

TAIWAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION



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The Taiwan Medical Association (TMA) is the official member of the World Medical Association (WMA). Currently, TMA has 11,000 registered members in the WMA. TMA has achieved several important milestones in the past one year. These include actively participated in several important international events. Six member delegates from the Health Insurance Review & Assessment Service (HIRA) in Korea visited and consulted TMA regarding DRG-based payment system in Taiwan. TMA held a reception in honor of distinguished guests, Dr. José Luiz Gomes do Amaral, President of the WMA, Dr. Mkhululi LUKHELE, President of South African Medical Association and Dr. Dong Chun SHIN, Chairman of International Affairs Committee of Korean Medical Association during their participation in the 20th International Conference on Health Promoting Hospitals and Health Services hosted by the Taiwanese Ministry of Health in Taipei. TMA offered “Taiwan Medical Workforce Training System” lecture for a 21-member Shanghai health delegation from China. TMA also visited Ministry of Health of China, Chinese Medical Association, Chinese Physicians Society and Emergency Relief Training Center in Beijing, China. Nonetheless, the TMA representatives attended WMA’s 191st Council Meeting 2012 in Bangkok, while American Medical Association invited TMA to attend its annual meeting. TMA also attended a working-level meeting on CMAAO in Fukuoka, Japan. Medical Associations from Japan, Korea and TMA formed a taskforce to provide suggestions regarding reform and procedures of the CMAAO General Assembly.

In order to facilitate active participation in WMA programs and activities, a TMA resolution to host a WMA General Assembly was passed in

December 2011, and a letter of intent was sent to WMA on 13th April, 2012 to express TMA’s intention to host the 2015 General Assembly. The proposal had been discussed at the WMA-GA during 10–13 October, 2012 in Bangkok, Thailand.

Besides the active international participation, the TMA established Health Communication Committee in order to enhance physician-patient communication and mutual understanding, to improve physician image, to show our concern for public health, and to enhance better physician-patient relationship. The committee has served as a platform where physicians’ image can be projected, opinions from the medical community in response to major health news can be channeled, and the public can access to better and accurate information from the medical professionals. Two books were published by TMA in May 2012, including the “A Physician’s Heart—Innovation and Leap Forward” and “Malpractice and Patient Safety II.” On the other hands, understanding the backdrop of governmental reform and emerging societal needs, TMA continued to advocate for a caring culture in the medical system, effective communication for resolving conflicts and innovative reforms. Issues like changing environment for medical practice, hospital management and health services at all levels, burnout among health providers repetitively on the headlines, malpractice incidents deteriorated physician-patient relationships, TMA acted in several frontlines, including reorient jurisdiction system concerning criminal liability of physicians. Several issues were expected to be solved, including to cope with new health insurance program, to deal with physician shortages in the internal medicine, surgery, OBG, pediatrics

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and emergency medicine departments, to put physicians under the protection of Labor Standards Act, and to make all health professionals continue to serve with never-compromising principles. On the other hands, to enhance solidarity among medical professionals and increase members' welfare, the TMA officially issued Noble Cards in 2011 and is working on providing a full range of exclusive services for members such as exemption from registration fee in health services, free to choose doctors, fast track services, and health check up discounts. In addition, the TMA members can sign in/out for CME course.

In Taiwan, with the upcoming Long-term care (LTC) insurance, subsequent demand for medical services in the LTC field is expected. Commissioned by DOH, TMA organized LTC Level II CME courses in 2010 and 2011, 677 physicians completed the course. To help all health providers receive training and qualifications, TMA, in cooperation with the DOH, arranged LTC Level I CME course in 2011, training 2,435 health workers. The 2012 LTC Level II CME trained over 600 physicians. These courses aim to provide sufficient medical workforce upon implementation of LTC Insurance and LTC Act.

TMA, in collaboration with NTUH, Formosan Medical Association, Taiwan Joint Commission on Hospital Accreditation, and Taiwan Association of Medical Education organized "Safety and Quality in Health Care Series" around the country since 2008; by means of video conference, nationwide health professionals took part in the discussion online. Till August 2012, a total of 49 conferences were held, with more than 100,000 participants attended the full course in 4 years. It became the largest CME activity in the medical community. In addition to extend the depth and breadth of the CME Series, TMA designed "2012 Seminars—Learning from Case Reviews," with a special attention to LTC. TMA holds that lifetime

learning and continuous education are keys to improvement in safety and quality in health care, therefore, to bring professional health care to the community, to where people live and work strive to increase the public awareness of safety and quality issues in health care, to help hospitals and health care services identify problems and solutions regarding operation and servicing, to provide access to professional, ethical, legal and quality knowledge to cope with different situations, including legal situations.

Recently, TMA proposed that Article 82 of the Medical Care Act be amended so that medical legal liability can be made clear and reasonable. Instead of "making medical legal liability clear," the appeal will focus on "making medical legal liability reasonable."

