

Do Not Be Afraid of Tattoos

By Yu Sheng-Chuan

I remember in was in 2014 when I received an invitation from a fellow volunteer. The term “standardized patient” had a fresh and yet strange ring to it. Out of curiosity, I attended the training course, during which I had a comprehensive knowledge of what the term entailed and how to diligently portray a patient. After that I tried my best to allocate time to participate in training and hospital performance.

In the few trainings and performances I learned about some responses of physical pathologies and other medical knowledge that were beneficial to me. I tend think of this as part of the voluntary service.

During my first participation in the national examination, I was extremely nervous and scared that I might mislead the examinees with bad acting. Fortunately, that did not happen. The most impressionable moment in my service as a standardized patient was when a student froze when he saw the tattoo on my body after removing my clothes. “Don’t mind the tattoo on my body, in future you will meet a plenty of patients with tattoos,” I



told him. He was able to relax after that and resumed physical checkup.

Three years after acting as a standardized patient, it is my wish that after every performance of mine, a student can pass an examination.