

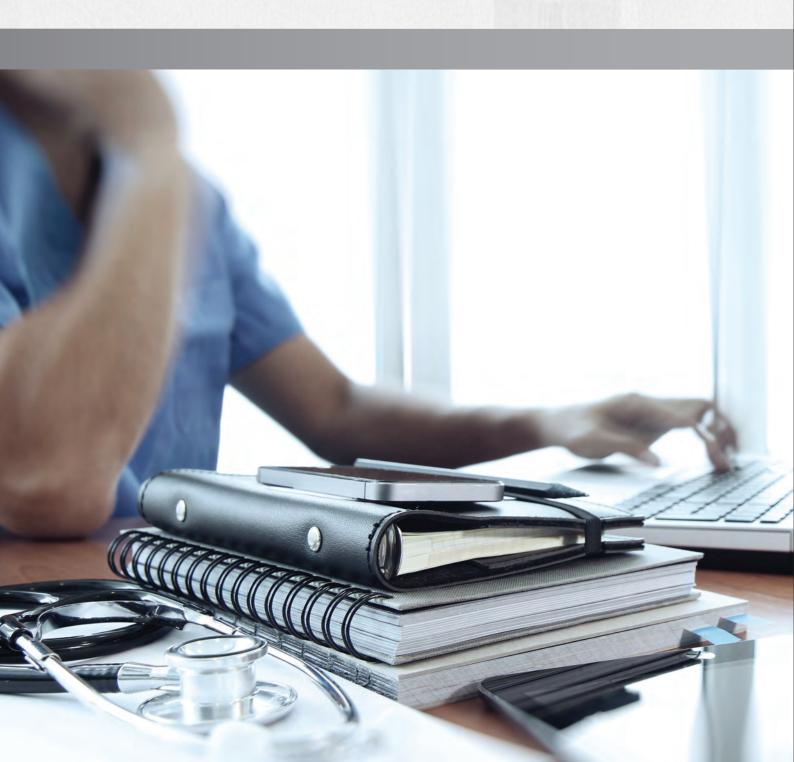


The Singapore Medical Association (SMA) was formed in 1959, and is the national medical organisation representing the majority of medical practitioners in both the public and private sectors.

SMA's slogan, 'For Doctors, For Patients', reflects our recognition that the doctor-patient relationship lies at the heart of any scientific revelation, technological innovation, policy decision and business practice that affects healthcare, as well as our commitment to protect this relationship.

#### **OUR OBJECTIVES**

- To promote the medical and allied sciences in Singapore
- To maintain the honour and interests of the medical profession
- To foster and preserve the unity and aim of purpose of the medical profession as a whole
- To voice its opinion, and to acquaint the Government and other relevant bodies with the policies and attitudes of the profession
- To support a higher standard of medical ethics and conduct
- To enlighten and direct public opinion on the problems of health in Singapore
- To publish papers, journals and other materials in furtherance of these objectives



**OUR MOTTO** 

Jasa Utama, 'Service before Self'



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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the founding of the SMA. Over the decades, we have stood behind our members through multiple changes in our healthcare landscape – from helping to organise the first batch of People's Defence Force volunteer medical officers in the early years, to advocating for equitable night call allowances and speaking up on a host of issues, including guidelines on doctors' fees, medical school fee hikes, the residency system, managed care, and patient privacy and safety. In all of these, we have consistently sought to engage members and represent the unified voice of the medical profession on a national level. I highlight some of our key efforts in 2018.

#### **TELEMEDICINE**

Telemedicine remains a fairly unregulated area with many yet unanswered questions. In April 2018, SMA organised a conference entitled 'Telemedicine -Embracing a Safe Digital Health Future for Singapore' with stakeholders PwC South East Asia Consulting, MyDoc and Ministry of Health Singapore (MOH). The intent was to facilitate discussion and debate on all things related to telemedicine, including regulations on telemedicine, patient safety and quality care, the ethics behind virtual care, and the National Telemedicine Guidelines. Medical legal experts and respected members of the medical fraternity were also invited to sit on a panel to further the conversation.

#### **JOINT SURVEY ON NEHR**

SMA jointly conducted a survey with Academy of Medicine, Singapore and College of Family Physicians Singapore to assess public perceptions and sentiments regarding the National

Electronic Health Records (NEHR), in response to concerns over MOH's announcement that the submission of patient data was to be made mandatory. The survey results revealed some of the public's concerns, which support our call to respect patient privacy and confidentiality.

#### **HEALTHCARE SERVICES ACT**

As a stakeholder representing the majority of medical practitioners and students in Singapore, SMA was involved in in-depth consultation on the Healthcare Services Act (HCSA). The Act, which will replace the aged Private Hospitals and Medical Clinics Act, is expected to be implemented over the next two years. The new law will change the current way of regulating medical institutions from a premise-based approach to one that is service-based. Many aspects of the Act will also be updated to catch up with the current medical practice and healthcare needs of our population.

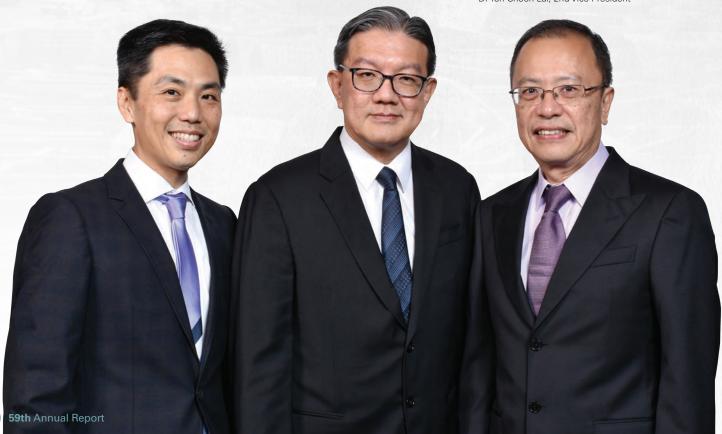
#### **FEE BENCHMARKS**

When MOH announced the introduction of medical fee benchmarks in November 2018, SMA immediately issued a statement in support of its introduction. In the statement, we also expressed our hope that more procedures will be included over time, and that the fee benchmarks will render many medical claims restrictions unnecessary, as well as simplify and speed up medical claims processes, thereby helping to control healthcare costs.

#### JOINT MEETING ON TAX MATTERS

A meeting with representatives from Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore (IRAS) and MOH was held in September 2018 after we received information that many anaesthesiologists were notified by IRAS of possible tax avoidance. SMA facilitated a fruitful meeting between the IRAS team, led by its Commissioner Mr Ng Wai Choong, and the doctor team, led by Senior Minister of State for Health

From left:
Dr Wong Tien Hua, 1st Vice President
Dr Lee Yik Voon, President
Dr Toh Choon Lai, 2nd Vice President



Dr Lam Pin Min, which helped to clarify doubts on taxation procedures that the medical profession had. As a follow-up, SMA organised two tax seminars – one for our members-at-large and another for anaesthesiologists – with speakers from IRAS invited to shed light on tax-related matters.

#### SMJ IMPACT FACTOR

The Singapore Medical Journal (SMJ) impact factor crossed the 1.0 mark after years of hard work by the past and current SMJ editors and teams. Our heartiest congratulations!

#### **ANNUAL EVENTS**

At the SMA Annual Dinner in May, we bestowed on Health Minister Mr Gan Kim Yong the SMA Honorary Membership, the highest honour that SMA can bestow on persons who have distinguished themselves in public life or rendered meritorious service to the medical profession. Over the years, SMA has developed a good rapport with the MOH, and we hope to continue this collaborative relationship, which is characterised by mutual understanding and respect. The MOH has been in close consultation with SMA for various healthcare-related policies, such as the fee benchmarks, HCSA, Primary Care Masterplan and Enhanced Screen for Life, before they came to light.

SMA Lecture 2018, 'The Future of Medical Education', was delivered by A/Prof Yeoh Khay Guan, Dean of National University of Singapore Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine (NUS Medicine). Held on the same day was the 2nd SMA Medical Students' Convention,

with participation from NUS Medicine, Duke-NUS Medical School and Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine. Director of Medical Services, A/Prof Benjamin Ong, was the guest of honour and keynote speaker for the convention.

