



Singapore
Medical
Association

GO THE DISTANCE



SMA
60TH ANNUAL REPORT
2019/2020

ABOUT SMA

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 MOTTO

JASA UTAMA,
'SERVICE BEFORE SELF'

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

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The theme of the 60th annual report, 'Go the Distance', articulates SMA's sustained commitment to the medical profession. Like a long-distance runner who sets the pace and pushes oneself through mile after mile of endless tarmac, SMA has supported the medical profession through 60 years of Singapore's ever-changing healthcare landscape. Medical societies and associations have come and gone. But we are still here — for the long haul! As we enter a new decade in 2020, amid a host of old and new challenges, SMA will continue to remain a strong advocate and an active voice for the profession and our patients.

In 2019, SMA and the medical profession weathered yet another eventful year. One major issue that we faced collectively was the manner in which the disciplinary process for doctors was conducted, which encouraged the practice of defensive medicine in Singapore with negative consequences for our patients. In the wake of two high-profile cases of unduly severe fines imposed on doctors for honest mistakes made, SMA took decisive leadership to request for clarification from the Singapore Medical Council (SMC) regarding the Disciplinary Tribunal's grounds of decision on the cases, following which we met with representatives from the SMC to review the disciplinary process for doctors.

In response to feedback from SMA and other professional bodies, the Ministry of Health (MOH) appointed the Workgroup to Review the Taking of Informed Consent and the SMC's Disciplinary Process, which included representation from SMA, to look into the matter. The Workgroup's extensive list of recommendations was subsequently accepted by the MOH. This heartening development shows that when involved parties work together in a spirit of collaboration and mutual respect, sensible resolutions can be achieved, with the interests of patients upheld and the challenges faced by practitioners taken into consideration.

At the dawn of 2020, just days before the Lunar New Year celebrations, the medical profession was issued yet another major challenge in the form of a novel coronavirus that originated from Wuhan, China (officially named COVID-19 by the World Health Organization [WHO]), which arrived on our shores on 23 January 2020. In 2003, when the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome struck, it was a new and unknown disease that caught the world by surprise. In all, 775 out of more than 8,000 infected people died worldwide. Since then, the medical profession has taken great efforts to prepare for the next pandemic. We battled Swine flu (H1N1) in 2009, made preparations for the Middle East Respiratory Syndrome in 2015, and along the way tackled the various seasonal influenzas that came our way. Overall, we are a lot more prepared.

When news of Singapore's first imported case of COVID-19 broke, SMA once again rose swiftly to the occasion, working closely with MOH to provide a reliable source of support, ground feedback and

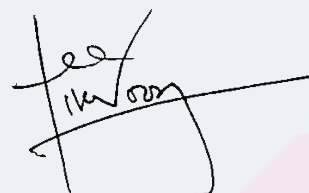
insights on real-life encounters and, importantly, giving our members timely updates as the crisis unfolded and practical support such as securing N95 and surgical masks from MOH for sale to our doctors in the private sector. A workgroup, led by SMA 1st Vice-President Dr Tan Yia Swam, was promptly formed to provide guidance to family medicine practitioners on the use of telemedicine during an infectious disease outbreak. This advisory was accompanied by a Telemedicine Quick-start Guide for medical practitioners and a Visitor Resource Pamphlet for distribution to tourists in Singapore. SMA is committed to stand in solidarity with the medical community and Singapore in our fight against COVID-19!

One of SMA's greatest strengths lies in our team of volunteers who serve in different capacities at great personal costs. On behalf of the Association, I wish to thank all our volunteers who have sacrificed their valuable time to sit on committees, edit our publications, or serve as speakers or moderators at our many seminars and workshops. In particular, I want to record my deep appreciation to SMA Past President Dr Lee Pheng Soon, who took over as Executive Director of the SMA Centre for Medical Ethics and Professionalism from Dr Gerald Chua in October 2019. I am also very pleased that A/Prof Poh Kian Keong has accepted his re-appointment as Editor-in-Chief of the *Singapore Medical Journal*

for another two years. Under his able leadership, the journal has seen an increase in its impact factor from 1.08 to 1.14 last year.

SMA's motto 'Jasa Utama' means 'service before self'. In the past six decades, the SMA Council has consistently sought to exemplify this noble aspiration. Our slogan, 'For Doctors, For Patients', holds the promise that SMA strives to look out for every member of the medical community, so that in turn, all doctors may better serve their patients. We are all in this together!

Finally, it has been my privilege to serve as the SMA President from 2018 to 2020, and I urge all our members to strive to move forward as one, with a common goal — to serve each other and to care for our patients to the best of our ability. I look forward to your continuing strong support for SMA.



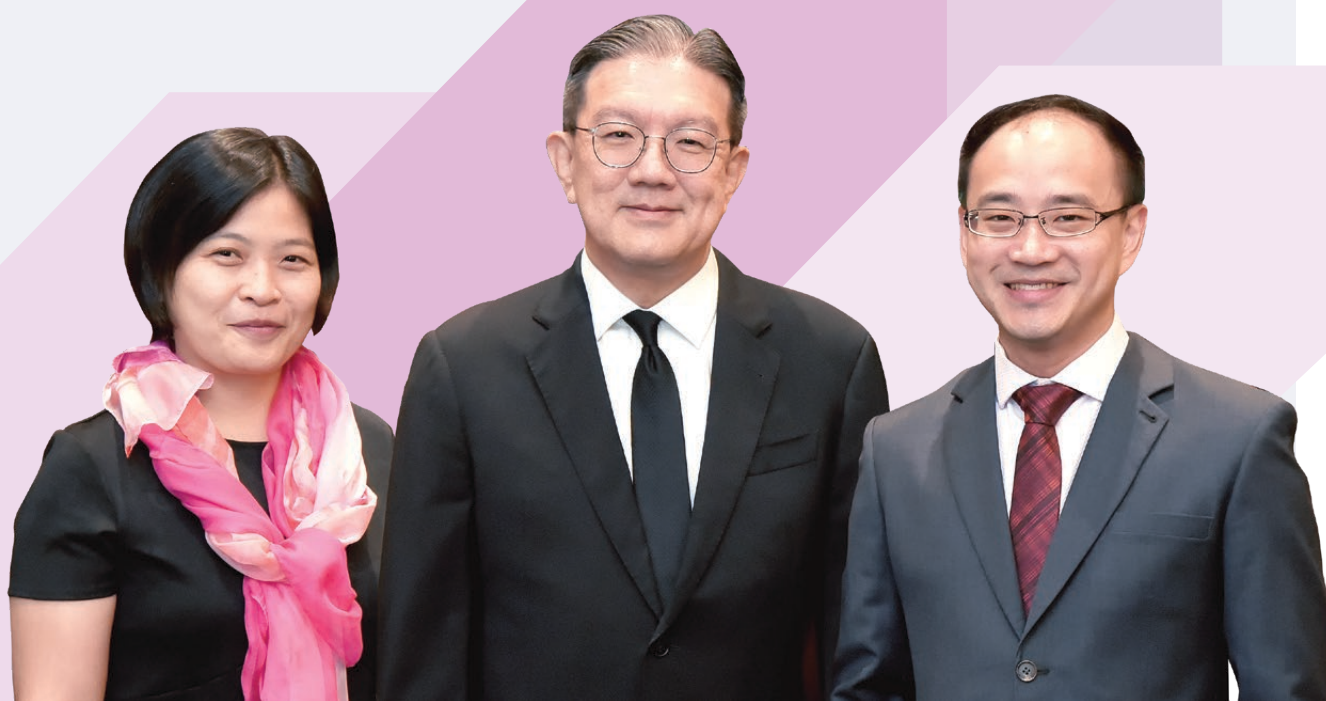
DR LEE YIK VOON

From left:

Dr Tan Yia Swam, 1st Vice-President

Dr Lee Yik Voon, President

Dr Daniel Lee Hsien Chieh, 2nd Vice-President



HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

SMA celebrated its 60th year in 2019. As we walked down memory lane, it was clear that each of the preceding 59 Councils had faced their fair share of challenges. Evidently, the work of the Association, although ever-changing, remains as important today as it was decades ago.

