

# News from SMA Council

In this column, important matters discussed and decided by SMA Council are briefly described so that members are kept informed.

The first SMA Council Meeting was held on 2 May 2001. Prof Low Cheng Hock welcomed old and new Council members. The major activity was to review the Committees assisting Council and to appoint the Chairmen and to invite them to form their Committees. The list of SMA Committees formed are

given in the table. Here are the rest of the Council News:

## 1. THE NEW SMA COMPLAINTS AND SMA ETHICS COMMITTEE

One of the changes in the Committees is the SMA Ethics Committee.

Its activities have been reorganised to be handled by two Committees: the new SMA Complaints Committee and the SMA Ethics Committee.

The new SMA Complaints Committee

will handle all medico-legal complaints and complaints regarding practice matters as expeditiously as possible. Only complaints that involve ethical principles of medical practice will be referred to the SMA Ethics Committee for deliberation. The latter will also be concerned with the strategic approach to ethical and legal issues related to practice and will take the initial steps to discuss and formulate statements on ethical matters to guide the membership.

## 42<sup>ND</sup> SMA COUNCIL - 2001/2002 STANDING COMMITTEES (The President and Honorary Secretary are ex-officios of every Committee)

### I. ADMINISTRATION

#### 1. Administration

Chairman: Dr Yue Wai Mun  
(Honorary Secretary)

### II. PUBLICATION

#### 1. Editorial Board - SMJ

Editor: Dr C Rajasooriya

#### 2. Editorial Board - SMA NEWS

Editor: A/Prof Cheong Pak Yean

### III. PRACTICE & MEMBERSHIP SERVICES GROUP

#### 1. Casemix & Guideline on Fees Committee

Chairman: Dr Lim Teck Beng

#### 2. Community Health Education & Convention Organising Committee

Chairman: Dr Toh Choon Lai

#### 3. Dinner Organising Committee

Chairman: Dr Theodor Wee Tit Gin

#### 4. Medical Informatics Committee

Chairman: A/Prof Cheong Pak Yean

#### 5. Medical Officers Committee

Chairman: Dr Ng Yih Yng

#### 6. Membership Committee

Chairman: Dr Foo Chuan Kit

#### 7. Private Practice Committee

Chairman: Dr Chong Yeh Woei

#### 8. Sports & Games Committee

Chairman: Dr Tan Yew Ghee

### IV. COMMUNITY SERVICES & EDUCATION GROUP

#### 1. SMA-SNA CPR Training Programme Committee

Chairman: Dr Low Lip Ping

#### 2. SMA Healthcare Course Committee

Chairman: Dr Ivor Thevathasan

### V. ETHICS & INDEMNITY GROUP

#### 1. Ethics Committee

Chairman: A/Prof Goh Lee Gan

#### 2. Complaints Committee

Chairman: Dr Lim Teck Beng

#### 3. Professional Indemnity

Chairman: Dr Tan Chue Tin

### 2. ONGOING MATTERS

The ongoing matters of the statutory examination for maids and autoclave inspection from the previous SMA Council were discussed. Members will be kept informed of new developments.

### 3. MEETING WITH DMS

SMA Council was invited by DMS, Prof Tan Chorh Chuan, for a meeting on 16 May 2001. A brief report will be given in the next issue of the SMA News.

### 4. MEDICAL REPORT FORM - EMPLOYMENT PASS

The SMA Council has clarified with the Ministry of Manpower that the warning "It is an offence under the Immigration Act to make any false statement, representation or declaration" in the Medical Report Form for Employment Pass, is under Section 57(1)(f) of the Immigration Act (Cap 133). The offence is punishable with a fine of up to S\$4,000 or a jail term not exceeding one year or both.

### 5. CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES

- Congratulations to Associate Professor Goh Lee Gan, Immediate Past President of SMA for being elected the Regional Vice President of The World Organisation of Family Doctors (WONCA) (Asia Pacific Region).
- Congratulations to the College of Family Physicians for winning the bid to host the WONCA Congress 2007 in Singapore. ■