Overview

- SMA membership; 52nd Council
- SMA activities
  - Conventions & seminars
  - Publications & new media
  - Feedback—recognition of MCs by doctors
- International relations

Membership

- Total membership of the Singapore Medical Association represents 53.5% of all registered medical practitioners in Singapore
- Percentage of doctors who are SMA members has dropped to 60% and below in recent years, mainly due to the influx of foreign-trained doctors which has increased the overall number of doctors in Singapore

Activities

Conventions & seminars

Talk by Medical Protection Society
- 26 June 2011: “Informed Consent—Where Are We Heading?”

SMA Annual Dinner 2011
- 14 May 2011

42nd SMA Medical Convention
- 20 August 2011: “Come Grow Old with Me: Successful and Active Ageing in the Community”

Medicine Debates 2011
- 13 August 2011: Motion—“Women are better off making lives than saving lives”
- Organised by SMA and the two local medical schools

SMA Lecture 2011
- 5 November 2011: “Medical Practice and the next ICE Age”

MPS Essential Risk Management Workshop Series
- Held throughout the year
  - “Managing Adverse Outcomes”
  - “Managing Difficult Interactions with Patients”
  - “Mastering Professional Interactions”
  - “Mastering Your Risk

AST Course on Medical Ethics, Professionalism & Health Law
- Held throughout the year
- Compulsory requirement for exit certification from specialist training

Publications & new media

Monthly publications
- Singapore Medical Journal
- SMA News

New media
- SMA on Facebook

Feedback—recognition of MCs by doctors
- 29 June 2011: Dr. Yik Keng Yeong wrote to the Straits Times, suggesting ways to reduce queues at polyclinics
- 9 July 2011: SMA suggested that Employment Act should be reviewed and amended to recognise MCs issued by registered medical practitioners

International relations

- Member of MASEAN, CMAAO and WMA

*1 President, Singapore Medical Association, Singapore (sma@sma.org.sg).
This article is based on a presentation made as a Report of Activities of each NMA at the 27th CMAAO General Assembly, Taipei, Taiwan, R.O.C., on November 11, 2011.
**OVERVIEW**

- SMA membership; 52nd Council
- SMA activities
  - Conventions & seminars
  - Publications & new media
  - Feedback – recognition of MCs by doctors
- International relations

**MEMBERSHIP**

- Total membership of the Singapore Medical Association (SMA) represents 53.5% of all registered medical practitioners in Singapore.

- Percentage of doctors who are SMA members has dropped to 60% and below in recent years, mainly due to the influx of foreign-trained doctors which has increased the overall number of doctors in Singapore. SMA is currently working with the public hospitals to reach out to this group.

**52nd SMA COUNCIL (2011-12)**

**52nd Council (2011-12)**

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<tr>
<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Dr. Chong Yeh Woei</td>
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<td>1st Vice President</td>
<td>A/Prof. Chin Jing Jin</td>
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<td>2nd Vice President</td>
<td>Dr. TEO Choon Lai</td>
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<td>Honorary Secretary</td>
<td>Dr. WONG Tien Hua</td>
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<td>Honorary Assistant Secretary</td>
<td>Dr. TAMMY CHAN</td>
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<td>Dr. TAN Ya Swain</td>
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<td>Members</td>
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<td>Dr. CHOW U Jin</td>
<td>Dr. TOH Han Chong</td>
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<td>Dr. Noroul FATHA Asst</td>
<td>Dr. Bertha WOON</td>
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CONVENTIONS & SEMINARS

Talk by Medical Protection Society
- 26 June 2011: “Informed Consent – Where Are We Heading?”
- Seminar arising from increasingly litigious environment and physician uncertainty
- Talk covering doctor’s perspectives, the view of the MPS, and the experience of the Singapore Medical Council

CONVENTIONS & SEMINARS

SMA Annual Dinner 2011
- 14 May 2011
- Guest of Honour was Dr Tan Cheng Bock. During the dinner, SMA also conferred the SMA Honorary Membership on Dr Charles Toh and Dr Tan Kok Soo

CONVENTIONS & SEMINARS

SMA Annual Dinner 2011

CONVENTIONS & SEMINARS

42nd SMA Medical Convention
- 20 August 2011: “Come Grow Old with Me: Successful and Active Ageing in the Community”
- Public symposium focused on managing medications, aches and pains, and staying mentally and physically active
- Medical symposium discussed management of common issues in geriatric patients, treating high blood pressure, as well as safe and effective prescribing for elderly patients with multiple comorbidities

CONVENTIONS & SEMINARS

42nd SMA Medical Convention

CONVENTIONS & SEMINARS

Medicine Debates 2011
- 13 August 2011: Motion – “Women are better off making lives than saving lives”
- Addressed a sensitive and important issue: the challenges faced by the modern woman in juggling work and family, particularly with a demanding career in the medical profession
- Organised by SMA, National University of Singapore Medical Society and Duke-NUS Student Council
- Meant as an opportunity to allow students from the two local medical schools, NUS Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine and Duke-NUS Graduate Medical School, to develop friendships
CONVENTIONS & SEMINARS

Medicine Debates 2011

SMA Lecture 2011
- 5 November 2011: “Medical Practice and the next ICE Age”
- Delivered by Dr Tan Lai Yong, who left Singapore in 1996 to run a village doctors training programme in Yunnan, China. He returned to Singapore in 2010
- Drawing from his experiences learnt from working amongst poverty affected communities, Dr Tan shares on practicing Medicine both as an art and a science in today’s society of varied expectations and resources

CONVENTIONS & SEMINARS

MPS Essential Risk Management Workshop Series
- Organised throughout the year
- “Managing Adverse Outcomes”, “Managing Difficult Interactions with Patients”, “Mastering Professional Interactions” and “Mastering Your Risk”
- Presented by doctors, free for MPS members
- Practical communication techniques and skills to assist doctor-patient interactions:
  - Understand why patients complain and sue;
  - Link between communication skills and patient dissatisfaction
  - Examine doctor-doctor communication in view of issues such as patient referrals and clinical handover

CONVENTIONS & SEMINARS

AST Course on Medical Ethics, Professionalism & Health Law
- Organised throughout the year
- Compulsory requirement for exit certification from specialist training
- Equip trainees with necessary communication skills and working knowledge of clinical ethics and local health statutes
- Help trainees develop more systematic and professional approach to common ethical and medico-legal issues in Singapore

PUBLICATIONS & NEW MEDIA

Monthly publications
- Singapore Medical Journal (SMJ)
- SMA News
**PUBLICATIONS & NEW MEDIA**

**New media**

Facebook

- [http://www.facebook.com/singaporemedicalassociation](http://www.facebook.com/singaporemedicalassociation)

**FEEDBACK**

**Recognition of MCs by doctors**

- 29 June 2011: Dr Yik Keng Yeong wrote to the Straits Times, suggesting ways to reduce queues at polyclinics
- He stated that many workers are “forced to visit government clinics as some employers refuse to recognise medical certificates (MCs) issued by GPs”
- The Ministry of Health, SMA and the Ministry of Manpower responded to this issue
- 9 July 2011: SMA suggested that Employment Act should be reviewed and amended to recognise MCs issued by registered medical practitioners

**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS**

**Membership**

- Medical Association of South-East Asian Nations (MASEAN)
- CMAAO
- World Medical Association (WMA)

**Thank You**