#### **IMPACTING THE NEXT GENERATION**

Throughout the year, SMA conducted meetings with student leaders and the wider student bodies of the three local medical schools, as well as student representatives of the Singapore Medical Society of the United Kingdom and Singapore Medical Society of Australia and New Zealand. These regular engagements with medical students serve to apprise us of their challenges and issues, and this has enabled us to better represent the interests of our future generations of doctors. SMA's charity arm, the SMA Charity Fund, has been supporting medical students in financial difficulty, student-led community projects and mentorship programmes since 2013.

#### **OUR VOLUNTEERS**

On behalf of the SMA, I would like to thank all our volunteers who have contributed their valuable time to support the Association in different capacities. These include serving on the faculty of SMA Centre for Medical Ethics and Professionalism or the editorial boards of *SMJ* and *SMA News*, preparing for and conducting seminars and workshops, representing SMA in various external committees, and chairing or participating in our tournaments or Inter-Professional Games, to name just a few.

Finally, it has been my privilege to serve as SMA President in 2018. I urge all our members to strive to move forward as one with one common goal – to advance Singapore healthcare for doctors and for patients. I look forward to your strong support!

- Thursday

DR LEE YIK VOON, PRESIDENT

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The secret to success is constancy of purpose.

**Benjamin Disraeli** 



# HONORARY SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

The aim of SMA has always been to recruit, retain and recognise our members and in so doing, positively shape the healthcare environment in Singapore for doctors and patients.

Advocacy remains the crux of our work in 2018 as SMA tackled several important issues that were close to the hearts of many of our members. These included the MOH fee benchthird-party administrators, marks, National Electronic Health Record (NEHR). professional tax-related issues with Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore (IRAS) and several high-profile Singapore Medical Council (SMC) disciplinary cases, to list a few.

Formally, our council members were appointed to several key committees, such as the MOH fee benchmarks advisory committee, SMC sentencing guidelines committee and Land Transport Authority/Traffic Police fitness to drive committees, providing key input to policy formulation.

SMA also collaborates closely with Academy of Medicine, Singapore and College of Family Physicians Singapore. For example, we embarked on a joint survey to assess public sentiment towards the NEHR, providing important ground feedback for policymakers regarding laypersons' lack of understanding on the roles of NEHR, as well as concerns with IT security.

One vital role of SMA within the Singapore healthcare ecosystem leverages on our network, providing informal channels for members and policymakers to communicate and exchange concerns. We moved decisively and organised engagement sessions for our members with IRAS and MOH over professional tax-related issues. Likewise, we engaged SMC over the recent disciplinary case involving H&L injection, providing ground concerns from the profession regarding the judgement and its adverse impact on practice. In addition, our Doctors-in-Training Committee met with the Director of Medical Services, A/Prof Benjamin Ong, to raise and clarify our younger members' concerns regarding the residency programme and the paradigm shift towards holistic training rather than specialisation.

SMA is fortunate and grateful to have the support of members and staff, who work tirelessly to organise events or run programmes. Under the able leadership of A/Prof Poh Kian Keong, the Singapore Medical Journal achieved an impact factor of 1.08 for the year 2017. SMA Centre for Medical Ethics and Professionalism, led by A/Prof Gerard Chua, also launched a new and improved website in enhance the to search experience of members looking for resources related to ethics, health law and professionalism.

At the SMA Annual Dinner 2018, we conferred the SMA Honorary Membership on Minister Gan Kim Yong, and recognised the exceptional contributions of Dr Goh Wei Leong and Adj A/Prof Samuel Victor Rajadurai with the conferment of the SMA Merit Awards. Other significant events included the SMA Lecture and 2nd SMA National Medical Students' Convention, both of which focused on the trends and future of medical education in Singapore.

Beyond these major events, SMA also organised and facilitated more than 60 seminars and workshops during the year. Many of these were complimentary for our members, as we hope to benefit as many of our members with the necessary skills and knowledge to run a good medical practice.

As we celebrate SMA's 60th anniversary in 2019, I wish to extend my gratitude and appreciation to all who have made SMA what it is today – a strong and dynamic organisation that continues to champion the cause of the medical profession and patients. However, with the ongoing transformation of healthcare, ageing population and rising expectations of the public, there remains a lot of important work to be done. We look forward to the continual support of our members to empower us in this journey.

DR LIM KHENG CHOON, HONORARY SECRETARY

The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.

Mahatma Gandhi



# HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

In 2017, I wrote about the need for SMA to reinvent itself to remain relevant and thriving in a fast-changing environment. Indeed, change was the buzzword of our financial year ended 31 December 2018.

The first significant change is our relocation from 2 College Road, a place we had called home for nearly 30 years. This was not a decision that was taken lightly by the Council. It was only after protracted discussions, which started in March 2017, that SMA decided to move to 2985 Jalan Bukit Merah, together with fellow tenants, Pharmaceutical Society of Singapore and Singapore Dental Association. Although the relocation had a near-term financial impact on the Association, the savings from the lower costs of running the office at the new location is expected to offset the renovation and moving costs in the mid-term. The move to our new premises is expected to bring about savings of around 10% over the next 5.5 years, thus allowing for more judicious management of our finances in view of the significant reduction in fees from provided to third-party services indemnity providers since 2017. Furthermore, we are excited about the possible new partnership opportunities with our current neighbours and landlord.

The turmoil of the investment market toward the end of 2018 resulted in fair value losses for our investments. Although these are unrealised losses and our investments are held with a view of long-term returns, the market valuation did negatively impact our financials for the year. Our investment committee, headed by Chairman Adj Prof Tan Sze Wee, will continue to keep a close watch over our portfolio in this uncertain environment. Since the inception of our investments with UBS AG in July 2008, we have achieved an annualised return of investment of 1.46%, in line with our longer-term goal of providing a reasonable return on investment in a low-risk portfolio.

Consistent with our goal to remain vigilant over our finances, the post of Executive Director was made redundant from 18 May 2018. The decision was made by the Council after considering the roles and functions of the Executive Director, taking into account the original reasons for its creation in 2007, the future plans and financial sustainability of the Association, and the current state of the Secretariat. Other ad-hoc expenditure for 2018 included legal costs incurred due to our office relocation and those related to the Joint Survey on National Electronic Health Records, which were offset by

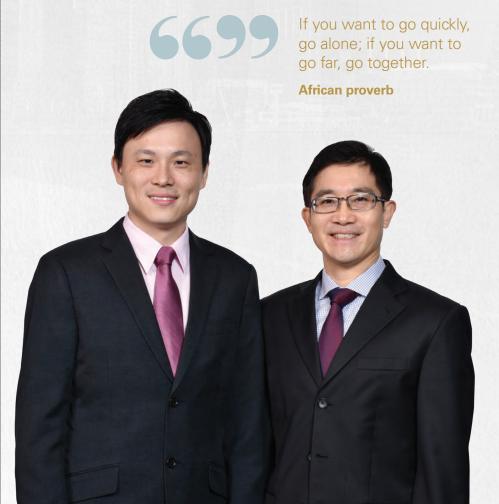
Government grants for the SMA eMarket platform and sponsorships of some of our medical practice managementrelated courses.

Overall, the SMA Group reported a loss of \$672,316 for the financial year ended 31 December 2018, even though our operations had kept within the budget to achieve near breakeven results for the year. Our accumulated funds remained healthy at \$7,176,529, and our members continued to enjoy complimentary or discounted rates for courses, activities and services.

Uncertain times like these require the Association to rethink our financial strategy so as to remain viable and relevant. We will continue to do so under the leadership of the next Honorary Treasurer, as our focus has always been the long-term goal of building a better healthcare system for doctors and patients in Singapore.

I would like to thank my Honorary Assistant Treasurer, Dr Ng Chee Kwan, for his valuable insights and support, as well as Head of Finance Miss Angeline Teoh and Senior Executive Miss Chin Yew Lee for their dedicated service, which has ensured the smooth and sustainable functioning of the Association.