It is opportune that I start my report with a note of heartfelt appreciation to our mentors, colleagues and friends who have made the work and impact of the Association possible through their support and membership, following a very successful annual year-end event — the SMA Members' Appreciation Nite, which saw hundreds of members, volunteers, donors and staff coming together to witness the finale of the Skywalker saga.

Volunteering for the Association is not easy — it involves sacrifice of time away from family, work and personal pursuits. Often, the work is done behind the scenes with scant recognition. That is why, at every Annual Dinner, the SMA Council recognises our volunteers' hard work through the conferment of various awards. In 2019, we were honoured to confer the SMA Honorary Membership on Senior Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam, and the Merit Award on Prof Chacha Pesi Bejonji, Prof Fock Kwong Ming, Dr Tan See Leng and Prof Wong Tien Yin. We also appreciated Prof Low Cheng Hock, Dr Jonathan Pang, Dr Julian Theng and Dr Tan Kok Soo for their acts of volunteerism in the past 20 years.

Serving in the Association is like being in a cross-country relay team of medical professionals, where the baton is handed from one Council to the next, each going the distance while navigating undulating and sometimes treacherous terrain. The 60th Council hope that we have covered our share of the distance, and made the future of the profession and the healthcare environment somewhat brighter and more sustainable than before. I shall highlight three of the more memorable and significant contributions SMA made in 2019.

In the past year, the cases of Dr Lim Lian Arn and Dr Soo Shuenn Chiang created a significant uproar among the profession. The SMA Council met with the Singapore Medical Council (SMC) immediately after the grounds of decision on Dr Lim's case was published, to better understand the reasoning behind the judgement and penalty, and to discuss practical implications for clinical practice. Notes were written to our members and the press, and a training session on consent-taking was organised for junior doctors. SMA and the College of Family Physicians Singapore also commissioned a survey to evaluate any changes in practice behaviour regarding H&L injections following the disciplinary decision, the results of which were published

in the *Singapore Medical Journal*. SMC subsequently filed appeals to the High Court, and both convictions were quashed. SMA was also part of the 12-member Workgroup to Review the Taking of Informed Consent and the SMC's Disciplinary Process. We are happy that our work has played a part in bringing about a much-needed change and review of SMC's disciplinary process. While the circumstances that resulted in this change were unfortunate, SMA is certain that this path will restore trust in the system — an essential ingredient for a better healthcare system in Singapore for both doctors and patients.

Another aspect of SMA's advocacy in 2019 was regarding taxation. SMA received feedback from members that the Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore had sent letters to some doctors, as part of its investigation into the use of corporate structures in the running of their medical practices. We issued an advisory to members to review their existing structures, and to evaluate their original intentions and motivations for establishing these structures. We also reminded members not to establish artificial or contrived structures with the primary purpose of avoiding or reducing taxes, while also noting that the use of a company as a business vehicle by itself has been a common practice since time immemorial.

SMA also worked with Life Insurance Association (LIA) Singapore on its proposed pre-authorisation form for Integrated Shield Plans, particularly the requirement for doctors to provide information on patients' comorbidities. There were several written discussions and a meeting in October 2019 to share the views and concerns of our members, and to work towards a mutually acceptable solution. The discussion is still ongoing. Reassuringly, LIA has affirmed that information obtained in the form will not be used to build patient profiles, and that the form requests consent only for the purposes of pre-authorisation and claims assessment.

SMA's relay is not yet over. For the journey to be purposeful and fruitful, we need the continued support of our members, colleagues and friends. No matter how far the distance may be, the journey is easier when more of us are in it together.



DR LIM KHENG CHOON

Dr Lim Kheng Choon
Honorary Secretary



Dr Benny Loo Kai Guo
Honorary Assistant Secretary



HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

The Association was weighed down by financial pressures in 2019, similar to the wider Singapore economy, particularly because we operate as a not-for-profit members' association that strives to provide maximum benefit to SMA members and the profession at large. We closed the year with a surplus of \$546,471, mainly from the recovery of our investments (fair value gain of \$604,680), thanks to thawing trade relations between China and the United States. While our accumulated funds remain healthy at \$7.6 million, we are watchful of our need to maintain an operating surplus year-on-year.

Our main sources of income were services rendered to third parties, advertisements and investments, as well as membership subscription, which made up 77% of our total income. To continue the work that we do while keeping membership subscription fees low at \$200 per year, we need to maintain a strong quantity of membership renewals every year. This is an uphill task for an association that works and advocates for the wider profession (not only SMA members) and does not necessarily have the financial resources to give relevant, individualised and tangible benefits to each member. Nonetheless, more than 50% of our total expenses were spent on membership activities and the provision of educational resources to keep our members up to date on matters related to medical practice, ethics and professionalism, and scientific research.

The COVID-19 outbreak in the first half of 2020 will continue to place financial pressures on the Association. In particular, we expect to see an impact on the value of our investments. The outbreak has also resulted in unplanned expenditure, such as the costs incurred for the sourcing of personal protective equipment, adoption of teleconferencing and virtual seminars, as well as creation of online continuing medical education (CME) modules to help our members meet their CME requirements during this time. Measures have been put in place by the SMA Secretariat to keep our costs low, and more cost management reviews will be

conducted in the future to prevent unwarranted escalation of costs. Nevertheless, we will need to put forward some new measures for 2020 and beyond.

While we strive to keep fees for SMA courses, events and services highly subsidised for SMA members, it will be difficult to continue to keep most items complimentary as we have done in previous years. Nonetheless, rates applicable to SMA members will continue to be significantly lower compared to that for non-members.

We have also reviewed the membership subscription rate per member and, in line with cost inflation, will eventually need to propose an increase in the membership subscription rate for general membership while continuing our subsidies for doctors in training.

We hope that SMA members will encourage their peers to join as a member. Getting more support will allow us to be the representative voice for the profession and remain financially sustainable in the long term. At the same time, we urge SMA members to continue supporting our work and growing with us in your professional journey as a medical doctor. As we have done for the past 60 years, we will continue to go the distance with you in the years ahead.

I would like to thank my Honorary Assistant Treasurer, Dr Bertha Woon Yng Yng, for her valuable insights and support, as well as Head of Finance Ms Angeline Teoh and Senior Executive Ms Priscilla Leong for their dedicated service, which has ensured the smooth and sustainable functioning of the Association.



