

CME Beyond Forum

The Singapore Medical Council has set a minimum standard of 25 points per CME year. Of these, 50% will be in core CME topics and the remainder will be in non-core topics.

To many, CME appears to be an imposition and the natural tendency is to get just enough points somehow to satisfy the minimum requirements. This misses the purpose of it all: CME is a means by which the medical

practitioner keeps up with the rapidly growing medical information and skills.

Core CME topics are directly relevant to the practice domain that we are in; the non-core CME topics help us to be "rounded", to be well-informed doctors. It is not enough to know everything about the techniques of surgery or medical care. We also need to keep ourselves updated on the wisdom of what we are doing. This is non-core CME.

This month's SMA News reports in page 12 about doctors that have

continued their professional developments through diploma programmes by the Graduate School of Medical Studies of NUS and also through the structured CME programmes organised by the College of Family Physicians with various institutions. These are positive developments. I therefore urge every medical practitioner to take a positive mindset towards CME. It is a means to be a better doctor and to be a better person. ■