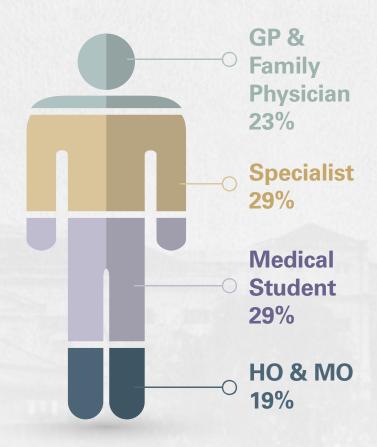
Finally, I wish to extend my deepest appreciation to our members. Your membership subscription not only contributes to the financial sustainability of the Association, but also reflects our representation as a professional body. We can only hope to achieve all that we need to do when we stand united as a profession. Further information on our financial status and the audited financial statements can be found on the SMA website. We will be glad to receive any suggestions that would support the long-term financial sustainability of the Association.



DR BENNY LOO, **HONORARY TREASURER** 

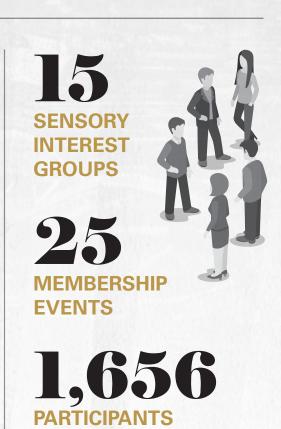
Dr Benny Loo, Honorary Treasurer Dr Ng Chee Kwan, Honorary Assistant Treasurer

# KEY STATISTICS IN



8,820
SMA MEMBERS







**BMISSIONS** 





**MEETINGS** 



Y GOVERNMENT **MEETINGS** 



CITATIONS



**ISSUED** 



**COURSES AND CME EVENTS** 







7,939 **\$215,568** SMA MEMBERS



**252** 

**BURSARIES AWARDED BY SMA CHARITY FUND** 

> since 2013

>\$1.26 MIL

DISBURSED TO NEEDY **MEDICAL STUDENTS** 

> since 2013

# KEY FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

### **GROUP STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**



### SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR (AFTER TAX)

Total Surplus/(Deficit)	\$(672,316)	\$314,594
Total Expenditure	\$2,863,768	\$2,852,965
Total Income	\$2,191,452	\$3,167,559
	2018	2017



### INCOME

Total Income	\$2,191,452	\$3,167,559
Others	\$130,313	\$74,918
Publications	\$468,307	\$395,216
Investments	\$(559,566)	\$421,851
Courses and Events	\$569,025	\$721,012
Rebates	\$140,691	\$139,983
Commissions	\$696,988	\$666,101
Subscriptions	\$772,694	\$748,478
	2018	2017



### **EXPENDITURE**

	2018	2017
Administrative and Operating Expenses	\$576,309	\$513,085
Courses and Events	\$429,677	\$560,946
Publications	\$228,209	\$230,476
Staff and Related Expenses	\$1,629,573	\$1,548,458
Total Expenditure	\$2,863,768	\$2,852,965

#### **GROUP STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**



### **ASSETS**

	2018	2017
Non-current Assets	\$231,676	\$103,530
Current Assets	\$7,606,049	\$8,246,816
Total Assets	\$7,837,725	\$8,350,346



### **EQUITY AND LIABILITIES**

Equity Attributable to SMA Members	<b>2018</b> \$7,176,529	<b>2017</b> \$7,790,480
Current Liabilities	\$661,196	\$559,866
Total Equity and Liabilities	\$7,837,725	\$8,350,346

# ADVANCING PROFESSIONAL STANDING

In 2018, several issues previously championed by SMA returned to the spotlight, attesting to the importance of SMA's long-term commitment to uphold the rights of medical professionals in Singapore. In the following pages, we provide a snapshot of our advocacy work, leadership role, and ongoing engagement with policymakers, our membership and other professional bodies.

#### **FEE BENCHMARKS**

The escalating cost of healthcare has been a grave concern, especially in view of Singapore's ageing population. In 2017, by the invitation of MOH, an SMA representative sat on the MOH Fee Benchmarks Advisory Committee, to help formulate a new list of benchmarks for common medical procedures. The first tranche of fee benchmarks for 222 common surgical procedures was released in November 2018. SMA's support of the introduction of fee benchmarks is unequivocal, yet we have also been vocal about the need for more comprehensive solutions to the problem of rising healthcare costs, including measures to look at hospital facility charges and the redesign of insurance products. Since the withdrawal of SMA's Guideline on Fees in 2007, we have been actively monitoring and highlighting issues related to healthcare costs, including lobbying for the regulation of managed care or third-party administrators and providing views from the standpoint of the medical profession in the Health Insurance Task Force.

#### **MEDICAL REGISTRATION ACT**

With ethics and professionalism being our core areas of focus, we have diligently and regularly submitted suggestions and feedback on proposed amendments to the Medical Registration Act (MRA) over the last few decades. The recent MOH proposed amendments to the MRA, specifically in the area of disciplinary proceedings, prompted a response from SMA. At the public consultation held in October 2018, we recommended that complainants should be made to pay the costs of frivolous appeals against the decision of a Complaints Committee, similar to the Legal Profession Act, Section 85(19) relating to complaints against lawyers. As the disciplinary process for doctors undergoes further adjustments, we will continue to lobby for a fair and transparent complaints process for all parties.

#### **HEALTHCARE SERVICES BILL**

The draft Healthcare Services Bill was released in late 2017. As this is a major piece of legislation that will affect all registered healthcare institutions. SMA provided feedback on different components within the Bill and the related regulations, submitting recommendations on critical areas. On publicity and advertising, we sought clarifications on specific definitions in the Bill and regulation of new forms of Internet and social media advertising, and nominated three doctors to the MOH Healthcare Publicity Review Panel. On clinic regulatory standards, we highlighted serious reservations about any regulation that would mandate Basic Cardiac Life Support-trained personnel in a licensed clinic, and gave feedback on issues relating to automated external defibrillator and financial counselling, among others. SMA will diligently track the progress of the Bill, which is targeted for enactment in 2019.

ties to their patients and cautioning them about the issues that may arise when issuing e-MCs.

In the same vein, SMA jointly organised a telemedicine seminar with PwC South East Asia Consulting in April 2018 to further strengthen doctors' knowledge of the risks and practice of digital health and telemedicine. We applaud MOH's decision in April 2018 to create LEAP, a regulatory sandbox that allows new and innovative healthcare models to be piloted in a controlled environment.



SMA and the College of Family Physicians Singapore (CFPS) issued a joint advisory on doctors' participation in telemedicine and online issuance of medical certificates (MCs) in January 2018, reminding our respective members of their responsibili-



#### MEDICAL INDEMNITY

SMA met with representatives of Medical Protection Society (MPS) on several occasions in 2018 to provide member feedback, including concerns over any increase in subscription rates that are not clearly communicated. We reiterated that any increase should be justified, with transparent data and information shared with all affected members. MPS representatives also responded to our queries on coverage of protection, as well as highlighted various services that are available to MPS members but sometimes not provided by insurance companies. These include matters unrelated to litigation: Internet defamation management; post-traumatic stress disorder counselling following complaints; and editing of replies to complainants.

#### **INCOMETAX**

Following Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore (IRAS)'s audit of income tax declared by medical practices, SMA received requests for help from affected anaesthesiologists to seek clarification on some of the tax issues raised. In September 2018, representatives from SMA, MOH and IRAS met to discuss the issues, and what followed were an SMA

Seminar that touched on IRAS's approach to business arrangements in October and a dialogue session between IRAS and the affected doctors in November. SMA is glad that we were able to facilitate dialogue between the affected doctors and IRAS, as well as help doctors gain more knowledge on important tax matters.

#### TRIPARTITE MEETINGS

SMA met regularly with Academy of Medicine, Singapore and CFPS throughout the year to exchange information and deliberate on issues facing the medical profession. As issues affecting the medical profession become more complex and multidimensional, such regular meetings among AMS, CFPS and SMA help the three professional bodies to keep our ears to the ground.

### REPRESENTATION OF DOCTORS IN THE MEDIA

On 25 Mar 2018, a newspaper article on rising healthcare costs alleged that "MOH concluded that much of the higher claims was the result of overcharging and overtreatment by doctors in the private sector." SMA immediately sought MOH's clarification

on the allegations, which prompted an official reply from the ministry that "MOH has never drawn such a conclusion or made statements alluding to this view." During that period, SMA Council Members also met with concerned members to address this matter. The statement was subsequently clarified as incorrect by The Straits Times on 30 March 2018.