DR NG CHEE KWAN

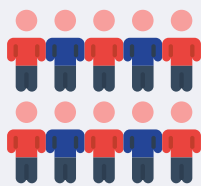
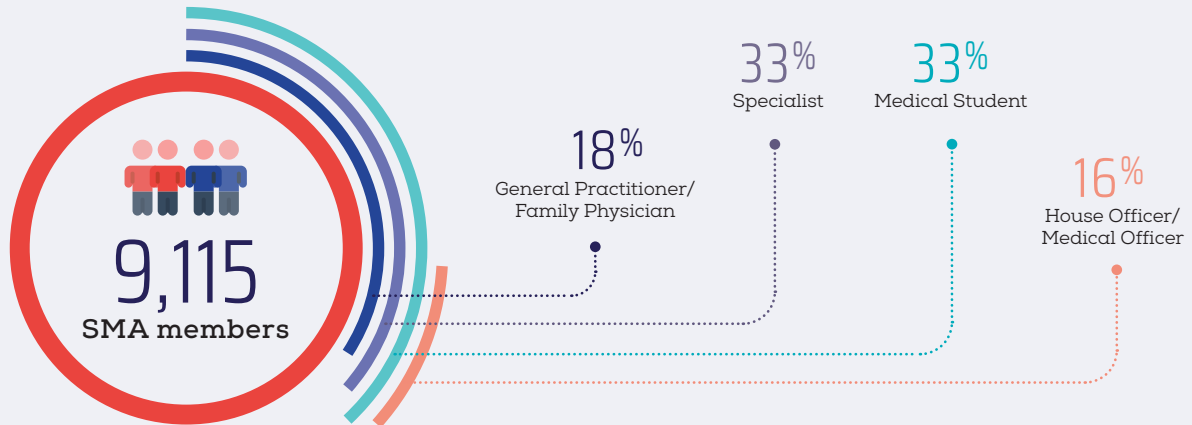
Dr Ng Chee Kwan
Honorary Treasurer



Dr Bertha Woon Yng Yng
Honorary Assistant Treasurer



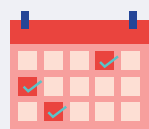
KEY STATISTICS IN 2019



48%
from
Public Sector



16
Sensory
Interest
Groups



22
Membership
events



1,654
Participants



56
Courses and
CME events



\$131,866
Course subsidies for
SMA members



5,503
Participants



Up to **87**
CME points per year



7

Policy
submissions

1

Advisory
issued

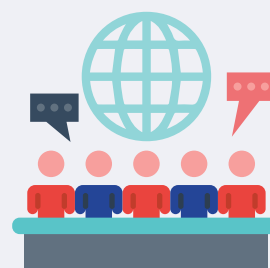
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Media
statements

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Key governments
meetings

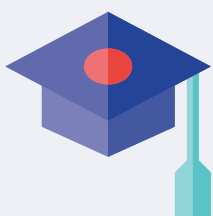
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Media
citations

3

International
meetings

SMA CHARITY FUND



57

Bursaries awarded



> \$285,000

Disbursed
to needy
medical students

KEY FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

GROUP STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	2019	2018
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR AFTER TAX		
Total Income	\$ 3,175,279	\$ 2,151,052
Total Expenditure	\$ 2,628,808	\$ 2,823,368
Total Surplus/(Deficit)	\$ 546,471	(\$ 672,316)
INCOME		
Subscriptions	\$ 685,203	\$ 732,294
Commission	\$ 674,288	\$ 696,989
Rebates	\$ 119,695	\$ 140,691
Courses and Events	\$ 503,138	\$ 569,025
Investments	\$ 620,413	(\$ 559,566)
Publications	\$ 464,369	\$ 468,306
Others	\$ 108,173	\$ 103,313
Total Income	\$ 3,175,279	\$2,151,052
EXPENDITURE		
Administrative and Operating Expenses	\$ 487,152	\$ 535,912
Courses and Events	\$ 372,758	\$ 429,676
Publications	\$ 223,876	\$ 228,209
Staff and Related Expenses	\$ 1,545,023	\$ 1,629,571
Total Expenditure	\$ 2,628,808	\$2,823,368

GROUP STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS		
Non-current Assets	\$ 275,116	\$ 231,676
Current Assets	\$ 8,267,358	\$ 7,606,049
Total Assets	\$ 8,542,474	\$ 7,837,725
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity Attributable to SMA Members	\$ 7,686,614	\$ 7,176,529
Current Liabilities	\$ 855,860	\$ 661,196
Total Equity and Liabilities	\$ 8,542,474	\$ 7,837,725

ADVANCING PROFESSIONAL STANDING



2019 was another significant year, with SMA responding to several landmark disciplinary cases, advocating for a fairer process and more clarity in what constitutes professional misconduct. We are pleased to note the positive developments and will continue to advocate for the medical profession. In the following pages, we provide highlights of our advocacy work, and ongoing engagement with policymakers, our membership and other professional bodies.

INFORMED CONSENT AND SMC DISCIPLINARY PROCESS

Following the release of the grounds of decision of the Singapore Medical Council (SMC) Disciplinary Tribunal (DT) inquiry of Dr Lim Lian Arn in January 2019, SMA sought clarifications from the SMC and subsequently met key officials to understand the rationale behind the decision and discuss its practical implications on consent-taking. Among other things, we highlighted the disproportionately heavy penalty, as well as the current ambiguity and resultant practical difficulties faced by young doctors over consent-taking for minor procedures.

A letter to *The Straits Times Forum* was published on 11 February 2019 and a report on our meeting with SMC was issued on 25 February 2019 to help provide more clarity to members. The College of Family Physicians Singapore (CFPS) and SMA also commissioned a survey to evaluate any changes in practice behaviour regarding H&L injections following the grounds of decision. The results show a decrease in the number of doctors who gave H&L injections and an increase in the median pricing of H&L injections, suggesting that disciplinary decisions may influence practice behaviour.

In March, the grounds of decision for Dr Soo Shuenn Chiang's inquiry received similar scrutiny. SMA once again highlighted our concerns about the severe penalty imposed despite the mitigating factors and the challenges of identity authentication to the SMC and in a letter to *The Straits Times Forum*. SMA and the Medical Protection Society also jointly organised a talk to give young doctors practical advice on consent-taking.

On 14 March 2019, the Ministry of Health (MOH) appointed the Workgroup to Review the Taking of Informed Consent and the SMC's Disciplinary Process. SMA was invited to be a member of the Workgroup. The wide-ranging recommendations of the Workgroup was accepted by MOH in December 2019.

SMA also issued a media release after the High Court set aside Dr Lim Lian Arn's conviction in July 2019, highlighting that not all breaches of the SMC Ethical Code and Ethical Guidelines amount to professional misconduct.

MEETING WITH MINISTER FOR HEALTH

The SMA Council met with Mr Gan Kim Yong, Minister for Health, and other senior MOH officials, including Senior Minister of State Dr Lam Pin Min and Director of Medical Services A/Prof Benjamin Ong, on 2 July 2019. Various issues were discussed, such as the recent anti-smoking measures, information technology security, engagement of GPs in the community, aesthetic medicine, managed care, and engagement with medical students and doctors in training.

HEALTHCARE SERVICES BILL

On 22 January 2019, SMA participated in a consultation session with the MOH on proposed regulations under the upcoming Healthcare Services Bill, which will replace the current Private Hospitals and Medical Clinics Act. We provided MOH with input and requested for clarification on compliance. The consultation session was fruitful and we look forward to reviewing the amended document.

MEDICAL INSURANCE

SMA provided feedback on a standardised pre-authorisation form for use by all Integrated Shield Plan insurers proposed by the Life Insurance Association (LIA). Some of our suggestions, including reducing the amount of information a doctor needed to provide, were taken up by LIA and will be incorporated into the next iteration of the form.

MEDICAL INDEMNITY

SMA named three medical indemnity providers as preferred partners: Medical Protection Society as the preferred mutual; NTUC Income as the preferred insurance company; and Jardine Lloyd Thompson Group as the preferred insurance broker. Our preferred partners are chosen based on many factors, including their track record in medical practice indemnity, their openness to suggestions, the transparency of their processes and the quality of their products.

TRIPARTITE MEETINGS

SMA met regularly with Academy of Medicine, Singapore and CFPS throughout the year to exchange information and deliberate on issues faced by the medical profession. As the issues affecting the medical profession become

more complex and multidimensional, such regular meetings will help the three professional bodies to keep our ears to the ground.

