



**Dr Koh Poh Koon**

MBBS (S'pore), MMed (Surg), MRCSEd, FRCSE (Gen), FAMS (Gen Surg)

Senior Minister of State  
Ministry of Health

Deputy Secretary-General  
National Trades Union Congress  
Republic of Singapore

Dr Koh Poh Koon was re-elected as a Member of Parliament for Tampines GRC on 10 July 2020, having served as a Member of Parliament for Ang Mo Kio GRC since 2015. He is currently Senior Minister of State at the Ministry of Health and assumed the role of Deputy Secretary-General at the National Trades Union Congress (NTUC) on 23 April 2018.

As the Senior Minister of State for Health, Dr Koh is in charge of healthcare financing policies and plays a key role in ensuring that healthcare remains affordable and accessible for all Singaporeans, through a range of schemes like MediShield Life, CareShield Life and the Community Health Assist Scheme. Dr Koh also oversees healthcare manpower development and polices to meet the increasing healthcare needs of our ageing population. He is also part of the team that drives the Ministry's War on Diabetes to engender a whole-of-society effort against diabetes in the key areas of prevention, screening and follow-up, and disease management. As a healthcare practitioner himself, Dr Koh is also well-placed to engage the medical fraternity and various professional bodies to drive collaborations across the sector, including the Traditional and Complementary Medicine sectors.

Prior to his appointment at the Ministry of Health, Dr Koh was the Senior Minister of State for Trade and Industry where he focused on research and development and Entrepreneurship matters, and was the patron of the Action Community for Entrepreneurship (ACE). He also played an instrumental role in the promotion of a dynamic and effective energy market in Singapore. In the area of trade and investment, Dr Koh oversaw the development of Singapore's bilateral economic relations with China, the European Union, the Middle East and Russia & Central Asia. He remains as the Vice Co-Chair of the Singapore-Jiangsu Economic Council. Under the ambit of the Future Economy Council, Dr Koh continues as co-chair of two sub-committees overseeing the transformation of the manufacturing and the trade and connectivity clusters.

As Deputy Secretary-General of the NTUC, Dr Koh works with union leaders and the labour movement network to implement the Industry Transformation Maps (ITMs) and better prepare workers for jobs in key growth sectors. He champions the Progressive Wage Model for workers in the lower wage sectors.

Prior to joining politics, Dr Koh held academic appointments as Clinical Lecturer in the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine at the National University of Singapore, Adjunct Assistant Professor in the Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School and Adjunct Clinician Scientist with the Institute of Bioengineering and Nanotechnology (IBN), a key institution under the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*Star). Dr Koh has also served as a Consultant Colorectal Surgeon in Singapore General Hospital and was the Director of the Colorectal Cancer Molecular Genetics Research Laboratory as well as the founding Director of the Colorectal Cancer Genomic Health Service.

Dr Koh started his own private practice in 2011 at Capstone Colorectal Surgery Centre in Mount Elizabeth Medical Centre. In 2012, he partnered Fortis Healthcare Singapore to set up the first dedicated colorectal diseases hospital in Southeast Asia, the Fortis Colorectal hospital.

Dr Koh is a Lieutenant-Colonel in the Singapore Armed Forces, having served as the Commanding Officer of a Combat Service Support Battalion and subsequently as Deputy Brigade Commander. He graduated in 2009 from the Singapore Armed Forces Command and Staff College, where he emerged as the Top Graduate of the 10th National Service Command and Staff Course.

He graduated from the Faculty of Medicine, National University of Singapore in 1996 and obtained his Fellowship from the Royal College of Surgeons (Edinburgh) as well as the Academy of Medicine (Singapore) in 2005. He received colorectal surgical training in Edinburgh, UK (2002) and completed his Fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic, Ohio, USA (2006).