#### **RESIDENCY SYSTEM**

Since the Residency system was first mooted, SMA has been engaging with MOH to seek clarification on the rationale for choosing the residency system and to highlight our concerns regarding implementation issues. With MOH encouraging a shift to produce more generalist doctors in 2018, the SMA Doctors-in-Training Committee requested an official meeting with Director of Medical Services, A/Prof Benjamin Ong, which took place in May 2018. A summary of the meeting was published in the SMA News June 2018 issue. This pressing issue was also addressed by A/Prof Ong at the 2nd SMA National Medical Students' Convention, an event jointly organised by SMA and the medical societies of the three local medical schools.



### ADVANCING PATIENT INTERESTS

We recognise that a good doctor-patient relationship is fundamental to the practice of medicine. Part of our role as a medical association is to speak up for the rights of patients, empower them to make informed decisions concerning their health, and safeguard their interests.

#### PATIENT PRIVACY

The National Electronic Health Record (NEHR) system, with its controversies surrounding patient privacy rights and cybersecurity, has been closely followed by SMA since MOH first announced its plan to make contribution to the system mandatory. Together with AMS and CFPS, SMA carried out a survey on the knowledge, attitudes and perceptions of the public regarding the NEHR. In a nutshell, the results showed that, although a majority of respondents supported its implementation to varying degrees, only a quarter of them were certain that they wanted their records maintained in the NEHR. More than half, however, preferred that their medical records were accessed only with their explicit consent except during emergencies.

The three professional bodies met with MOH in July 2018 to discuss the survey findings. The final survey report, published in the SMA News August 2018 issue, was accompanied by a statement by MOH. In the statement, MOH thanked the three professional bodies for providing additional valuable feedback on the NEHR and made known that plans on mandatory contributions of healthcare information to NEHR would take a pause while a thorough review of the cyber safeguards of the key IT systems was being conducted. We are heartened that our policymakers are taking steps to protect patient's healthcare data and usage in the NEHR.

#### **MEDIATION**

We believe that not every patient complaint against a doctor needs to be escalated to the SMC, as some issues between the patient and doctor are

a result of miscommunication. This is where we step in to mediate by providing a listening ear to the patient and seeking clarifications from the doctor involved, resolving the misunderstanding before the doctor-patient relationship becomes irreparable. We have seen a steady drop in the number of official patient complaints, largely because some patients had withdrawn their complaints after our initial intervention. In 2018, we handled 14 patient complaints, a considerable drop from a high of 34 cases in 2012.

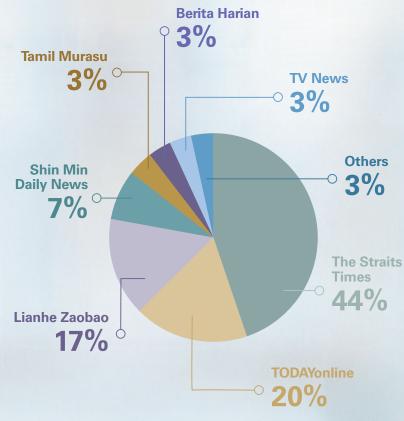
#### **MEDICAL ALERT**

The Medik Awas programme was started in 1970 with the aim to prevent medical mishaps among members of the public through the issuance of cards and amulets that alert medical and dental personnel of their specific health problems and allergies. To date, we have issued a total of 35,609 Medik Awas cards and amulets.

### **MEDIA CITATIONS**

In 2018, the local media highlighted several of SMA's official positions, recommendations and studies on relevant healthcare matters that impact the profession and our patients. Some of these issues include our stance on medical fee benchmarks, electronic health records and telemedicine, among others. We hope that through active conversation on important issues, we can contribute to the betterment of Singapore's healthcare landscape.





# **ADVANCING COLLEGIALITY & ENGAGEMENT**

In 2018, the Association and the healthcare profession at large developed a stronger sense of unity, resilience and adaptability as we faced the challenges of a transforming healthcare environment. The spirit of collegiality was apparent among SMA members as seen in their active participation in the social activities and interest groups that we organised.

#### **UNITING THE PROFESSION**

Our annual events, which bring together senior doctors, doctors in training (DITs) and medical students, aim to promote camaraderie and inter-generational engagement among our members. At the SMA Annual Dinner and Members' Appreciation Nite, members bonded over good food and wine, and an entertaining movie premiere screening, respectively. For members who prefer the great outdoors, the Inter-Hospital Soccer Tournament and Annual Golf Tournament provided a great workout and friendly competition on the pitch and greens, respectively.

Every year, SMA collaborates with partner organisations to co-host events such as doctors and lawyers networking sessions and the Inter-Professional Games (IPG). Last year, Team SMA successfully secured the overall IPG championship title for the Association following years of fair-to-middling results at previous IPG games. Team SMA broke records, winning first place in five out of the ten sports that we participated in: bowling, chess, golf, squash and volleyball. The team spirit among our members was palpable at the games, and we hope that such sporting events will continue to foster cooperation and strengthen the sense of comradeship among the profession.















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For the first time since the inauguration of the IPG, SMA's volleyball team has won the championship title! It was a tough but exciting battle against the other teams, with many close shaves and narrow score margins. Nonetheless, the SMA team fought hard, pulled through the challenges and emerged victorious. We could not have done so without the unwavering support of other volleyball players in medicine.

- DR TAN PINHONG SMA MEMBER SINCE 2012 SMA VOLLEYBALL SIG CAPTAIN









#### PROMOTING ENGAGEMENT

Since 1966, SMA News has been a key platform for SMA to inform our members about important matters, such as changes in government policies. It is also a channel for our members to share and engage with the profession. Each monthly edition strives to provide a balance of thoughtful and lighthearted reads – from insights on practice-related issues or ethical dilemmas faced by doctors to inspiring patient encounters and volunteerism efforts.

In 2018, we published articles that touched on a variety of issues that are close to the hearts of doctors. These included the physical and mental health of medical practitioners; how to derive joy and purpose at work; generalist versus specialist training; telemedicine and the future direction of healthcare; investing in future-ready doctors; protecting patient privacy; and fee benchmarks, among others.

As a newsletter written by doctors, for doctors, *SMA News* exists for our members. The consolidated experience and thoughts of doctors and DITs from all walks of life are what make *SMA News* interesting. We invite our members to contribute their insights, opinions and stories to the newsletter to benefit fellow medical professionals.

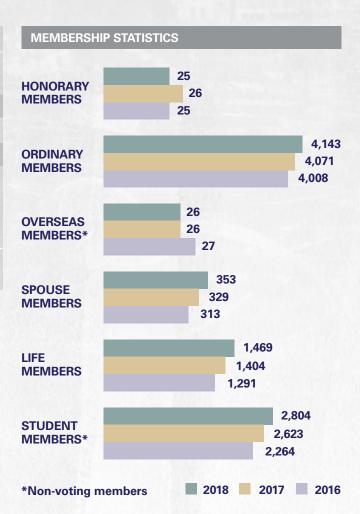


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It has been a very fulfilling and humbling experience working with our talented and dedicated *SMA News* editorial team in bringing the most talked-about issues to our readers. I'm thankful for the opportunity to share my thoughts, as well as learn from our writers' reflections on work and life. *SMA News* is your platform to share your thoughts and gain insights regarding Singapore healthcare.

- DR CHIE ZHI YING SMA MEMBER SINCE 2012 SMA NEWS EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBER

MEMBERSHIPTALLY	2018	2017	2016
Total no. of members (at beginning of year)	8,479	7,928	7,361
Add			
No. of new members	812	781	783
Less			
No. of resignations / expiry of student membership	410	135	131
No. struck off in arrears	61	95	85
Total no. of members (at end of year)	8,820	8,479	7,928



### ADVANCING MEDICAL TRAINING

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SMA has given me many opportunities to grow as a medical student. One such project was the 2nd SMA National Medical Students' Convention (NMSC), where we raised awareness about the importance of mindfulness too.