RESPONSE TO COVID-19 OUTBREAK

When COVID-19 hit the shores of Singapore in January 2020, SMA immediately responded by working closely with MOH to provide a reliable source of support, ground feedback and insights on real-life encounters. We also gave timely updates to SMA members as the crisis unfolded and secured N95 and surgical masks from MOH for sale to our doctors in the private sector.

A workgroup, led by SMA 1st Vice-President, Dr Tan Yia Swam, was also formed to provide guidance to GPs on the use of telemedicine during an infectious disease outbreak. Besides issuing an advisory on telemedicine, we also produced a Telemedicine Quick-start Guide for medical practitioners and a Visitor Resource Pamphlet for distribution to tourists in Singapore.

MEDIA CITATIONS



Help young doctors by clearing up ambiguity"

The Straits Times,
11 February 2019



MOH appoints workgroup to review policies on informed consent and on SMC's disciplinary process"

TODAYonline,
2 March 2019



MOH to review the taking of informed consent by doctors, SMC's disciplinary process"

Channel NewsAsia,
14 March 2019



Medical profession more prepared for outbreaks after Sars experience"

The Straits Times Forum,
29 January 2020



Not all breaches of the Singapore Medical Council Ethical Code and Ethical Guidelines amount to professional misconduct; there should be a proven case of serious negligence. This is important for all doctors who try their best for their patients, but some will inadvertently make human errors. Honest mistakes should therefore be judged as such."



Survey finds many doctors charging more for steroid jab after hefty fine imposed by SMC tribunal"

The Straits Times,
2 August 2019



The Big Read: 17 years on, S'pore puts Sars lessons to the test in fight against Wuhan coronavirus"

TODAYonline,
1 February 2020

ADVANCING PATIENT INTERESTS



SMA recognises that a good doctor-patient relationship is fundamental to the practice of medicine. As a national medical association, one of our goals is to ensure that the rights and interests of patients are safeguarded. We also endeavour to empower the general public to make informed decisions concerning their health and medical care.

PRE-AUTHORISATION FORM FOR INTEGRATED SHIELD PLANS

SMA believes that all patients have the right to confidentiality regarding their medical history, and that consent to access this information must be explicitly sought and the information judiciously used.

Last year, SMA raised several concerns regarding a standardised pre-authorisation form proposed by Life Insurance Association (LIA) Singapore for use by doctors for all Integrated Shield Plan insurers. In particular, we were concerned that the requirement for doctors to provide information on a patient's comorbidities could potentially be used to build patient profiles, thereby prejudicing a patient.

Our views were made known at a dialogue session with LIA on 22 October 2019 and a mutually acceptable solution was subsequently reached. LIA has since issued a clarification note with the pre-authorisation form introduced on 1 October 2019, which states that doctors are required to only indicate comorbidities that are relevant to the treatment. The note also assures doctors that it is a standard procedure of insurers to have obtained the patient's prior consent to release the information provided by the doctor to the insurers. LIA has also affirmed that it will not use information in the form to build patient profiles and that the form requests consent only for the purposes of pre-authorisation and claims assessment, in compliance with the Personal Data Protection Act.

MEDIATION

Mediation between a doctor and patient is the process of resolving a dispute without the need for escalation to the medical council or a court of law. It is a method of alternative dispute resolution. Some issues between the patient and doctor are a result of poor communication or misunderstanding. Over the years, the SMA Complaints Committee has stepped in to mediate between the two parties by providing a listening ear to the patient and seeking clarifications from the doctor involved, resolving the dispute before the doctor-patient relationship becomes irreparable. It is heartening to see a steady drop in the number of official patient complaints to the SMA, partly because some patients had withdrawn their complaints after our initial intervention. In 2019, we received 15 patient complaints, which is considerably fewer than the high of 34 cases in 2012.

MEDICAL ALERT

The Medik Awas programme, started in 1970, aims to prevent medical mishaps among members of the public through the issuance of cards and amulets that alert medical and dental personnel of the specific health problems and allergies of the holder of these items. The issuance process includes review by a volunteer doctor to ensure its accuracy and reliability. Its portability also allows for the information to be available without electronic access and cross-border limitations. To date, we have issued more than 35,000 Medik Awas cards and amulets.

ADVANCING COLLEGIALLY AND ENGAGEMENT

In 2019, 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, as seen in the active participation of SMA members in the social activities, interest groups and membership events that were organised round the year.

MEMBERSHIP SERVICES AND ETHICS CONSULTATION

As the single, largest independent members' association representing the interests of Singapore's medical professionals, SMA has been providing advice and consultation to members on matters that affect their professional career and medical practice since the

beginning. Last year, we held discussions with members on a variety of issues, including taxation of medical practices, insurance pre-authorisation forms and fee payments of locum doctors, among others.

ENGAGEMENT WITH STUDENT LEADERS

During the year, representatives of the SMA Council regularly met with student leaders from the three local medical schools, as well as those from the Singapore Medical Society of Australia and New Zealand, the Singapore Medical Society of the United Kingdom, and the Singapore Medical Society of Ireland. Such engagements enhance

our ongoing relationship and enable better assimilation of future generations of doctors with the rest of the profession. Beyond social engagements, many issues and concerns faced by medical students were also raised and discussed at these meetings, with SMA providing the necessary support to help prepare them for their professional life ahead.



INTEREST GROUPS AND GET-TOGETHER EVENTS

We organised a total of 22 membership events, with participation from over 1,600 members and friends. These events ranged from large-scale profession-wide events, such as the SMA Annual Dinner, the 3rd SMA National Medical Students' Convention and Inter-Professional Games, to small-group networking and lifestyle events

like Wine Chapter dinners and the SMA Annual Golf Tournament. We ended 2019 with a Members' Appreciation Nite movie event, as a way of showing our appreciation to members, volunteers, donors and staff who have contributed in different capacities to facilitate the work of the Association.



SHARING PROFESSIONAL INSIGHTS AND NEWS

SMA News, the official newsletter of SMA, was established in 1966 to provide a timely medium for communication of news to members. Over the years, *SMA News* has become much more than that. The Editorial Board constantly strives to keep abreast of the latest trends in medicine that may impact the medical community, inviting influential thought leaders and practitioners to incisively address these issues in our Feature, Insight or Opinion columns. Some of the hot topics covered in 2019 included: telemedicine and its benefits and drawback, the use of complementary medicine in clinical practice, updates on the medico-legal climate and defensive medicine, among others. In every issue, we continued to publish a segment of light-hearted, inspirational and lifestyle pieces to balance the weightier content.

In celebration of SMA's 60th anniversary, *SMA News* dedicated its May 2019 issue to commemorating the Association's milestones and continued partnership with

our members. Hard copies of this special commemorative issue were distributed to some 500 guests at the SMA Annual Dinner.

