

PROFILE

TEXT BY

JASMINE SOO*Executive, Event and
Committee Support**Legend*

1. Participants were kept engaged throughout the workshop as they were given opportunities to share their views on the different case studies provided

CORE CONCEPTS IN MEDICAL PROFESSIONALISM



Core Concepts in Medical Professionalism, a signature educational programme of the SMA Centre for Medical Ethics and Professionalism (CMEP), saw its third run on Saturday, 1 October 2016, at Ng Teng Fong General Hospital (NTFGH). Medical professionalism embodies the relationship between medicine and society, and it forms the basis of patient-physician trust. This course is aimed at the leaders and teachers in medicine.

This year's course had 43 participants representing the various healthcare professions, including senior medical leaders, heads of clinical department, senior consultants, clinician educators, nursing leaders and hospital administrators.

The programme covered topics on Professionalism, Collegiality, the Doctor-Patient Relationship and Ethical Case Analysis, Professional Accountability and Governance, Consent, Conflict of Interest, Confidentiality and Privacy, and Evaluating Professionalism. Speakers were from the SMA CMEP core faculty and included Dr T Thirumoorthy, Dr Hairil Abdullah, Dr Luke Toh, A/Prof Jason Yap, Dr Peter Loke, A/Prof Gerald Chua, Dr Shelat Vishalkumar and Dr Devanand Anantham. With their experience in teaching the advanced specialist training course – Ethics, Professionalism and Health Law, attended by all doctors seeking

a specialist registration with the Specialist and Family Physicians Accreditation Boards, the faculty brought with them teaching and clinical experiences from an array of clinical specialities such as surgery, internal medicine, radiology and anaesthesiology.

Participants were challenged with thought-provoking and stimulating case studies, which allowed for a range of opinions and solutions for the different case studies, harnessing on the strength of experience and knowledge of both the participants and faculty. The interactive teaching approach with the use of case scenarios, audience response clickers and active discussion with an engaged faculty of senior clinicians, as well as the conducive environment, greatly raised the educational value of the event. One participant even remarked that "a complex topic was then made simpler and easier to understand through this workshop".

The workshop ended with positive feedback from participants, with a

weighted average of 4.37 to 4.63 (out of 5) for the various aspects on the overall effectiveness of the course. SMA CMEP would like to thank the participants, speakers and the secretariat of SMA CMEP for their time and dedicated effort in creating this dynamic learning experience within the healthcare profession. SMA CMEP would also like to put on record the help and effort of the staff of NTFGH in offering their premises and services to ensure the success of this event.

Medicine belongs to the society and is held in trust by healthcare professionals through medical professionalism – doctors and healthcare professionals are the promoters and custodians. It is thus the primary responsibility of the leadership of the healthcare profession to promote and preserve medical professionalism. This educational course, Core Concepts in Medical Professionalism, contributes to enabling the fulfilling of this responsibility. ♦

