

SGMARRROW

BE A BOLD MARRROW-LE TODAY!

BY VELDA WONG

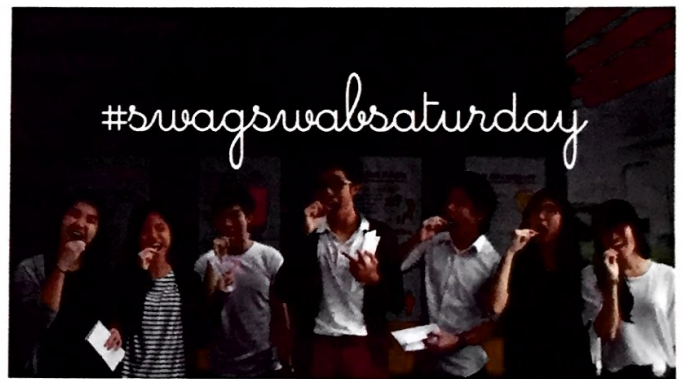
Ever wondered how it feels like to be a Bone Marrow Donor? Fret no more! A group of NUS Medical students from the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) created SGMarrow and is leading remarkable efforts in their quest to recruit donors and bring the other medical schools in Singapore on board.

SGMarrow is a joint pilot project between the IFMSA Singapore and the Bone Marrow Donor Programme. It was set up as a conduit to cultivate awareness and encourage bone marrow donation among youths in Singapore. Having just completed a successful donor drive at NUS Medical School in the first semester of Academic Year 15/16, SGMarrow sincerely hopes that more youth will be able to step up and be a marrowcle to understand the benefits of being a donor and also to curb the stereotypes that being a marrowcle brings with.


Fena Lee, one of the student leaders of this initiative, shared candidly that her team hopes to aspire and change the mindset of youth towards being a marrowcle. One of the strong reasons for the objective of this collaboration was wanting to change the perception of bone marrow donation, which has a penchant for being misunderstood. Furthermore, they hope to bridge the knowledge gap by starting with university students. Over time, they hope to truly be able to transform their generation of young people and shape the nation into one where joining the register is part and parcel of the growing up process, and where the word, 'marrowcle', is an actual word and all patients will have a chance to start anew.

The team is delighted that the response for the drive has been tremendously encouraging in its nascent stage despite a handful of donors who were fearful of the perceived pain in being a donor and is looking forward to bringing their services to the larger community within NUS. SGMarrow's success was indeed heartening for the team and they plan to conduct similar outreaches in other universities and schools in bid to reach out to more people to be a marrowcle.

“ Shape the nation into one... where the word, 'marrowcle', is an actual work and all patients will have a chance to start anew.



Photos from SGMarrow's Facebook page

For more information (especially if you are interested), you can either keep your eyes peeled on a drive coming near you or visit SGMarrow's social media pages for more insights on what's it like to be a marrowcle! You are also strongly encouraged to follow and check out their website and instagram account regularly for interesting pretty little factoids on the benefits of being a bone marrow donor! 

Keep up with SGMarrow on their social media channels at:

Website: <https://sgmarrow.wordpress.com/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BeAMarrowcle>

Instagram: @sgmarrow