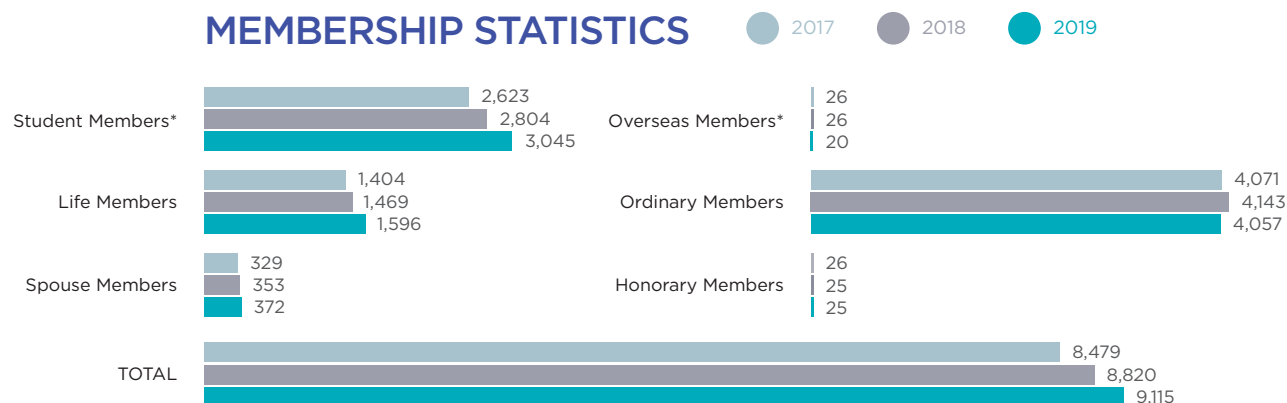
SMA News aims to bring our readers news that is impactful, timely and current. Over the last few years, we have published numerous ahead-of-print articles pertaining to important news or updates that only SMA members can access on their membership portal. In the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak in January 2020, the *SMA News* team promptly put together an e-News bulletin, which provided doctors with a succinct overview of key events, websites and ground tips amid the plethora of advisories, updates and fake news.

SMA News is your newsletter. We invite our members to come forward to share their insights, opinions, reflections and stories. This is what makes *SMA News* a newsletter written by doctors, for doctors.



	MEMBERSHIP TALLY	2019	2018	2017
Total no. of members (at beginning of year)		8,820	8,479	7,928
No. of new members		683	812	781
No. of resignations/deceased/expiry of student membership		311	410	135
No. of struck off in arrears		77	61	95
Total no. of members (at end of year)		9,115	8,820	8,479

MEMBERSHIP STATISTICS



*Non-voting members

ADVANCING MEDICAL TRAINING

A world-class, well-rounded medical education is key to preparing the next generation of doctors for our healthcare system. SMA believes in supporting doctors in training (DIT) from the time they enter medical school, through to their housemanship and residency training. In 2012, SMA instituted the Student Membership, which is complimentary for medical students during their five years of undergraduate studies. We also formed the SMA DIT Committee to specifically 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.



THIRD SMA NATIONAL MEDICAL STUDENTS' CONVENTION

The SMA National Medical Students' Convention is a student-led event that has been running for the third consecutive year. The 2019 Committee, led by Ms Angela Tham, was drawn from volunteers across all three local medical schools. The convention introduced medical students to the current medico-legal climate and highlighted the importance of having knowledge on this often-neglected subject. The panel of esteemed speakers included Dr T Thirumoorthy, A/Prof Chin Jing Jih, Senior Counsel Kuah Boon Theng, Dr Bertha Woon, Ms Yang Lishan and Dr Norman Lin. More than 50 students participated in this convention held on 31 August 2019.



A VOICE FOR DOCTORS IN TRAINING

SMA is fully aware that DITs face vastly different challenges from practicing doctors, and that their needs are best looked after by seniors who have gone down a similar path and are, therefore, more attuned to the challenges faced by junior doctors. The SMA DIT Committee comprises representatives from all the training institutions in Singapore. We constantly engage the leadership of the Ministry of Health and these training institutions, in hopes that we can help to fine-tune the training system so that it will evolve into one that works well for the profession.

Last year, the issue of the night float system versus the night call system was extensively discussed, and a survey was conducted among peers to garner a deeper understanding of the different perspectives across the training institutions. The results of the survey are currently being analysed.

Another area of concern among junior ward doctors arose from the differing interpretations of what constitutes 'acceptable standards' in the area of consent-taking for simple procedures, of which junior doctors carry out multiple times on a daily basis. In a *Straits Times Forum* letter ('Help young doctors by clearing up ambiguity') published on 11 February 2019, Dr Benny Loo, Chairman of the DIT Committee, highlighted the conundrum faced by young doctors in public hospitals, calling for relevant authorities to give clear instructions to resolve the current ambiguity, so that junior doctors can provide appropriate and sustainable healthcare, and not resort to the undesirable practice of defensive medicine.

ADVANCING KNOWLEDGE

Lifelong learning is an integral part of a doctor's professional development. Over the years, SMA has focused on expanding our suite of educational offerings to include a broad range of medical-, ethics- and practice-related contents, as well as continuing medical education (CME) programmes, to enable our members to keep abreast of the latest developments in medicine.



SMA CENTRE FOR MEDICAL ETHICS AND PROFESSIONALISM (CMEP)

In 2019, SMA CMEP saw a leadership transition, with Dr Lee Pheng Soon taking over the role of Executive Director from A/Prof Gerald Chua, and Dr T Thirumoorthy appointed as Academic Director. The SMA Council thanks A/Prof Chua for his valuable service to SMA CMEP and the medical community. Following the recommendations of the Ministry of Health's (MOH) Workgroup to Review the Taking of Informed Consent and the Singapore Medical Council's Disciplinary Process, we hope that SMA CMEP will be of greater relevance to doctors' continual medical education under the new leadership team.

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 Julian Loh
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
Dr Timothy Teoh
Mr Tham Hsu Hsien
Mr Eric Tin
Dr Luke Toh
Mr Edwin Tong
Dr Tor Phern Chern
Adj Asst Prof Shelat Vishalkumar G
A/Prof Jason Yap

MEDICAL ETHICS AND PROFESSIONALISM

In 2005, SMA CMEP was commissioned by the Specialist Accreditation Board and MOH to develop and conduct the Medical Ethics, Professionalism and Health Law Course. This 2.5-day course is mandatory for exit certification of all specialist trainees, family medicine trainees and residents. To date, SMA CMEP has run 59 courses and trained 3,680 doctors (as of December 2019). The programme covers four domains: medical professionalism, clinical ethics, health law and interpersonal communications.



MEDICAL PROFESSIONALISM

Concepts of professionalism, confidentiality, conflict of interest, collegiality



INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS

Core skills and challenges in interpersonal communication

FOUR DOMAINS

CLINICAL ETHICS

Ethical analysis, public health ethics, resource allocation, end-of-life issues



HEALTH LAW

Legal responsibilities under the coroner's act, duty to report, medical report writing, medical negligence, professional accountability



PRIVACY AWARENESS

In May 2019, SMA organised a seminar, 'Privacy Awareness — Understanding your Legal and Ethical Obligations', which covered the various aspects of privacy and confidentiality, as well as management of patient data. This was in conjunction with the Privacy Awareness Week (PAW) organised by the Personal Data Protection Commission. The theme of last year's PAW was 'Protecting Personal Data is Everyone's Responsibility', with an emphasis on data breaches.

PRIVATE PRACTICE

Going into private practice involves running a business, with different legal and ethical obligations that have to be taken into consideration. To prepare our members who wish to go into private practice, we conducted a seminar, 'Going into Private Practice — What You Should Know: Understanding the Law and Ethics' in August 2019. Regulators, lawyers and medical practitioners shared the legal and ethical aspects of setting up a private practice, such as knowledge of the Private Hospitals and Medical Clinics Act, basic company law, contracts with third-party administrators and ethics versus profit-making.

SINGAPORE MEDICAL JOURNAL

It was a productive year for the *Singapore Medical Journal (SMJ)*. We are thankful to the editorial staff, the editors and reviewers who volunteered their time, as well as the authors who submitted their papers, for moulding the *SMJ* into the journal it is today.

Last year, the journal achieved an impact factor (IF) of 1.141, based on the 2018 Journal Citation Report published by Clarivate Analytics. This is an improvement from the previous year's IF of 1.08. The IF is an important index for authors, as academic institutions often assign credibility to authors who publish in high impact journals. However, it may not accurately reflect the reach and usefulness of the journal, and can be an unreliable milestone for scientific research. Therefore, the journal looks beyond the citability of papers when selecting what we publish. For instance, we prioritise the publication of CME articles in each issue, with the underlying aim of enhancing the education of our doctors.

