

# News from SMA Council

By Dr Yue Wai Mun, Honorary Secretary

## 1. SMA SECRETARIAT'S NEW OPERATING HOURS

The Civil Service and many other organisations have recently introduced the five-day work week arrangement in support of a pro-family work environment, to enable staff to spend more time with their families and strike a better work-life balance.

From a survey of over-the-counter services / transactions and telephone calls to the Secretariat in the past 12 months, we have found that generally, the volume of such work on Saturdays is relatively low. The SMA Council has therefore decided that the SMA Secretariat will also move into a five-day work week.

With effect from 1 November 2004, the new operating hours of the SMA Secretariat will be:

- Mondays to Fridays: 8.30am to 6.30pm
- Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays: Closed

The Secretariat will continue to stay open during lunch-time to serve you.

Healthcare courses will continue to be conducted at the SMA Training Room on Saturday afternoons as scheduled.

We wish to assure Members that the Secretariat will continue to maintain high service standards. With the extended operating hours from Mondays to Fridays, and the Secretariat continuing to be open during lunch-time every day, we believe there is ample opportunity for Members and all others to avail themselves of the services at the Secretariat.

We welcome any feedback you may have to help us serve you better.

## 2. MEDICAL INSURANCE – FAMILY MEDICINE (PROCEDURAL & NON-PROCEDURAL) & COSMETIC & AESTHETIC RISK

The definitions of the following risk categories of medical insurance coverage offered by the Medical Protection Society (MPS) and NTUC Income (NTUC), are listed for the information of family physicians:

### Cosmetic / Aesthetic Practice

MPS: Treatments or procedures which, in the opinion of the MPS Council, have as their primary purpose the alteration of the non-pathological external appearance of a patient.

NTUC: (No further additional information is available.)

### Family Medicine – Procedural

MPS: Procedures that include, but are not limited to, vasectomy, circumcision, insertion of IUCDs (e.g. Implanon), biopsies, chemical facial peel\* and superficial laser skin resurfacing\*. (\*If more than 50% of patients seen are for aesthetic practice, the full Cosmetic rate applies.)

NTUC: 20% or more of annual turnover is derived from procedural work. Note: If 20% or more of annual turnover is derived from cosmetic skin peel treatment and / or consultation, this will be rated under the risk category "Cosmetic / Aesthetic Risk".

### Family Medicine – Non-Procedural

MPS: Common and routine minor procedures, which include, but are not limited to, removal of superficial skin lesions, joint injections and drainage of abscesses. Excluding practices under "Family Medicine – Procedural".

NTUC: Less than 20% of annual turnover is derived from procedural work.

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