

News from SMA Council

*By Dr Tham Tat Yean,
Honorary Assistant Secretary*

1. COLLABORATION BETWEEN SMA AND CFPS

In accordance with SMC's concern on contextual CME for non-specialists, the College of Family Physicians has launched an initiative with the two health clusters and the private sector to organise relevant and broad-based CME in association with the formal FMTP modular quarterly programme. As part of ongoing efforts to cooperate for the betterment of the medical profession, the SMA will be helping CFPS to circulate the quarterly Modular CME and Training programme in the monthly mailbag to SMA Members.

2. SMC ON-LINE CME SYSTEM

Members who do not have internet access and wish to submit CME claims electronically through SMA, are reminded to do so as soon as possible. We will assist Members to update the following categories:

- Category I C Overseas Conferences and Seminars
- Category II Publication of Original Papers
- Category III Self Study

As it will not be possible to update records for the year 2001 after 31 December 2001, we would like to request that members submit their log sheets (available in the SMC Online CME System booklet) to the SMA Secretariat by 15 December 2001 at the latest. It is necessary to provide your userid and password to the SMA CME Coordinator to facilitate the updating of CME claims. Steps will be taken to ensure the confidentiality of passwords.

3. MANAGED CARE SUB-COMMITTEE

During the recent SMA Practice Management Seminar on "Surviving Managed Care", participants proposed an SMA standing Committee on Managed Care to update doctors and discuss professional and practice issues in the context of Managed Care schemes. The SMA Council is pleased to inform Members that the SMA Private Practice Committee will be setting up a sub-committee for Managed Care. More details on the committee's

members and its work-plan will be provided soon. SMA Members who missed the seminar can read Dr Tan Hooi Hwa's report on page 3 or download presentation materials from http://www.sma.org.sg/whatsnew/practice_mgt_sept2001.html

4. SMA AVANTGO EDITION

The SMA Medical Informatics Committee has recently initiated a pilot project to deliver content from the Singapore Medical Journal (abstracts) and selected SMA content to users with palmtops and access to the internet. During the pilot-run, the Committee will assess the impact and viability of this additional method of delivery with a view to expanding to include SMA's event calendar, CME programme, electronic pharmacopeias, clinical guidelines and other information that would be of immediate relevance to doctors. Members who are keen to participate in this pilot-run can email webmaster@sma.org.sg for more details. ■