

# HIGHLIGHTS

## From the Honorary Secretary

Report by Dr Ng Chew Lip

Dr Ng is an ENT consultant in public service. After a day of doctoring and cajoling the kids at home to finish their food, his idea of relaxation is watching a drama serial with his lovely wife and occasionally throwing some paint on a canvas.



### Forum on Singapore's COVID-19 strategy and direction

SMA, together with the Academy of Medicine, Singapore (AMS), College of Family Physicians Singapore (CFPS) and the Ministry of Health (MOH), organised an online forum on 9 October 2021 to share Singapore's COVID-19 strategy and the direction ahead.

MOH first provided an update to attendees, in line with the changes by the Multi-Ministry Taskforce announced on the same day.

Thereafter, there was a lively dialogue with the following panellists.

Dr Koh Poh Koon	Senior Minister of State for Health and Manpower
Mr Ng How Yue	Permanent Secretary (Healthcare Development), MOH
A/Prof Kenneth Mak	Director of Medical Services, MOH
Dr Derrick Heng	Deputy Director of Medical Services (Public Health Group), MOH
A/Prof Dan Yock Young	Deputy Director of Medical Services (Health Services Group), MOH
Dr Ho Kok Sun	Assistant Master, AMS
Adj A/Prof Tan Tze Lee	President, CFPS
Dr Tan Yia Swam	President, SMA
Adj Prof Tan Sze Wee	Council member, SMA (Moderator)

There were about 2,500 attendees, with more than 300 questions posed.

We understand that future sessions will also be organised for various segments of our healthcare community. For information on these additional sessions, please look out for announcements from the respective organisations.

### Letter by Minister for Health to healthcare family

Health Minister Ong Ye Kung has written a letter to all colleagues in our healthcare family. In his letter, Minister Ong thanked all healthcare workers for their hard work during the COVID-19 pandemic, and sought their understanding for the frequent policy and protocol changes.

Minister Ong detailed the streamlining of treatment protocols, including replacing quarantine with a regular-ART testing protocol. This avoids isolating large numbers of people, thus helping to avoid our healthcare system from being overwhelmed. He ended his letter by reinforcing the importance of trust and confidence in each other, and that we can pull through the pandemic by standing together.

The letter can be found at <https://bit.ly/3na0x2O>. ◆