

1. SMA'S STAND ON LISTING IN DIRECTORIES SUCH AS "WHO'S WHO"

The SMA has received several enquiries on listing of doctors in Directories, such as "Who's Who in Singapore". In December 1997, the SMA published our stand on listing of doctors in Baron's Who's Who of the Asian Pacific Rim. Our stand applies to listing of doctors in similar publications.

"After careful deliberation, the Ethics Committee and SMA Council have decided that members, when so invited by such publications, may agree to be listed under the following conditions:

- i. The publications must not be a medical or professional directory that is produced for the purpose of providing information to assist the public to access healthcare services.
- ii. Invitation for listing should be unsolicited and should not be contingent on payment of fees or support of publication through advertisement, order of the publication, or other forms of patronage.
- iii. Medical information provided by the invited doctor should only be those that are allowed for doctors in permitted directories under the Advertising Guidelines of the Private Hospitals & Medical Clinics Regulations. Other information to be provided – such as personal particulars and details of public office should be factual, verifiable and presented in a balanced, dignified and non-laudatory manner.

The SMA Ethics Committee and SMA Council consider publications that are for the stated purpose of documenting society's heritage acceptable provided the above conditions are followed."

- Extracted from SMA NEWS, Dec 1997

2. MINISTRY OF HEALTH "CHECK YOUR HEALTH" PROGRAMME

The Ministry of Health is embarking a national community healthy screening programme for Singaporeans and Permanent Residents aged 55 years and

older. The objective of the programme is to detect diabetes, high blood pressure and high blood cholesterol early so that these conditions can be appropriately treated to prevent complications and severe disabilities.

"Check Your Health" which was launched on 9 July 2000 will take place on Sundays at community venues, such as void decks. Participants will undergo tests for body mass index, blood pressure, random capillary blood glucose, and total blood cholesterol. Participants will pay \$5. At the end of the screening, participants would each be given a customised personal report informing them of their health status. Those with abnormal results would also be given (i) a referral letter to see their family physician or polyclinic doctor for follow-up (ii) an acknowledgement postcard for the doctor to verify the results of the screening programme.

We would like to urge family physicians to lend your support to the programme and complete the acknowledgement postcard and return it to the MOH in the self-addressed envelope which the participants will bring with them.

For more information, please contact Health Promotion Executive, MOH, Tel: 435-3815 Fax: 438-3609, E-mail: Rashidah_KATHIER@moh.gov.sg.

3. ACADEMY OF MEDICINE SINGAPORE NEW OFFICE BEARERS 2000-2001

The following office-bearers have been elected for the 2000-2001 term of office

on the Council of the Academy of Medicine Singapore:

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|-------------------------|---------------------|
| <i>Master</i> | Dr Walter Tan |
| <i>Assistant Master</i> | Dr Gilbert Chiang |
| <i>Scribe</i> | Dr K Satkunanantham |
| <i>Bursar</i> | Dr Tay Boon Keng |
| <i>Censor-in-Chief</i> | Dr Low Cheng Hock |
| <i>Immediate</i> | Dr Chee Yam Cheng |
| <i>Past President</i> | |
| <i>Censors</i> | Dr A Balakrishnan |
| | Dr Cheng Jun |
| | Dr Felix Sundram |
| | Dr Tan Ai Ling |
| | Dr Tan Kok Chai |
| | Dr Tan Wan Cheng |
| | Dr Yeo Jinn Fei |

4. GDFM PROGRAMME

The Graduate Diploma in Family Medicine (GDFM) programme was launched on 1st July 2000. Prof Tan Chorh Chuan, Director of Medical Services, MOH was the Guest-of-Honor. The GDFM is jointly organised by the College of Family Physician (CFPS) and the Graduate School of Medical Studies (GSMS), National University of Singapore.

This part-time two-year vocational programme trains primary care doctors to practise Family Medicine at an enhanced level by emphasising clinical skills to diagnose and manage common and/or important problems. 48 doctors registered for the first course. The certification examination to be conducted by the GSMS would be held in June 2002.

Please contact College of Family Physician at 223-0606 for more details. ■

SMA CMEP WEB SITE

Have you visited the NEW SMA Centre for Ethics & Professionalism web site recently?

Watch this space for a detailed walk-through of the web site next month.

Meanwhile, if you want to know the MAAU guidelines for advertising your new practice in The Straits Times, you can go to <http://www.sma.org.sg/cmep/professionalism/PFA/PFA2.html>