

5 May 2020

To my fellow doctors,

Dear friends,

Before the first case of Covid-19 was diagnosed in Singapore on 22 January 2020, the Singapore Medical Association had already been working with various stakeholders to bring about the necessary resources for our members in preparation for the COVID-19 pandemic.

The latest addition to our armamentarium is face shields which came about through the generous donation of *Meek & Lowly Trust* (a charitable trust by Dr & Mrs Low Lee Yong) in appreciation of the sacrifices made by our frontline GP & nurses during this Covid-19 Pandemic. With *Ministry of Health's* support in the distribution and logistics, we are pleased to provide these face shields for your clinic's use during this period of time. We hope that these shields will provide you greater peace of mind as we face this pandemic together.

Over the past 2 months, SMA had also embarked on the following initiatives. Please refer to www.sma.org.sg/COVID19 or our members' Facebook group to keep updated on our work:

- Sale of N95s and Surgical masks over the CNY period due to the shutdown of PPE distributors.
- ePublishing of a special issue of SMA News focusing on the updates on COVID-19 (then known as 2019-nCoV) on 3 February 2020.
- Launch of a Guide on Leveraging on Telemedicine during an Infectious Disease Outbreak on 12 February 2020.
- Championed the SG Art for Healthcare Workers movement ([#sgartforhcw](https://twitter.com/sgartforhcw)) for the community to share its appreciation of our Healthcare Workers. We are continuously working with various parties to expand this movement.
- Distribution of hand sanitiser provided by Temasek Singapore for a week from 13 March 2020.
- Collation of resources for psychological support and wellness for doctors and other healthcare workers.
- Letters to the press to address concerns on public perceptions and emphasise the need to stay united during this pandemic.
- Communications to the Ministry of Health to raise concerns faced by our members and fellow healthcare workers during this pandemic.
- Updates to our members to keep our membership abreast of vital and relevant information during this pandemic.

Let us continue to stay united during this period. Keep in touch with one another. SMA is here for our doctors and our patients. I hope for your continued support: if you are not already a member, do help me by joining as a member at www.sma.org.sg/membership. The stronger the SMA membership numbers, the more representative power I will have for all of you. Stay well, stay safe.

Yours faithfully,



Dr Tan Yia Swam
President, 61st Council
Singapore Medical Association