

# Bidding Farewell

Text by Dr Wong Tien Hua

This is my final President's Forum article. It has been an intellectually challenging yet fulfilling journey. I had set out to write one 1,200-word article a month, not including the texts for annual reports and numerous speeches and presentations, over the three years as SMA President.

The material and topics I have touched on have been diverse, ranging from matters of profession and practice, medical ethics and the medical community, to how doctors think. The list of topics by subject matter is appended for your easy reference. (see page 11)

I would like to sincerely thank the *SMA News* editorial team for their constant support, gentle reminders and editorial reviews. Sarah, Sylvia and Jo-Ann have been supporting me throughout the past three years and have helped transform some of my lengthy sentence structures into eloquent prose.

I would also like to thank my wife, Hwee Hwee, who supported me throughout these three years as SMA President. She listened patiently to my ideas, helped me sharpen my thoughts to come up with new perspectives

Dr Wong is President of the 58th SMA Council. He is a family medicine physician practising in Sengkang. Dr Wong has an interest in primary care, patient communication and medical ethics.

on the subject matter and diligently read through my drafts to offer her invaluable insights.

Dr Kevin Loy has been my long-time friend from secondary school (Anglo-Chinese School), through junior college (Anglo-Chinese Junior College) and National University of Singapore (NUS) Medicine. We were the illustrators for our NUS Medicine *VAGUS* magazine, class of 1993. He has been providing us with illustrations to accompany the monthly President's Forum articles.

Equipment wise, he currently uses a Wacom Cintiq 13-inch graphics tablet for most of his drawings, and has recently been doodling with his newly purchased iPad Pro and iPad Pencil as well. With the help of Procreate on the iPad and Adobe Photoshop on the computer to sketch and touch up on the pictures, the workflow is fully digitised, and saves

him a lot of time during the illustration process. Often, he would read my draft article and propose a cartoon based on the theme or an idea. We then bounce concepts around and he modifies the drafts as we decide on the final illustration. Below are some snapshots of the creation process.

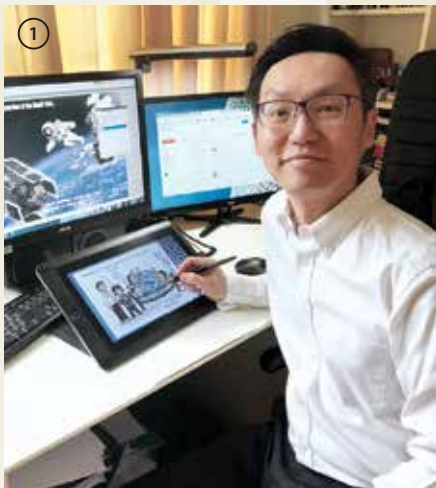
With that, I bid our readers farewell and thank you all for your continuous support of the Association and *SMA News*. ♦



► Dr Wong and his wife, Hwee Hwee



► Dr Wong with the SMA News team



Dr Loy and his digital setup



Concept art

Finished product

Illustration: Dr. Kevin Loy

## List of articles

Article topics	SMA News issue
<b>Ethics</b>	
Medical Ethics and Professionalism in a World of Information Asymmetry	June 2015
Humanitarian Aid – Why We Should Go Out of Our Way to Help Others	December 2015
Informed Consent (Part 1) – The Problem of Choice	November 2015
Informed Consent (Part 2) – Shared Decision-Making	February 2016
Home Isn't the Best Clinic – Why Doctors Should Avoid Treating Family Members and Themselves	April 2016
Attending to Emergencies: Service before Self	November 2016
Medical Ethics and Human Rights	December 2016
<b>Collegiality</b> Regarding Each Other as Brothers and Sisters	October 2017
<b>Practicing Medicine in Singapore</b>	
<b>Medical Indemnity</b> Purchasing Ease of Mind	March 2016
Managed Care – Transparency and Trust	August 2016
Teaching & Mentorship: Life is Short, the Art is Long	September 2016
Confidentiality, Privacy and Electronic Records	August 2017
The Disciplinary Process – How Can It Be Improved?	September 2017
Fee Guidelines: A Decade of Debate	January 2018
Preventive Medicine – Tackling Over-Optimism and Short-Term Thinking	March 2018
<b>How Doctors Think</b>	
Developing Good habits in Clinical Practice – Part 1	July 2015
Always Room for Improvement – Developing Good Habits in Clinical Practice Part 2	September 2015
In Pursuit of Professional Happiness	May 2016
Clinical Decision-Making (Part 1): Uncertainty, Intuition and Biases	October 2016
Clinical Decision-Making (Part 2): Intuition vs Rationality	February 2017

**Article topics****SMA News issue****Singapore Healthcare**

Singapore at 50 – Progressing Together as a Nation	August 2015
The NS Experience	October 2015
Waging War on a Chronic Disease	May 2017
Technology in Healthcare – The Need for Better Health Literacy	July 2017
Taking Singapore Healthcare beyond Our Shores	December 2017

**Our Medical Community**

Lost in Translation – Integrating Foreign-Trained Doctors	January 2016
<b>SMA Charity Fund</b> Helping Students in Need: Matthew's Cumulative Advantage and Mark's Clarion Call	July 2016
FutureMed – Experiencing Tomorrow's Medicine Today	January 2017
Good, Cheap and Fast; but For How Long?	March 2017
A "GP" for the Community Hospital	April 2017
General Practice Resilience: Solo is not Silo	November 2017
Longitudinal Primary Care: Keeping the Fire Burning	February 2018