- MR THURSTON HENG YAN JIA **SMA STUDENT MEMBER SINCE 2015 CHAIRPERSON, 2ND SMA NMSC** 

We believe that a world-class, well-rounded medical education will directly impact the future of medicine in Singapore. Because of that, medical students' feedback and concerns regarding medical training are important to us. In 2012, SMA instituted the Student Membership, which is complimentary for medical students during their five years of undergraduate studies, and the SMA Doctors-in-Training (DIT) Committee was formed the following year, replacing the Young Doctors Committee. Through these means, we seek to engage DITs in dialogue, surface their concerns to the relevant authorities, and provide strong representation for them during the crucial years of their undergraduate studies and postgraduate training.

#### **FACILITATING DIALOGUE**

On 25 May 2018, the DIT Committee met with Director of Medical Services (DMS), A/Prof Benjamin Ong, to address questions that medical students and residents have about the direction of the residency programme, in light of talks that medical training will shift to a more generalist approach. During the meeting, DMS provided insights into concerns that the MOH has regarding the country's ageing population and the resulting changing disease patterns. He also voiced the need for our healthcare system to transform and adapt appropriately. During the meeting, other relevant topics were also raised, such as young doctors' generalist competencies, private practitioners' role in this new landscape, the number of doctors required to meet the needs of the system, and how to balance the swing towards generalist training without compromising our edge in specialist training. Most importantly, DMS emphasised that it was imperative for the medical profession to stay united and adaptable, so as to meet the nation's healthcare needs. This propitious meeting has opened the door for further discussions, and the DIT Committee will continue to facilitate ongoing dialogue between our younger members and the relevant authorities.

#### **EMPOWERING THE NEXT GENERATION**

We recognise the importance of empowering the next generation of doctors as they undergo training under a healthcare environment that is distinctively different from that of their seniors.

Throughout 2018, we organised and participated in networking sessions and meetings with local and overseas medical students through their representatives. Thanks to these conversations, we are now better able to understand the challenges they face, and are actively exploring potential collaborations between SMA and these student bodies.

One of these collaborations is the 2nd SMA NMSC, which was held on 10 November 2018 in conjunction with the SMA Lecture. A/Prof Benjamin Ong, the guest of honour and keynote speaker for the convention, spoke on paradigm shifts in medical training and what it means for medical students today. A/Prof Ong was joined by panellists A/Prof Denise Goh, Dr Ng Chew Lip and moderator Dr Ivan Low to further discuss topics such as DITs' role in ensuring that national or organisational policies remain relevant and effective, as well as managing younger doctors' expectations about their future career paths.

Participants also attended a mindfulness programme conducted by clinical psychotherapist and mindfulness trainer, Ms Jennifer Davis from Duke -NUS Medical School. The programme

served to impart tips on overcoming challenges, stress, information overload distractions throughout their undergraduate studies and subsequently, medical training.

#### INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATIONS

As a member of the Medical Association of South East Asian Nations (MASEAN), Confederation of Medical Associations in Asia and Oceania (CMAAO) and World Medical Association (WMA), SMA regularly attends international meetings to keep abreast of trends and developments in the region and beyond. In September and October 2018, representatives of the SMA DIT Committee attended the Junior Doctors Network (JDN) of CMAAO and WMA, respectively. At the inaugural CMAAO JDN meeting, the Penang Declaration against Workplace Bullying and Harassment was drafted and signed by all JDN representatives.

SMA's participation in the JDN provides young doctors with platforms to share experiences and challenges, as well as ensures that their voices are heard not only locally but also globally.



# ADVANCING KNOWLEDGE

Recognising that lifelong learning is an integral part of professional development, SMA has focused on expanding our educational offering over the years to include a broad range of medical-, ethics- and practice-related contents, as well as continuing medical education (CME) programmes, to help our members keep abreast of the latest developments in medicine.

### SMA CENTRE FOR MEDICAL ETHICS AND PROFESSIONALISM (CMEP)

SMA CMEP was founded in June 2000 to provide doctors with a platform for life-long learning in the area of medical ethics, health law and medical practice. It aims to provide leadership in the areas of academic training, discussion, resource development and research, so as to support a high standard of medical professionalism. In January 2018, SMA CMEP officially launched its website to allow for easier navigation and enhance search functions for users. In addition, a new training roadmap was crafted for more structured lifelong learning.

### MEDICAL ETHICS & PROFESSIONALISM

The Medical Ethics, Professionalism and Healthcare Course is a 2.5-day mandatory course for exit certification for advanced specialist trainees, family medicine trainees and residents. To date, SMA CMEP has run 54 courses and trained 3,361 doctors (as of December 2018). Over the years, improvements to the programme and changes in methodology have been made to meet the objectives of the current healthcare environment, as

well as cater to the younger generation of doctors.

#### **TELEMEDICINE**

The healthcare industry is rapidly evolving with the introduction of new the profession technologies. As embraces new technology, discussions on telemedicine and its use are vital, as doctors seek to ensure patient safety and uphold the Hippocratic oath and to do no harm. The telemedicine seminar, 'Embracing a Safe Digital Health Future Singapore', aimed to provide balanced perspective on this important topic, with views gathered from well-respected representatives from College of Family Physicians Singapore, Medical Protection Society, Ministry of Health Singapore, MyDoc, National Telemedicine Guidelines Review Committee, Singapore Medical Council Medical Ethics Committee, SMA, SMA CMEP and Straits Law.

### GOING PAPERLESS IN THE DIGITAL AGE

Digitisation is the way to go as Singapore seeks to become a smart nation. To prepare our members for the inevitable transition from paper to digital, we conducted a seminar, 'Decipher the

#### SMA CMEP TEACHING FACULTY

Prof Kumaralingam Amirthalingam Ms Rebecca Chew Mr Christopher Chong Mr Edmund Kronenburg Ms Kuah Boon Theng Dr Daniel Kwek Clin Prof Gilbert Lau Adj A/Prof Lee See Muah Mr Lek Siang Pheng Dr Peter Loke Dr Lambert Low Ms Mak Wei Munn Dr Habeebul Rahman Dr Hairil Rizal Abdullah Dr Seow Wan Tew Dr Shahla Siddiqui A/Prof Cuthbert Teo Mr Tham Hsu Hsien Mr Eric Tin Dr Luke Toh Mr Edwin Tong Adj Asst Prof Shelat Vishalkumar G

Clinic Management System and Be Ready for the National Electronic Health Records' in August 2018. Partners and sponsors came together to share on various aspect of digitalisation, including how to move from paper to digital record keeping, requirements for handling digital records, and cybersecurity for small and medium practices.

#### **SMA LECTURE 2018**

A/Prof Jason Yap

Inaugurated in 1963, the SMA Lectureship is a prestigious annual lecture delivered by a distinguished speaker on medical ethics and related topics that are pertinent in the day. Last year, we were honoured to have A/Prof Yeoh Khay Guan, Dean of Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore and Deputy Chief Executive of National University Health System deliver the lecture titled 'The Future of Medical Education'. The Lecture explored the implications of shifting trends in Singapore healthcare and its impact on medical education.



Having attended the Healthcare Ethics Educators Course, I now have greater clarity and confidence when faced with complex scenarios involving ethical deliberation. The concepts and tools taught can be used in a variety of circumstances, so I hope more medical professionals will undergo similar ethical training.

I joined SMA CMEP for two reasons: to increase my own understanding of ethics as applied to healthcare and to impart such knowledge to future medical practitioners. As they say, there is no better way to learn than to teach.



DR LAMBERT LOW SMA CMEP TEACHING FACULTY

#### SINGAPORE MEDICAL JOURNAL

Since its inception in 1959, the SMJ has been an open-access journal, as we recognise that broad access to research results is an essential component of lifelong learning. Over the years, SMJ has shifted from reporting purely on local diseases to publishing high-quality scientific research papers from Singapore and around the region, distance-learning continuing medical education (CME) articles, as well as insightful reviews and commentaries on disease management, practice guidelines and medicolegal issues.

Based on the 2017 Journal Citation Reports (JCR) published by Clarivate Analytics, the SMJ is in the third quartile of the Medicine, General and Internal category of the JCR and has achieved an impact factor of 1.08. This is a milestone for the journal and validates our continuous effort to expand our influence and reach.

A total of 420 manuscripts were submitted to the journal last year, with 64% originating from Singapore, while those from ASEAN, East Asia and the Middle East made up nearly 30% of all submissions. The majority of submissions were original research, followed by medical education articles, novel cases and reviews. Of the 164 articles published in 2018, over 40% were e-published ahead of print.

