

News from SMA Council

By Dr Yue Wai Mun, Honorary Secretary

1. AUTOCLAVE INSPECTION AND REGISTRATION

The Occupational Safety Department (OSD) of MOM would like to remind all medical practitioners that it has been four months since the issue was first raised. Although MOM understands that SMA Members would need time to have their existing or new autoclaves inspected and registered, they have emphasised that in the meantime, all necessary measures should be taken to ensure the safe use of their existing autoclaves.

More information can be found in the latest MOM circular in this month's mailbag.

2. SUSPENSION OF PRODUCT LICENCE OF LIPOBAY

The Health Sciences Authority (HSA) is suspending with immediate effect the product licence and marketing in Singapore of Lipobay (active ingredient: cerivastatin). Lipobay, a prescription-only medicine, is an anti-cholesterol preparation manufactured by Bayer Germany.

This is a precautionary measure to safeguard public health following the voluntary worldwide withdrawal of the product by the company.

For the press release, please visit the Health Sciences Authority website at <http://www.hsa.gov.sg/forms/N1.doc> or call their Pharmacovigilance, Communications and Research Division at telephone: 325 5604.

3. CONGRATULATIONS

i. Congratulations to the following who were recipients of the National Day Awards 2001:

- a. Public Service Star
 - Dr Arthur Beng Kian Lam (Chairman, National Cadet Corps Council)
 - Dr Low Lip Ping (Chairman, Singapore National Heart Association)

b. Public Administration Medal (Gold)

- Dr Jennifer Lee (CEO, KK Women's

& Children's Hospital, Singapore Health Services)

c. Public Administration Medal (Silver)

- Assoc Prof Foo Keong Tatt (Associate Dean, National University of Singapore; Senior Consultant & Advisor, Department of Urology, Singapore General Hospital, Singapore Health Services)

d. Public Service Medal

- Dr Ong Seh Hong (Vice-Chairman, Nee Soon East CCC)
- Dr Arthur Lee Kiat Siong (Member, Woody Lodge Management Committee)

e. Long Service Medal

- Dr Tan Tiong Tee Clarence (Chief Executive Officer, Health Sciences Authority)

ii. Congratulations to SMA Council Member, Dr Lee Pheng Soon for being

- Appointed as Member of University Staff, as Honorary Fellow in Human Nutrition, University of Otago, New Zealand, 8 August 2001.
- Elected Fellow of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Physicians, Royal Colleges of Medicine UK, 13 August 2001.

4. SMA GUIDELINE ON FEES (3RD EDITION)

We wish to confirm that laparoscopic cholecystectomy should be classified as a Group F operation under Digestive System. In the 3rd Edition, it is listed as "Percutaneous (Lap) Cholecystectomy" (pg. 41).

5. SMA TRAINING ROOM (SEE PHOTO ABOVE)

A recent addition to the SMA Secretariat, the SMA Training Room has a capacity of 60 and is equipped with tablet-chairs, a slide projector, LCD projector and OHP. Currently, the healthcare



SMA Training Room.

course "Certificate in Healthcare (Outpatient)" is held in the training room on Saturday afternoons. Rental for SMA Members: \$51.50/hour; non-SMA Members: \$103/hour. For more information, please contact Mrs Emily Ong at telephone 223 1264.

6. COLLECTION OF SINGAPORE DOCTORS DIRECTORY 2001/2002 AND SMA TIE/ SCARF

The Singapore Doctors Directory 2001/2002 will be ready for collection from the SMA Secretariat from 10 September during office hours (Mon to Fri 9am to 6pm, Sat 9am to 1pm). Members are also reminded to collect your SMA tie or scarf from the SMA Secretariat.

7. UPCOMING SMA EVENTS

- i. Seminars in Bioethics & Health Law 2001-2
 - Time: 5.30 - 7.00pm
 - Venue: Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Theatre (Level 1)
 - Medical Confidentiality (13 Sep)
 - Access and Ownership of Medical Records (11 Oct)
 - Refusal of treatment by Patients & Doctors (8 Nov)
- ii. Annual Ethics Convention
 - Dates: 1 - 4 Nov 2001
 - Venue: Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Theatre (Level 1)

For registration and more information on the above events, please contact Ms Ng Wee Fong at Tel: 223 1264. ■

WHAT IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN

On page 13 of the July issue of SMA News, with regards to the GDFM, MMed FM and FCFPS programmes, the telephone number to contact CFPS should be 223 0606.