

## ANNOUNCEMENT



Jointly organised by:



A Medico-Legal Seminar:

# Understanding Consent in Medical Practice

## – Coming to Grips with the Legal and Ethical Implications

**Date:** 6 July 2013, Saturday

**Time:** 1 pm to 4 pm

**Venue:** Gleneagles Hospital, Lecture Theatre (Level 3)

**Number of CME Points:** Pending approval from the Singapore Medical Council

**Registration fees:** Complimentary for all doctors

To register, please complete the form below or visit <http://www.sma.org.sg/academy>

Informed consent is not an option in medical practice. Consent is what gives ethical and legal legitimacy to all we do in Medicine – investigations, procedures and therapies. In fact, everything in clinical practice is consensual.

Failure in the duty to inform would lead to legal and professional penalties. Coercion, manipulation and misrepresentation are all considered unprofessional and illegal in the practice of Medicine.

In the past, in many areas of clinical practice, implied consent was the accepted operative practice. However with the increasing complexities and uncertainties in Medicine today and better informed patients, explicit informed consent in many areas is the expected practice. With the progressive commercialisation of Medicine, rising costs of healthcare and changing patient expectations, medical professionals are now required to provide more explanations, be more transparent and be held more accountable for our work.

The recent judgements, in both the law courts and professional disciplinary tribunals, necessitate a more complex informed consent process and documentation to manage our risks. Informed consent is often called the Achilles' heel of risk in medical practice.

To meet the new expectations, it would be prudent for all practising clinicians to review the basic concepts of consent, examine the new professional standards, and develop new strategies and processes in consent taking.

Time	Programme
1 pm	Registration (Refreshments Provided)
1.30 pm	Welcome Address <i>Dr Kok Mun Foong, Chief Executive Officer, Gleneagles Hospital</i>
1.40 pm	Introduction <i>Dr Bertha Woon, Council Member &amp; Centre for Medical Ethics &amp; Professionalism (CMEP) Member, SMA &amp; General Surgeon, Bertha Woon General &amp; Breast Surgery</i>
1.50 pm	The Elements and Professional Basis for Consent – What the Disciplinary Tribunals of the Medical Council Are Telling Us <i>Dr T Thirumoorthy, Executive Director, CMEP, SMA</i>
2.20 pm	The Legal Standards and Issues in Consent – What the Courts Are Telling Us <i>Mr Edwin Tong, Partner, Allen &amp; Gledhill</i>
2.50 pm	The Process of Consent Taking in Daily Practice – The Pitfalls and Shortfalls in Meeting the Legal and Professional Standards <i>Dr I Swaminathan, General Surgeon, Parkway Hospitals, Singapore</i>
3.20 pm	Panel Discussion with Q & A Moderator: <i>Dr Bertha Woon</i> Panellists: <i>Dr Yeo Poh Teck, Gleneagles Hospital</i> <i>Dr T Thirumoorthy, Mr Edwin Tong &amp; Dr I Swaminathan</i>
3.50 pm	Conclusions and Closing Address <i>Dr Bertha Woon</i>
4 pm	End of Seminar

Please return this slip to **Denise Tan, Singapore Medical Association, 2 College Road, Level 2, Alumni Medical Centre, Singapore 169850. Tel: 6223 1264, fax: 6224 7827 or email: [denisetan@sma.org.sg](mailto:denisetan@sma.org.sg).** A confirmation email will be issued to all applicants.

I would like to attend Understanding Consent in Medical Practice.

Registration fees: Complimentary for all doctors

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Handphone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Profession/Specialty: \_\_\_\_\_

MCR No.: \_\_\_\_\_ SMA Member: Yes / No (please circle accordingly)