The *SMJ* continued to attract a wide range of articles from around the world. A total of 354 manuscripts were submitted from 34 countries last year, with about 45% originating from Singapore, followed by ASEAN, East Asia and the Middle East. Original research made up the majority of submissions, followed by CME articles, reviews and commentaries. Of the 143 articles published in 2019, more than 40% had been e-published and indexed in PubMed ahead of print.

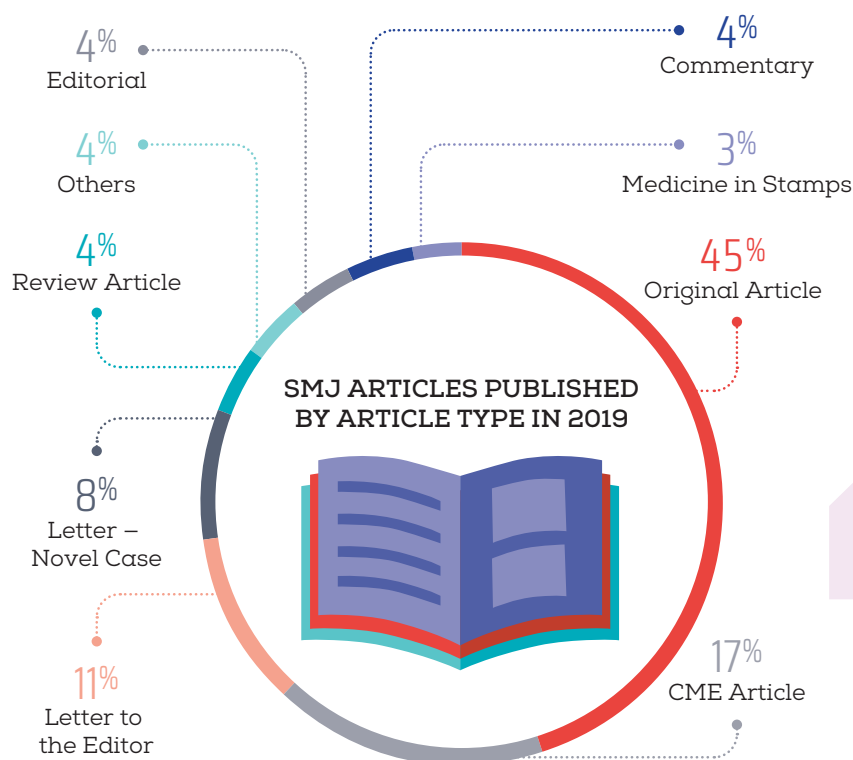
As a new decade begins, the *SMJ* is anticipating three new developments. Later in the year, we will be launching a new CME series on professionalism in medicine in collaboration with the SMA CMEP. This is a topic that is of growing importance to the profession, and we hope that our educational efforts will

aid doctors to navigate an increasingly litigious practice environment. In addition, the Practice Integration and Lifelong Learning (PILL) CME series — comprising short case studies about a relevant issue in primary care — will soon accept unsolicited submissions. This will be in line with the open submission policy for our other CME articles. Finally, we will be introducing a new category for article submissions, Short Communications. These are shorter research articles that are of general interest to our readership and brief reports of research findings.

Since 1959, our goal of advancing medical education through providing broad access to research results for SMA members and the medical community at large has remained constant. This is in line with the core objectives of the Association. To

encourage our members to engage in research activities, more than 100 waivers of our article processing charge were granted to SMA members last year. SMA members also enjoy complimentary access to our online CME modules, which give a total of 24 non-core points for the Singapore Medical Council category 3B distance-learning programme. A total of 6,992 out of 7,120 CME submissions were made by SMA members in 2019. We hope to double our efforts in 2020 with our new professionalism in medicine CME series.

As the *SMJ* completes its 60th year of publication, we hope to continue to build on our past successes and improve our journal standing and impact, to make *SMJ* a journal of choice for doctors in Singapore and the region.



ADVANCING MEDICAL PRACTICE

In private medical practice, doctors need to be not only skilled practitioners, but also technology savvy, astute business owners and good administrators. Recognising this, SMA has initiated many programmes and services over the years to support our members as they build their practice. These initiatives serve to enhance our members' effectiveness as medical practitioners, as well as advance their medical practice.



CLINIC ASSISTANT WORKFORCE – PLACEMENT AND TRAINING

Our partnership with Employment and Employability Institute (e2i) continued in 2019 with a revamped Clinic Assistant Programme that utilises a two-pronged approach.

Firstly, we focused on helping our members in the recruitment of suitable candidates through organising job fairs and hosting their job vacancies on SMA's clinic assistant jobs portal. Last year, four job fairs were organised in collaboration with e2i, with 220 potential job seekers in attendance. This was in addition to the 119 job postings and 284 job seeker accounts created on our jobs portal.

Secondly, we aimed to equip candidates with the necessary skills. Three runs of the Clinic Assistant Introductory Skills Course, followed by a three-week on-the-job training assessment, were organised. The course fees were significantly funded by e2i – up to 90% subsidy for the Introductory Skills Training Course and up to 70% subsidy for the newly hired clinic assistant's one-month gross salary. A total of 20 clinics and 36 participants benefited from this programme in 2019.



LOCUMS ONLINE

Locums Online, which serves to seek out and hire locums, continued to be well received by our members. We hope that this members-only portal will allow for a more collegial and transparent platform for fair dealings. SMA also provides advice to members facing issues while using the platform. Last year, 44 postings were made on this portal.

GREAT EASTERN INSURANCE

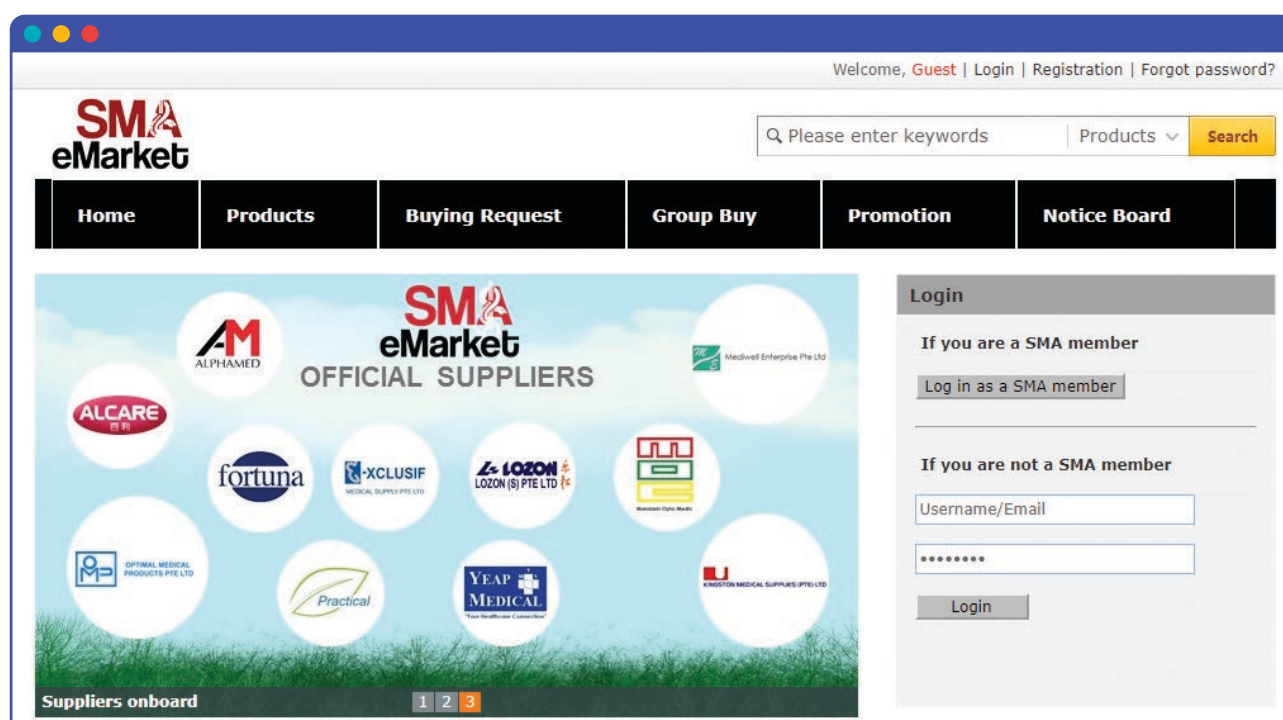
This is a risk-pooling insurance scheme in collaboration with Great Eastern Life Assurance, which was created more than 20 years ago to help small- and medium-sized clinics to obtain clinic hospitalisation, group term life and personal accident insurance schemes at group rates. While more of such policies are now readily available to individual small and medium enterprises, this scheme continues to benefit 80 members and their clinic employees.



