awards & Grants	Year Obtained
National Medical Research Council (NMRC) Clinician-Scientist Individual Research Grant New Investigator Grant (CS-IRG-NIG)	2019
NMRC Clinician-Scientist/Clinician Investigator Salary Support Program (CS/CISSP)	2019