Advancing medical science and knowledge is at the core of what we do. To encourage our members to engage in research activities and share their results, SMJ has waived the article processing fee for members who submit their papers to be considered for publication. Last year, 129 waivers were granted to SMA members. We also publish two CME articles in each monthly issue under the Singapore Medical Council category 3B distance-learning programme, which gives a total of 24 non-core points. In 2018, we received a total of 9,588 CME submissions, 99% of which were from SMA members, who enjoy complimentary access to the online guizzes. We are encouraged by the responses of our members and hope more will make full use of these member-only privileges for their publication and continual education.

As the SMJ celebrates its 60th year of publication in 2019, we are reminded that a journal's success can only be achieved at an incremental pace through many years of hard work and persistence. The present and future achievements of SMJ must certainly be celebrated as a collective effort of all past and present editors, editorial boards and reviewers. We will continue to build on our successes to make SMJ a journal of choice for members and doctors in the region.



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I am a retired doctor who faithfully takes the SMJ CME guizzes online with the help of the hard copies. The quizzes are useful and help me to fulfil my renewal requirements. I hope they will continue.

> **DR LILLIAN LEE SMA MEMBER SINCE 1974**

#### SMJ impact factor from 2010 to 2017



SMA courses are relevant for medical practice, taking into consideration the various landscape changes in clinical practice. I have learnt a great deal and enjoyed the courses thoroughly. Attending the courses also allowed me to interact with healthcare professionals from various sectors, which has further enhanced my learning. I wish to thank SMA and the course instructors, and hope that in the coming years, SMA will continue to organise up-to-date courses that assist in our clinical care.

> DR SWAHTECK SIN **SMA MEMBER SINCE 2012 FAMILY PHYSICIAN AND SENIOR CONSULTANT**

### ADVANCING MEDICAL PRACTICE

Today's healthcare landscape requires doctors to be more time-sensitive and cost-effective in their practice. Recognising this, SMA has initiated many programmes and services over the years to support our members in their practice. These initiatives serve to enhance our members' effectiveness as medical practitioners, as well as advance their medical practice.



#### **SMA EMARKET**

The SMA eMarket, an e-procurement platform for medical supplies, was set up in October 2017 in response to a member survey. Last year, we conducted multiple road shows in conjunction with SMA courses and events to address any queries on the usage of the portal in relation to our members' practice. We also offered 27 complimentary SMA eMarket training sessions in partnership with Bizmann Systems (S) Pte Ltd from July to October 2018 for members and their clinic

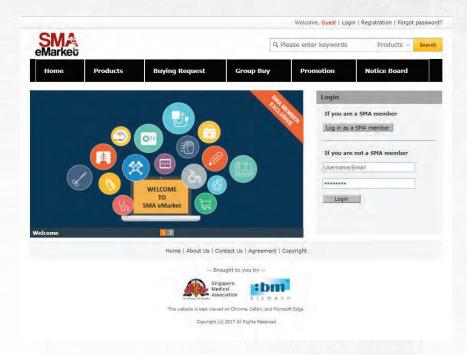
staff who required additional guidance to better utilise the portal. SMA members who dedicated time and effort to better understand the portal also enjoyed various promotions throughout the year, from item giveaways with purchases to direct price reductions, all of which amounted to more than \$10,000. As of 31 December 2018, more than 1,750 members and their clinic staff have explored the SMA eMarket for the latest medical devices and market rates. Of these, more than 60% have gone on to make successful transactions since its launch.



It has been an awesome journey with SMA from my houseman days till now as a Life Member. With the tremendous support of the SMA Council and staff who work tirelessly to meet the fast-paced medical challenges over the last 30 years, I have never felt alone. Thank you, SMA!

DR VIVIEN CHONG EE MEI SMA LIFE MEMBER (JOINED IN 1985) FORMER PARTICIPANT INTHE CLINIC ASSISTANT PROGRAMME AND EMARKET PROMOTIONS







#### SMA CLINIC ASSISTANT PLACE AND TRAIN PROGRAMME

The SMA Clinic Assistant Place and Train Programme, a collaboration between SMA and Employment and Employability Institute (e2i), aims to help SMA members identify, hire and train suitable candidates for the position of clinic assistant. Following the completion of its first run in 2017, we reviewed and made improvements on the programme based on the current requirements of our members' practice. The newly redesigned programme, which includes a three-week on-the-job training in addition to the standard four-day Introductory Skills Course, was successfully launched on 27 September 2018. SMA continued our close partnership with e2i, securing a grant that facilitates greater interview opportunities for employers and job seekers, as well as lowers the opportunity cost of sending newly hired staff for training. In 2019, we will be accepting three training intakes for clinic assistants who have been recently hired.



Knowing how crucial a reliable staff force is to the smooth running of any medical practice, SMA seeks to provide our members with practical help to meet their staffing needs. SMA members enjoy preferential rates on job postings in our online Jobs Portal, as well as for classified advertisements and professional announcements in all our print publications. In addition, SMA members who are seeking a position as a locum or hiring a locum for their practice can post their resumes and available positions in Locum Online, an exclusive online platform that is complimentary for SMA members.



Budding clinic assistants learning new skills during the Introductory Skills Course



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The SMA Clinic Assistant Place and Train Programme has provided me with a larger pool of potential candidates to fill vacancies in my practice. Importantly, it also provides relevant training for new clinic staff. As an SMA member, I can go online to view the list of course participants and shortlist them for interview. This really helps to meet the hiring needs of busy clinicians!

> DR CHRISTOPHER YEO **SMA MEMBER SINCE 2017**

# 59TH SMA COUNCIL 2018/2019

# President DR LEE YIK VOON

Family physician in private practice Council member since 2006; SMA spokesperson

**Committee:** Administration; Private Practice; Fitness to Drive



### Hon Treasurer DR BENNY LOO KAI GUO

Paediatrician in public practice Council member since 2014 **Committee:** Administration; Future Finance Workgroup; Property; Membership; Doctors-in-Training



# 1st Vice President DR WONG TIEN HUA

Family physician in private practice Council member since 2004; past SMA President (2015–2018) **Committee:** Administration; Doctors-in-Training; Membership; SMA Pte Ltd



## Hon Assistant Treasurer DR NG CHEE KWAN

Urologist in private practice Council member since 2014; SMA spokesperson **Committee:** Administration; Membership; Property; Private Practice



### 2nd Vice President DR TOH CHOON LAI

Orthopaedic surgeon in private practice
Council member since 2001
Committee: Administration;
Complaints



#### DR TAMMY CHAN TENG MUI

Family physician in private practice Council member since 2007 **Committee:** Future Finance Workgroup; Property; Private Practice; Medik Awas; Fitness to Drive



### Hon Secretary DR LIM KHENG CHOON

Diagnostic radiologist in public practice
Council member since 2013;
SMA spokesperson

**Committee:** Administration; Membership; Doctors-in-Training; Property; SMA Charity Fund



#### A/PROF CHIN JING JIH

Geriatrician in public practice Council member since 2002; past SMA President (2012–2015) **Committee:** Property; SMA Pte Ltd; SMA CMEP



# Hon Assistant Secretary DR ANANTHAM DEVANAND

Respiratory & critical care physician in public practice
Council member since 2014

**Committee:** Administration; Complaints; Ethics; SMA CMEP



#### **DR CHONG YEH WOEI**

General practitioner in private practice Council member since 1998; past SMA President (2009–2012) **Committee:** Future Finance Workgroup; Property; Membership; Doctors-in-Training; SMA Pte Ltd; Fitness to Drive; Private Practice



#### DR DANIEL LEE **HSIEN CHIEH**

Public health physician in public practice Council member since 2012 Committee: Property; Ethics; Membership



#### **ADJ PROF TAN SZEWEE**

Director at research agency Council member since 1996 Committee: SMA Pte Ltd: SMA Charity Fund



#### DR LEE PHENG SOON

Family physician in private practice Council member since 1992; past SMA President (2003-2006) Committee: Future Finance Workgroup; Professional Indemnity; SMA Trust Fund



#### **DRTANTZE LEE**

Family physician in private practice Council member since 2013 Committee: Complaints; SMA News Editorial Board; Property



#### DR NG CHEW LIP

Otolaryngologist in public practice Council member since 2018 Committee: Doctors-in-Training; Annual Dinner 2019



#### **DRTAN YIA SWAM**

General surgeon in public practice Council member since 2007 Committee: SMA News Editorial Board



#### DR NOORUL FATHA AS'ART

Public health physician in public sector Council member since 2010 Committee: Ethics; SMA Charity Fund



#### DR WONG CHIANG YIN

Public health physician in private sector Council member since 1995; past SMA President (2006-2009) Committee: Future Finance Workgroup; Property; SMA Charity Fund



#### A/PROF NIGELTAN **CHOON KIAT**

Neurologist in public practice Council member since 2014



#### DR BERTHA WOON **YNG YNG**

General surgeon in private practice Council member since 2007 Committee: Professional Indemnity; SMA CMEP; SMA Pte Ltd



#### **COUNCIL MEETING ATTENDANCE**

Up to February 2019, 10 council meetings were convened to discuss the business and affairs of the Association.