SMA EMARKET

SMA eMarket was developed as an online marketplace to connect our members to clinic and medical equipment suppliers. The aim is to enable our members to enjoy greater time flexibility in the procurement process, which will result in improvements to their business processes. SMA

eMarket is a constantly evolving platform, and we are always considering ways to improve it so that members can derive maximum benefits from being part of it. In 2019, 2,195 active members viewed the portal, and there were 11 suppliers on the platform.



60TH SMA COUNCIL 2019/2020

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



President
DR LEE YIK VOON

Family physician in private practice
Council member since 2006;
SMA spokesperson
*Committee: Administration;
Fitness to Drive; SMA Pte Ltd*



1st Vice-President
DR TAN YIA SWAM

General surgeon in private practice
Council member since 2007
*Committee: Administration;
Membership; Private Practice;
SMA News Editorial Board*



2nd Vice-President
DR DANIEL LEE HSIEN CHIEH

Public health physician in private practice
Council member since 2012
*Committee: Administration; Future Finance
Workgroup; Property; Membership; Ethics;
Professional Indemnity; SMA Pte Ltd*



Honorary Secretary
DR LIM KHENG CHOON

Diagnostic radiologist in public practice
Council member since 2013; SMA spokesperson
*Committee: Administration;
Doctors in Training; Future Finance
Workgroup; Property; Membership;
SMA Charity Fund; SMA Pte Ltd*



Honorary Treasurer
DR NG CHEE KWAN

Urologist in private practice
Council member since 2014;
SMA spokesperson
*Committee: Administration; Future
Finance Workgroup; Private Practice;
Property; Membership, SMA Pte Ltd*



Honorary Assistant Secretary
DR BENNY LOO KAI GUO

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



Honorary Assistant Treasurer
DR BERTHA WOON YNG YNG

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS



DR ANANTHAM DEVANAND

Respiratory & critical care
physician in public practice
Council member since 2014
*Committee: Complaints;
Ethics; SMA CMEP*



DR TAMMY CHAN TENG MUI

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



A/PROF CHIN JING JIH

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



DR CHONG YEH WOEI

General practitioner in private practice
Council member since 1998;
past SMA President (2009–2012)
*Committee: Doctors in Training;
Fitness to Drive; Property;
Membership; SMA Charity Fund*



DR LEE PHENG SOON

Family physician in private practice
Council member since 1992;
past SMA President (2003–2006)
*Committee: Professional Indemnity;
SMA Trust Fund; SMA CMEP*



DR NG CHEW LIP

Otolaryngologist in public practice
Council member since 2018
Committee: Doctors in Training



DR NOORUL FATHA AS'ART

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

**A/PROF NIGEL TAN CHOON KIAT**

Neurologist in public practice
Council member since 2014

**ADJ PROF TAN SZE WEE**

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

**DR TAN TZE LEE**

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

**DR TOH CHOON LAI**

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

**DR WONG CHIANG YIN**

Public health physician in
private sector
Council member since 1995;
past SMA President (2006–2009)
*Committee: Property;
SMA Charity Fund*

**DR WONG TIEN HUA**

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

COUNCIL MEETING ATTENDANCE

Up to February 2020, 10 council meetings were convened to discuss the business and affairs of the Association.

NAME	ATTENDANCE*
Dr Lee Yik Voon	10/10
Dr Tan Yia Swam	10/10
Dr Daniel Lee Hsien Chieh	10/10
Dr Lim Kheng Choon	8/10
Dr Ng Chee Kwan	9/10
Dr Benny Loo Kai Guo	9/10
Dr Bertha Woon Yng Yng	9/10
Dr Anantham Devanand	7/10
Dr Tammy Chan Teng Mui	8/10
A/Prof Chin Jing Jih	3/10
Dr Chong Yeh Woei	5/10
Dr Lee Pheng Soon	9/10
Dr Ng Chew Lip	1/10
Dr Noorul Fatha As'art	5/10
A/Prof Nigel Tan Choon Kiat	9/10
Adj Prof Tan Sze Wee	6/10
Dr Tan Tze Lee	9/10
Dr Toh Choon Lai	10/10
Dr Wong Chiang Yin	8/10
Dr Wong Tien Hua	6/10

*Council members who were absent from council meetings either were overseas or had sent their apologies.

STANDING COMMITTEES AND REPRESENTATIVES 2019/2020

STANDING COMMITTEES

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

ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Dr Lee Yik Voon, Chairperson
Dr Tan Yia Swam, Vice Chairperson
Dr Daniel Lee Hsien Chieh, Vice Chairperson
Dr Lim Kheng Choon
Dr Benny Loo Kai Guo
Dr Ng Chee Kwan
Dr Bertha Woon Yng Yng

FUTURE FINANCE WORKGROUP

Dr Ng Chee Kwan, Chairperson
Dr Tammy Chan Teng Mui
Dr Daniel Lee Hsien Chieh
Dr Lim Kheng Choon

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

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Adj Prof Ang Tieng Leong, Deputy Editor
A/Prof Mahesh Choolani, Deputy Editor
Prof Wilfred CG Peh, Advisor
Prof Teo Eng Kiong, Advisor

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Dr Chia Pow-Li
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Adj Prof Hsu Pon Poh
A/Prof Devendra Kanagalingam
Dr William KF Kong
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Dr Katy Leung Ying Ying
Dr Liao Kui Hin (till Dec '19)
A/Prof Kevin Lim Boon Leong
Dr Joshua PY Loh
Dr Pua Uei (from Jan '20)
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 (till Dec '19)
Prof Kelvin KH Tan
Dr Tan Li Hoon
Prof Tan Puay Hoon
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
Dr Shawn Vasoo
Dr Wang Yu Tien
Prof Wong Wai Keong

INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDING EDITORS

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A/Prof Judy Wei-Ming Hung
Prof Jose Florencio Lapena Jr (from Jan '20)

Prof Malai Muttarak (till Dec '19)
Prof Ng Kwan Hoong
Prof Tan Siang Yong

EDITORIAL BOARD — SMA NEWS

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Dr Tina Tan, Deputy Editor
Dr Tan Tze Lee, Deputy Editor
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A/Prof Cuthbert Teo, Advisor
A/Prof Toh Han Chong, Advisor
Dr Chie Zhi Ying
Dr Ganesh Kudva (from Jul '19)
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Dr Jonathan Tan
Dr Jimmy Teo
Dr Alex Wong