TMA also serves as a medium between medical community and authorities, to sensitize members of health regulations, to channel opinions between medical community and authorities, to collect information from all levels and present recommendations, to negotiate and establish consensus among stakeholders, and to promote policy awareness and implementation. TMA also recommends DOH to revise the Physician's Act §35-2, as many problems arise when local medical associations who are not affiliated with TMA, for example, that TMA policies cannot reach the medical community as a whole through one single channel, effect of policy might be compromised, and related administrative costs increase, as well as to avoid potential problems, it is recommended that an additional clause be made, with reference to Certified Public Account Act §52-2 that provincial and municipal CPA associations should be affiliated with the National Confederation of CPA Associations. A new clause should be added to Physician's Act §35-2 that regional medical associations at municipal and county (city) level should be affiliated with TMA.



The 48th CMAAO Mid-Term Council Meeting

- Country Report -

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International Exchanges and Events

- ✓ Consulted for "The DRGS and DRG-based payment system of Taiwan" from HIRA of Korea.
- ✓ Visitors for 「The 20th International Conference on Health Promoting Hospitals and Health Services」 from WMA, SAMA and Korea.
- ✓ Speech titled "Taiwan Medical Workforce Training System" for Shanghai Health Delegation.
- ✓ Visited Ministry of Health, Chinese Medical Association, Chinese Physicians Society and Emergency Relief Training Center in Beijing, China.
- ✓ Attended WMA's the 191th Council Meeting 2012.
- ✓ Invited to attend the AMA annual meeting.



Visited in Beijing, China



WMA's the 191th Council Meeting 2012



Visitors from Shanghai, China

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The CMAAO Working Level Meeting

- **Date:**
Jung 6th 2012
- **Place:**
Fukuoka City, Japan
- **Taskforce:**
Taiwan, Japan and Korean
- **Aim:**
To make CMAAO meetings more functional and efficient.



CMAAO Working Level Meeting in Fukuoka City, Japan

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Bidding to Host the WMA General Assembly

TMA Background in WMA:

- ✓ Corrected Title as Taiwan Medical Association in WMA from 2004.
- ✓ TMA has 11,000 registered members in WMA.

Procession for Bidding WMA GA:

- ✓ A resolution to host the WMA GA was passed at TMA's Board Meeting in 2011.
- ✓ A official invitation letter for holding the WMA GA in Taipei to WMA on April 2012.
- ✓ A lobby letter to NMAs on September 2012.
- ✓ The proposal was discussed at the WMA-GA during 10-13 October, 2012 in Bangkok, Thailand.

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Working with Media

- ✓ Established "Health Communication Committee"

Purpose:

- To enhance Physician-Patient communication and understanding.
- To improve physician image.
- To show concern for people's health and better physician-patient relationship.

Platform:

- The physicians' professional image can be projected.
- In response to negative health news can be channelized.



Meeting with Media in TMA

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New Publications



“A Physician’s Heart
- Innovation and Leap Forward”

“Malpractice and Patient Safety II”



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Issuance of Exclusive TMA Noble Card

Expect Benefits:

- ✓ Exemption from registration fee in health services
- ✓ Free to choose doctors
- ✓ Fast track service
- ✓ Health check up discounts
- ✓ Sign in/out for CME course
- ✓ Purchasing or discounts



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Develop Long-Term Care Workforce in the Ageing Society

TMA organized the Long-term Care (LTC) CME Courses:

Year	Course of CME	Workforce
2010	Level II	Training 677 physicians
2011		
2011	Level I	Training 2,435 Health workers
2012	Level II	Training 600 physicians

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Bringing Health to People, Ensuring Quality and Quality Health Care

“Safety & Quality in Health Care Series” Workshops

- ✓ 49 conferences were held by August 2012.
- ✓ More than 100,000 participants over 4 years.



“2012 Seminars – Learning from Case Reviews”

- ✓ To build a platform for authorities to elaborate health policies to health professionals.

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Making Medical Legal Liability Reasonable, Endeavors to Amend Unreasonable Laws

- ✓ TMA proposed the Article § 82 of the Medical Care Act be amended.



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Harmonization with Universal Membership

- ✓ To Suggest DOH revising the Physician’s Act § 35-2: “Regional medical associations at municipal and county (city) level should be affiliated with TMA.”

Taiwan Medical Association

1	Taipei City Medical Association
2	Kaohsiung City Medical Association
3	Taipei County Medical Association
4	Keelung City Medical Association
5	Taiwan County Medical Association
6	Hsinchu City Medical Association
7	Hsinchu County Medical Association
8	Miaoli County Medical Association
9	Tai Chung City Medical Association
10	Changhua County Medical Association
11	Nantou County Medical Association
12	Yunlin County Medical Association
13	Chiayi City Medical Association
14	Chiayi County Medical Association
15	Tainan City Medical Association
16	Tainan County Medical Association
17	Kaohsiung County Medical Association
18	Pingtung County Medical Association
19	Penghu County Medical Association
20	Bian County Medical Association
21	Hualien County Medical Association
22	Taiwan County Medical Association
23	Kinmen County Medical Association
24	Lienchiang County Medical Association

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