Name	Attendance*	Name	Attendance*	Name	Attendance*
Dr Lee Yik Voon	9/10	Dr Tammy Chan	8/10	A/Prof Nigel Tan	9/10
Dr Wong Tien Hua	9/10	A/Prof Chin Jing Jih	8/10	Adj Prof Tan Sze Wee	6/10
Dr Toh Choon Lai	8/10	Dr Chong Yeh Woei	7/10	Dr Tan Tze Lee	10/10
Dr Lim Kheng Choon	7/10	Dr Daniel Lee	10/10	Dr Tan Yia Swam	7/10
Dr Anantham Devanand	d 7/10	Dr Lee Pheng Soon	6/10	Dr Wong Chiang Yin	10/10
Dr Benny Loo	10/10	Dr Ng Chew Lip	10/10	Dr Bertha Woon	9/10
Dr Ng Chee Kwan	7/10	Dr Noorul Fatha As'art	t 6/10		

<sup>\*</sup>Council members who were absent from council meetings either were overseas or had sent their apologies.

### STANDING COMMITTEES & REPRESENTATIVES 2018/2019

#### STANDING COMMITTEES

The President and Honorary Secretary are ex-officios of all committees.

#### **Administration Committee**

Dr Lee Yik Voon, Chairperson Dr Wong Tien Hua, Vice Chairperson Dr Toh Choon Lai, Vice Chairperson Dr Lim Kheng Choon Dr Benny Loo Kai Guo Dr Anantham Devanand

#### **Editorial Board -**Singapore Medical Journal

A/Prof Poh Kian Keong, Editor Adj A/Prof Ang Tiing Leong, Deputy Editor A/Prof Mahesh Choolani, Deputy Editor Prof Wilfred CG Peh, Advisor Prof Teo Eng Kiong, Advisor

#### Specialty Editors

Dr Ng Chee Kwan

Dr Daphne Ang Shih Wen (till Dec '18) Dr Chan Yiong Huak Dr Chia Pow-Li (from Jan '19) Dr Chuah Khoon Leong Dr How Choon How Adj Prof Hsu Pon Poh A/Prof Devendra Kanagalingam

(from Jan '19) Dr William KF Kong Dr Dave Lee Yee Han Dr Lawrence Lee Soon-U (till Dec '18)

Dr Katy Leung Ying Ying

Dr Liau Kui Hin

A/Prof Kevin Lim Boon Leong

Dr Joshua P Loh

Dr Abdul Razakjr Omar (till Dec '18)

Dr Pwee Keng Ho Prof Quak Seng Hock Dr Ramani NV

Adj A/Prof Sim Kang Dr Sitoh Yih Yian

Dr Benedict Tan Chi' Loong

Dr Tan Cher Heng Prof Kelvin KH Tan

Dr Tan Li Hoon

Prof Tan Puay Hoon

Adj A/Prof Tan Su-Ming

A/Prof Tan Tong Khee

Dr Darren Tay Keng Jin A/Prof Samuel Tay Sam Wah

A/Prof Cuthbert Teo Eng Swee

Dr Shawn Vasoo (from Jan '19)

Dr Wang Yu Tien (from Jan '19)

Prof Wong Wai Keong

#### International Corresponding Editors

Prof Jafri Malin Abdullah A/Prof Judy Wei-Ming Hung Prof Malai Muttarak Prof Ng Kwan Hoong Prof Tan Siang Yong

#### Editorial Board - SMA News

Dr Tan Yia Swam, Editor Dr Tina Tan, Deputy Editor Dr Tan Tze Lee, Deputy Editor A/Prof Daniel Fung, Advisor A/Prof Cuthbert Teo, Advisor A/Prof Toh Han Chong, Advisor Dr Chie Zhi Ying Dr Jayant V Iyer Dr Jipson Quah

Dr Jonathan Tan Dr Jimmy Teo

Dr Alex Wong

#### **Complaints Committee**

Dr Toh Choon Lai, Chairperson Dr Anantham Devanand, Vice Chairperson Dr Lim Teck Beng Dr Soh Wah Ngee Dr Tan Tze Lee Dr Diana Tan Yuen Lan Dr Allen Wang Aik Loon

Dr Wee Siew Bock

Dr Fabian Yap Kok Peng

Dr Noel Yeo

#### **Ethics Committee**

Dr Anantham Devanand, Chairperson Dr Noorul Fatha As'art, Vice Chairperson Ms Kuah Boon Theng Dr Daniel Lee Hsien Chieh A/Prof Lim Yean Teng Dr Andrew Pan Beng Siong Dr Lawrence Tan Wei Meng Dr Tham Tat Yean **Dr T Thirumoorthy** 

#### **Professional Indemnity Committee**

Dr Lee Pheng Soon, Chairperson Dr Bertha Woon Yng Yng, Vice Chairperson

#### **Private Practice Committee**

Dr Tammy Chan Teng Mui, Chairperson Dr Ng Chee Kwan, Vice Chairperson Dr Chong Yeh Woei Dr Lee Yik Voon

#### **Doctors-in-Training Committee**

Dr Benny Loo Kai Guo, Chairperson Dr Lim Kheng Choon, Vice Chairperson Dr Ng Chew Lip, Vice Chairperson Dr Chong Yeh Woei, Advisor Prof Paul Tambyah, Advisor Dr Wong Tien Hua, Advisor Dr Andrea Ang Ee Ling (from Nov '18) Dr Cheong Li Anne Dr Chin Run Ting Dr Shaun Chook Kah Hean Dr Hong Qiantai Dr Davis Lucy Jennifer (from Aug '18)

Dr Joel Lim Hua Liang

Dr Tan Ming Yuan

Dr Woo Yew Lok (till Aug '18) Dr Teresa Marie Wong Yun Wah Dr Yong Jin (from Aug '18)

#### **Membership Committee**

Dr Chong Yeh Woei, Chairperson Dr Lim Kheng Choon, Vice Chairperson Dr Benny Loo Kai Guo, Vice Chairperson Dr Daniel Lee Hsien Chieh Dr Ng Chee Kwan Dr Wong Tien Hua

#### Wine Appreciation Chapter (SIG)

A/Prof Vernon Lee Jian Ming, Chairperson A/Prof Andrew YH Chin, Vice Chairperson Dr Chong Yeh Woei, Vice Chairperson Dr Wong Chiang Yin, Vice Chairperson

#### Whisky Appreciation Chapter (SIG)

Dr Ganesh Ramalingam, Chairperson Dr Felix Li Jingxiang, Vice Chairperson

#### **Sports & Games Committee**

Dr Chia Yih Woei, Chairperson

#### Convenors/Captains (IPG)

Badminton: Dr William Kristanto Basketball: Dr Colin Teo Kok Ann Bowling: Dr Valerie Teo /

Dr Chiam Chiak Teng Chess: Dr Jeevarajah Nithiananthan Cross Country: Dr Foo Gen Lin

Floorball: Dr Benjamin Ang / Dr Tan Hon Lyn Golf: Dr Gary Chee Hsing

Pool: Dr Alvin Koo / Dr Pua Uei Soccer (Men): Dr William Kristanto Soccer (Women): Dr Priyanka Rajendram /