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Dr Toh Choon Lai, Vice Chairperson
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Dr Diana Tan Yuen Lan
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Dr Noel Yeo

ETHICS COMMITTEE

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Dr Anantham Devanand, Vice Chairperson
Dr Ho Wai-Loon Calvin
Ms Kuah Boon Theng
Dr Daniel Lee Hsien Chieh
A/Prof Lim Yean Teng
A/Prof James Alvin Low Yiew Hock
A/Prof Lalit Kumar Radha Krishna
Dr Andrew Pan Beng Siong
Dr Poon Yi Ling Eileen
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
Dr Daniel Lee Hsien Chieh

PRIVATE PRACTICE COMMITTEE

Dr Tan Yia Swam, Chairperson
Dr Wong Tien Hua, Vice Chairperson
Dr Ng Chee Kwan

FITNESS TO DRIVE COMMITTEE

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

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Dr Daniel Hap, Vice Chairperson (NHG)
Dr Wang ZheMin, Vice Chairperson (NUHS)
Dr Dorinda Chew Chee Yee, Vice Chairperson (SingHealth)
Dr Chong Yeh Woei, Advisor
Prof Paul Tambyah, Advisor
Dr Wong Tien Hua, Advisor
Dr Chin Run Ting
Dr Davies Lucy Jennifer
Dr K Sri Karpageshwary
Dr Lee Shu Yi Sonia
Dr Lim Kheng Choon
Dr Ng Chew Lip
Dr Shoban Krishna Kumar

Dr Tan Ming Yuan
Dr Wong Yun Wah Teresa Marie
Dr Yong Jin

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

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

WINE APPRECIATION CHAPTER (SIG)

A/Prof Vernon Lee Jian Ming
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 (SIG)

Basketball: Dr Colin Teo Kok Ann

Golf: Dr Adrian Tan Yong Kuan

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

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

Convenors/Captains (IPG)

Badminton: Dr Tan Kah Hwee Jarrod

Basketball: Dr Colin Teo Kok Ann

Bowling: Dr Valerie Teo Hui Ying

Chess: Dr Jeevarajah Nithiananthan

Cross Country: Dr Foo Gen Lin

Floorball: Dr Benjamin Ang Fu Hong
Dr Tan Hon Lyn (Co-captain)
Dr Teh Yi Lin (Assistant)

Golf: Dr Gary Chee Hsing

Pool: Dr Pua Uei

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

Soccer (Women): Dr Priyanka Rajendram
Dr Hwang Kai Yin
(Co-captain)

Squash: Dr Jonathan Pang

Table Tennis: Dr Leow Khang Leng

Tennis: Dr Derek Yong
Dr Julian Theng (Co-captain)

Volleyball: Dr Tan Pinhong

MEDIK AWAS COMMITTEE

Dr Tammy Chan Teng Mui, Chairperson

3RD SMA NATIONAL MEDICAL STUDENTS' CONVENTION

Ms Angela Tham, Chairperson

2020 DINNER ORGANISING COMMITTEE

A/Prof Nigel Tan, Chairperson

SMA CPR TRAINING PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

A/Prof Lim Swee Han, Chairperson

ORGANISATIONS UNDER SMA'S GOVERNANCE

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Mr Alex Koh Wei Peng
Mr Colin Lim Fung Wan
Dr Lim Kheng Choon
Dr Noorul Fatha As'art
Adj Prof Tan Sze Wee
Mr TK Udairam
Dr Wong Chiang Yin
Dr Roland Xu

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

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Adj Prof Tan Sze Wee, Chairperson
A/Prof Chin Jing Jih
Dr Daniel Lee Hsien Chieh
Dr Wong Tien Hua
Dr Bertha Woon Yng Yng

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Dr Lim Kheng Choon
Dr Ng Chee Kwan

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Prof Chee Yam Cheng
Prof Low Cheng Hock

CENTRE FOR MEDICAL ETHICS & PROFESSIONALISM (CMEP)

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

Board Members

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Prof Teo Eng Kiong (AMS)
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Board of Trustees

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

REPRESENTATIVES OF SMA

MOH Advisory Committee on Clinical Management of Dengue

Dr Wong Tien Hua

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

Dr Chong Yeh Woei (till Dec '19)

MOH Diabetes Prevention & Care Taskforce

Dr Wong Tien Hua

MOH Fee Benchmarks Advisory Committee

Dr Toh Choon Lai

MOH Healthcare Ethics Capability Committee (MOH HECC)

Dr Anantham Devanand (from Sep '19)

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 Workgroup to Review the Taking of Informed Consent & the SMC's Disciplinary Process

Dr Lee Yik Voon

MSF Office of the Public Guardian, Committee on Assessment of Mental Capacity

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

MSF Office of the Public Guardian, LPA Certificate Issuer Review Committee

Dr Anantham Devanand

National General Practitioner Advisory Panel

Dr Lee Yik Voon

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

Dr Lee Yik Voon

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

Dr Lee Yik Voon

IRAS Taxpayer Feedback Panel

Dr Ng Chee Kwan

MOM Workplace Safety & Health (Healthcare) Committee

Dr Wong Sin Yew (till Sep '19)
Dr Jean Sim Xiang Ying (till Sep '19)

Singapore Anti-Narcotics Association

Dr Thomas Lee Kae Meng

Singapore Resuscitation & First Aid Council

A/Prof Lim Swee Han

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

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 (CMAAO)

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
Ms Mak Wei Munn, Allen & Gledhill LLP
Mr Matthew Saw Seang Kuan, Lee & Lee

Media & Communications

Ms Nalini Naidu, IMSG Pte Ltd

SMA SECRETARIAT

The SMA Secretariat, led by Chief Administrator Mr Martin Ho, supports the SMA Council and committees in the efficient day-to-day running of the Association.

With a current strength of 25, the Secretariat is broadly divided into four divisions — Membership Services, Publications, Corporate Services, and Courses and Indemnity Services, as well as the SMA Charity Fund. This high-performance team strives to partner the SMA Council in steering SMA towards being the voice of the profession, and advocating matters important to our members and the medical profession.

On 3 August 2018, the SMA Secretariat shifted operations from the Alumni Medical Centre at 2 College Road to the SMF Building at 2985 Jalan Bukit Merah. The new office was officially opened on 25 April 2019 by Dr Beh Swan Gin, Chairman of the Economic Development Board, in the presence of SMA Council members, guests and secretariat staff.



SMA SECRETARIAT

Seated (left to right)

Noor Azliena Binte Samhudi, Loy Li Li, Lee Sze Yong, Ronnie Cheok, Sarah Lim, Martin Ho, Chua Gek Eng, Tan Kie Chuan, Sylvia Thay, Jeremy Tan, Angeline Teoh

Standing (left to right)

Jo-Ann Teo, Nurul Faizzah Bte Mohd Azmi, Priscilla Leong, Alina Ng, Allan Kuek, Genevieve Tay, Jasmine Soo, Vishnupriyah K, Denise Tan, Ashley Soh, Norita Binte Abdul Wahab, Muhammad Alif Akhmal, Siti Athirah Binte Mohamad Daman, Sara Kwok

To view the full annual report, financial statements
and other supplementary materials, please visit
<https://goo.gl/a8Aezr> or scan the following QR Code.



2985 JALAN BUKIT MERAH, #02-2C SMF BUILDING, SINGAPORE 159457

Tel: (65) 6223 1264 | **Fax:** (65) 6252 9693 | **Email:** sma@sma.org.sg | **Website:** www.sma.org.sg

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