

## GIS IN HEALTH CARE

GIS enable spatial analysis in the health care sector for the development of targeted health care programme.

### Highlights:

- Using Spatial Analysis to Derive New Insights from Existing Information
- Common Platform Used for Better Studying, Planning and Collaborating for Delivering Greater Healthcare Services

### Background

Established in 2001, the **Health Promotion Board (HPB)** has a vision to build a nation of healthy people. HPB is committed to helping residents in Singapore attain optimal health through health promotion and disease prevention programmes. To achieve HPB's mission, the studying, analysis and planning of appropriate health programmes from the existing population is necessary.

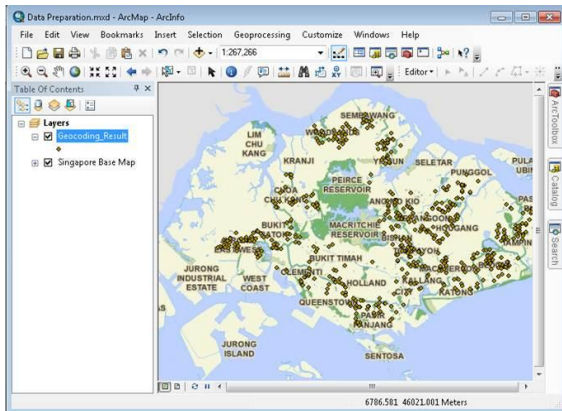
### Using spatial analysis to derive new insights from existing information

Currently, the current data system at HPB collates useful and detailed health information of the Singapore population to help the Health Analysts in their studies. However, the current system lacks the ability to merge both the important health information together with the location of their subjects in Singapore in an easily comprehensible manner.

The analysts, who are required to analyse data using multiple variants, are now able to pick out previously hidden trends and patterns simply by correlating subject profiles with geographic location.

### Common platform used for better studying, planning and collaborating for delivering greater healthcare services

Bearing location in mind, analysts uses ArcGIS Desktop to help them map and visualize their analysis. At the same time, analysts can still continue to make use of all necessary demographic criteria in an integrated manner.



In the above image, a mock-up sample of health subjects analysed according to their locations in Singapore.

With the added ability of visualisation, analysts are now able to do a better study of health patterns, plan for a better outreach of health programmes, as well as communicate plans and strategies more effectively to their stakeholders.

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