Dr Hwang Kai Yin Squash: Dr Jonathan Pang

Table Tennis: Dr Leow Khang Leng Tennis: Dr Derek Yong / Dr Julian Theng Volleyball: Dr Tan Pinhong

#### Convenors/Captains (SIG)

Basketball: Dr Colin Teo Kok Ann Golf: Dr Chan Kwai Onn (2018) / Dr Adrian Tan (2019)

Soccer (Men): Dr Chng Nai Wee / Dr William Kristanto

Soccer (Women): Dr Priyanka Rajendram / Dr Hwang Kai Yin

#### **Medik Awas Committee**

Dr Tammy Chan Teng Mui, Chairperson

#### 2nd SMA National Medical Students' Convention

Mr Thurston Heng Yan Jia, Chairperson

#### 2019 Dinner Organising Committee

Dr Ng Chew Lip, Chairperson

#### **SMA CPR Training Programme** Committee

A/Prof Lim Swee Han, Chairperson

#### **Property Committee**

Dr Daniel Lee Hsien Chieh, Chairperson Dr Tammy Chan Teng Mui

Dr Lim Kheng Choon Dr Benny Loo Kai Guo Dr Ng Chee Kwan Dr Tan Tze Lee A/Prof Chin Jing Jih, Advisor Dr Chong Yeh Woei, Advisor Dr Wong Chiang Yin, Advisor

#### **Fitness to Drive Committee**

Dr Chong Yeh Woei, Chairperson Dr Tammy Chan Teng Mui Dr Lee Yik Voon

#### **Future Finance Workgroup**

Dr Tammy Chan Teng Mui, Chairperson Dr Chong Yeh Woei Dr Lee Pheng Soon Dr Benny Loo Kai Guo Dr Wong Chiang Yin

#### **ORGANISATIONS UNDER SMA'S GOVERNANCE**

#### **SMA Charity Fund**

**Board of Directors** Prof Wong Tien Yin, Chairperson Mr Alex Koh Wei Peng Mr Colin Lim Fung Wan Dr Lim Kheng Choon Dr Noorul Fatha As'art Adj Prof Tan Sze Wee Prof Thio Li-ann Dr Charles Toh Chai Soon Mr T K Udairam Dr Wong Chiang Yin

#### Members of the company limited by guarantee

A/Prof Chin Jing Jih Dr Chong Yeh Woei Dr Wong Chiang Yin

#### **Singapore Medical Association Private Limited**

**Board of Directors Executive Directors** Adj Prof Tan Sze Wee, Chairperson A/Prof Chin Jing Jih Dr Chong Yeh Woei Dr Wong Tien Hua

Dr Bertha Woon Yng Yng

Non-Executive Directors

Dr Lee Yik Voon Dr Lim Kheng Choon Dr Benny Loo Kai Guo

#### **Board of Trustees**

Dr Tan Cheng Bock @ Adrian Tan Prof Chee Yam Cheng Prof Low Cheng Hock

#### Centre for Medical Ethics & **Professionalism**

A/Prof Gerald Chua, Executive Director Dr Anantham Devanand, Deputy Executive Director Dr T Thirumoorthy, Immediate Past Executive Director

#### **Board Members**

A/Prof Chin Jing Jih (SMA) Dr Bertha Woon Yng Yng (SMA) Dr S Suraj Kumar (CFPS) Dr Luke Low Ser Guan (CFPS) Dr S R E Sayampanathan (AMS) Dr Benjamin Ng (AMS) A/Prof Lai Siang Hui (MLS)

#### **SMA Trust Fund**

**Board of Trustees** 

Dr Lee Pheng Soon, Chairperson Dr Tan Yew Ghee, Secretary Dr Tan Kok Soo, Treasurer A/Prof Cheong Pak Yean Prof Low Cheng Hock

#### REPRESENTATIVES OF SMA

#### **MOH Committee on Draft Directive** on the Provision of Outpatient **Intravenous and Central Line Therapies by Licensed Clinics**

Dr Chong Yeh Woei

#### **MOH Fee Benchmarks Advisory Committee**

Dr Toh Choon Lai

#### MOH Healthcare Publicity Review -**Main Panel**

Dr Wong Chiang Yin

#### MOH Healthcare Publicity Review -**Review Panel**

Dr Desmond Wai Chun Tao Dr Charles Tan Tse Kuang

#### **MOH Joint Committee for Opioids Control in Healthcare Institutions**

Dr Yeo Sow Nam

#### **MOH National Ethics Capability Committee**

A/Prof Chin Jing Jih Dr Anantham Devanand (Alternate)

#### **MOH Sub-Committee on GP** Communications & Engagement, **Primary Care Action Plan Implementation Committee**

Dr Wong Tien Hua

#### **National General Practitioner Advisory Panel**

Dr Wong Tien Hua

#### **SMC CME Coordinating Committee**

Dr Chong Yeh Woei Dr Tan Tze Lee (Alternate)

#### **SMC Sentencing Guidelines Committee**

Dr Wong Chiang Yin

#### **Advertising Standards Authority** of Singapore (ASAS) Council

Dr Lee Yik Voon

#### **ASAS Health & Wellness Sub-Committee**

Adj Prof Tan Sze Wee (Chairperson) Dr Lee Yik Voon

#### **LKCMedicine-NHG Centre** for Primary Health Care Research & Innovation **Steering Committee**

Dr Lee Yik Voon

#### MOM Workplace Safety & Health (Healthcare) Committee

Dr Wong Sin Yew Dr Jean Sim Xiang Ying (Alternate)

#### **Singapore Resuscitation** & First Aid Council

A/Prof Lim Swee Han

#### **Singapore Anti-Narcotics Association**

Dr Thomas Lee Kae Meng

#### **SMA-SAPI Joint Committee**

Dr Lee Pheng Soon Dr Lee Yik Voon

#### The Courage Fund Limited, **Board of Trustees & Board of Directors**

Prof Low Cheng Hock

#### The Courage Fund Limited, **SMA Institutional Representative**

A/Prof Chin Jing Jih

#### **Medical Association of South East Asian Nations (MASEAN) Council**

Dr Lee Yik Voon, Secretary General Dr Tammy Chan Teng Mui, Chairperson of Finance Committee A/Prof Mahesh Choolani, Vice Chairperson of MASEAN Group of Journals (from Jul '18)

#### **IDI-SMA Joint Committee** (Memorandum of Understanding on Publicity Guidelines & Code of Ethics on Hospital Promotion)

Dr Chong Yeh Woei Dr Lee Yik Voon Dr Tammy Chan Teng Mui

#### The Confederation of Medical **Associations in Asia and Oceania**

Dr Chong Yeh Woei, Chairperson of Council

#### **SMA Spokespersons**

Dr Lee Yik Voon Dr Lim Kheng Choon Dr Ng Chee Kwan

#### **SMA Honorary Legal Advisors**

Ms Kuah Boon Theng, Legal Clinic LLC Mr Lek Siang Pheng, Dentons Rodyk & Davidson LLP Mr Matthew Saw Seang Kuan, Lee & Lee

#### **Media & Communications**

Ms Nalini Naidu, IMSG Pte Ltd

# **SMA SECRETARIAT**

The SMA Secretariat has undergone many changes over the past 60 years. From a three-member staff team in the 1960s, it has grown to its current strength of 24. Led by Chief Administrator, Mr Martin Ho, the Secretariat strives to be a high-performance team that partners the Council in building a professional body that is relevant and important to our membership.





#### MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

Standing from left: Ashley Soh, Norita Binte Abdul Wahab Seated from left: Mellissa Ang, Noor Azliena Binte Samhudi, Siti Nurhuda Binte Mohd Sulaiman



#### **PUBLICATIONS**

From left: Jo-Ann Teo, Genevieve Tay, Alina Ng, Sarah Lim, Sylvia Thay, Nurul Faizzah Binte Mohd Azmi







#### **CORPORATE SERVICES**

Standing from left: Loy Li Li, Ho Li Shan, Martin Ho, Ronnie Cheok, Tan Kie Chuan Seated from left: Angeline Teoh, Chua Gek Eng, Lee Sze Yong



### COURSES AND INDEMNITY SERVICES

From left: Lin Shirong, Jasmine Soo, Denise Tan, Margaret Chan, Terry Teong



