

News from SMA Council

*By Dr Tham Tat Yean,
Honorary Assistant Secretary*

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1. HEALTH GUIDE BY SINGTEL YELLOW PAGES

We have been receiving queries from Members pertaining to the Health Guide by Singtel Yellow Pages and the latter's publicity material inviting doctors to be listed in the new Health Guide with options to enhance their listing.

We have since written to the Licensing & Accreditation Unit of MOH, who have responded that they have no objection to the free listing of the healthcare establishments in the new Health Guide provided that:

- i. The directory must contain a complete listing of all licensed healthcare institutions as published by the Ministry of Health in the Government Gazette.
- ii. The Advertising Guidelines issued under the Private Hospitals and Medical Clinics Act and Regulations are strictly adhered to.

However, MOH would not approve of the options to enhance the listing at a reasonable rate as proposed by SingTel Yellow Pages, as this might be construed as direct advertisements of healthcare institutions.

2. USE OF MEDICAL LASERS FOR HAIR REMOVAL IN NON-MEDICAL PREMISES

Under the Radiation Protection (Non-ionising Radiation) Regulations 1991,

only medical doctors are granted N3 licences allowing them to operate Class IV lasers. As hair removal using Class IV lasers has recently been classified as a medical procedure, to be performed only in medical establishments, the Centre for Radiation Protection had imposed conditions on the N2 (possession) and N3 (operation) licences restricting the operation of such lasers only to medical establishments which are licensed under the PHMC Act. This was done since June 2001.

At the present, N3 licences are only granted to medical doctors who have indicated that they have received the necessary training in laser safety.

3. SMA HANDHELD COMPUTING WEBSITE

This is a pilot outreach effort, aiming to provide a convenient mobile channel for rapid dissemination of relevant healthcare information, and is in line with the revolution that handhelds are perpetrating in healthcare. Topics in

this new website include Medical Applications, Medical eBooks, Clinical Guidelines, Discussion Forums, Polls, Quizzes, Surveys, Games, Entertainment, useful tips such as SMS & Mobile Computing, and various other resources.

Especially noteworthy is the "SMA @xpress" channel, which grants you instant information literally in the palm of your hand.

Do watch out for this site <http://www.sma.org.sg/handheld>

4. DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION VIA FACSIMILE OR EMAIL

From time to time, SMA disseminates information to its members via facsimile or email. These are in addition to SMA's usual modes of dissemination, such as normal mail and the monthly mailbag. To keep us informed of your preferred modes of dissemination, please complete and return the following form to the SMA Secretariat at Fax: 224 7827. ■

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO SMA SECRETARIAT AT FAX: 224 7827

Pertaining to urgent notices, membership issues, lifestyle promotions and discounts, I wish to also obtain them via (please choose one of the options):

- Fax only Email only Both fax and email
 None of the above additional channels - I prefer to receive them by post only.

Name: _____

MCR number: _____ My Fax number: _____

My Email: _____