

News from SMA Council

By Dr Tham Tat Yean, Honorary Secretary

1. SIGNING MEDICAL CERTIFICATES

The SMA Council would like to remind members that the doctor's name and signature are required on the Medical Certificate. The SMC Ethical Code states in Section 4.1.8 that:

"As a medical certificate carries with it a professional and legal responsibility, the doctor must sign the certificate personally and if another person has filled in the details on his behalf, he must satisfy himself that the details are correct before signing."

The Ethical Code is available at the SMC website: <http://www.smc.gov.sg/html/SMChome.html>

2. LOCUM RATES FOR GPs

In response to a recent request from MINDEF for

guidelines for charging locum fees, the SMA Council has responded as follows:

"Locum rates for general practitioners range from \$60 to \$80 per hour, excluding Employer's CPF contribution. These are only guidelines and are based on what is currently offered by the polyclinics and private general practice clinics. Please also note that these rates do not apply to specialists."

3. MED ALERT SERVICE

The SMA has been placed on the MOH Med Alert mailing list from 6 February 2004. We will upload all directives and advisories that are sent out by Med Alert on the SMA website's Members' Corner for ease of reference by members. ■