

MH 34:03/3-5

23 Jan 2008

Dear Colleague,

PROVIDING OUTPATIENT PRIMARY CARE DURING A FLU PANDEMIC

In previous influenza pandemics, the vast majority of the affected patients only required primary care treatment. We assume that the next pandemic would be no different. The challenge is to have sufficient number of treatment facilities to cope with the surge of patients who require primary care. As private primary care clinics provide outpatient care to the majority of our community, we recognize that you can play a significant role to help manage the ill in a pandemic. Our vision of a family physician for every Singaporean applies also in an emergency. We would therefore like to see the public continue to go to their family physicians for outpatient treatment for both their chronic and acute conditions in a pandemic.

2. The Ministry of Health (MOH), the Singapore Medical Association (SMA) and the College of Family Physicians Singapore (CFPS) have developed the Primarycare Pandemic Response Framework to enable your clinic to continue providing primary care to your patients including those ill from influenza. As key partners, the participating doctors and their clinic staff will be accorded the same level of protection as healthcare workers in the public sector and will also be provided with anti-viral drugs for treatment of their patients.

3. As the primary care sector scales up its preparedness, we will continue to keep the public informed and engaged. To this end, we will announce the participation of private primary care clinics (including community based paediatric clinics) as a key component in the influenza pandemic response later this year. We will also post the list of participating clinics on the websites of MOH, SMA and CFPS so that the public could verify that their family physician clinic is among those listed. If their usual family physician clinic is not on the list, they would be advised to choose from the list a clinic which is close to their home for primary medical care in a pandemic. In the latter instance, they would also be encouraged to familiarize themselves with the selected clinic.

4. 57% of the private primary care clinics have responded positively to our earlier invitations to participate in the Response Framework. If you have already agreed to participate but have not attended the training workshop, or you have yet to sign up for the Framework, we would like to take this opportunity to invite you to do so and attend the training workshop in Feb/March. The Workshop will be over two half-day sessions and will introduce you to the Guide to organizing your clinic for a pandemic. The Workshops will accrue 6 CME points (attendance - 4 points; MCQs -

2 points). To participate in the Framework and/or the Workshop, please complete the online response form at www.sma.org.sg/flu or the attached form and fax it to SMA by **18 Feb 08**.

5. Your support and participation is vital in the event of an influenza pandemic.

Yours faithfully,



Prof K Satku
Director of Medical
Services, MOH



Dr Wong Chiang Yin
President, SMA



A/Prof Goh Lee Gan
President, CFPS

Influenza Pandemic Workshop for GPs and Community Paediatricians

Health Promotion Board Auditorium, 3 Second Hospital Avenue, Singapore 168937

PROGRAMME

1st Workshop: 23, 24 Feb 2008

2nd Workshop: 1, 2 Mar 2008

Saturday (2 Core CME Points)		
Time	Topic	Speaker
1:30pm	Registration	
2:00pm	Opening Speech	Dr Wong Chiang Yin
2:10pm	Latest updates and developments on avian influenza in the world	Dr Jeffery Cutter
2:40pm	National influenza pandemic primary care response framework Part 1 - MOH Framework Part 2 - Guide	Mr Lim Kok Peng
3:30pm	Tea Break	
4:00pm	Organisation of clinic and work processes to manage flu and non-flu patients - Lessons from Ex sparrow hawk Presentation: Health Check System (HCS)	Dr Daniel Chan Mr Tan Boon Siang
4:45pm	Questions and Answers	All of the above
5:00pm	End of Day 1	
Sunday (2 Core CME Points)		
Time	Topic	Speaker
1:30pm	Registration	
2:00pm	Clinical guidelines on patient care in the event of an influenza pandemic (e.g. prophylaxis, treatment)	A/Prof Goh Lee Gan
2:45pm	Infection control measures and disinfection of clinic environment for primary care doctors and clinic staff	Dr Wong Tien Hua
3:15pm	Mask Fitting Demonstration	Draeger, 3M
3:25pm	Questions and Answers	All of the above
3:40pm	Tea Break	
4:00pm	Personal Mask Fitting for type and size	Draeger, 3M
5:00pm	End of Day 2	

**INFLUENZA PANDEMIC PRIMARY CARE RESPONSE FRAMEWORK AND WORKSHOPS
FOR GPs & COMMUNITY PAEDIATRICIANS**

Online registration preferred: www.sma.org.sg/flu

(Registration should reach us by 18th February 2008)

To: Singapore Medical Association

Fax: 6224 7827

I would like to participate in the Primary Care Pandemic Response Framework

* **Yes** **No**

Please disregard this section if you have already agreed to participate in the Framework. Thank you.

Please write clearly. The symbol "*" indicates a compulsory field.

Clinic Name *:			
Clinic Address *:			
		Postal Code *:	
Clinic Tel No *:		Clinic Fax No:	
Full Name (as in NRIC / Passport) *:			
NRIC / Passport No *:		MCR No *:	
Handphone No *:		Pager No:	
Email Address *:			
Home Address *:			
		Postal Code *:	
Home Tel No *:		Home Fax No:	

----- **Influenza Pandemic Workshop for GPs and Community Paediatricians** -----

Time: 1:30pm-5:00pm (Sat, Sun)
Registration begins at 1:30pm. Please be punctual.

Venue: Health Promotion Board Auditorium
3 Second Hospital Avenue, Singapore 168937

Please register me for the following weekend (please tick accordingly):

Preferred Workshop Date *:	<input type="checkbox"/> 23-24 Feb 2008	<input type="checkbox"/> 1-2 Mar 2008
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