

PROFILE



REPORT BY

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HIGHLIGHTS

FROM THE HONORARY SECRETARY

Assessment for Doctors" and an application exercise on Medical Report Writing for Mental Capacity Assessment, conducted by Dr Nagaendran Kandiah (Programme Director, NNI Dementia Programme), Dr T Thirumoorthy (Immediate Past Executive Director, SMA Centre for Medical Ethics and Professionalism) and Ms Lim Hui Min (Director of Legal Aid, Legal Aid Bureau), respectively.

Apart from the seminar, there is currently an online training module available on the SMA website. The purpose of this learning module is to enable all doctors to achieve competency in conducting a mental capacity assessment and to attain the knowledge and skills in writing a medical report compliant with the Mental Capacity Act (MCA).

SMA members can register for the MCA online training module on the SMA website's homepage (<https://www.sma.org.sg>).

17TH MASEAN CONFERENCE

The 17th Medical Association of South East Asian Nations (MASEAN) Conference was held from 11 to 12 May 2016 at Dusit Thani Hotel in Pattaya, Thailand. This year's meeting was hosted by the Medical Association of Thailand and attended by delegates from all ten ASEAN medical associations: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

The theme for this year's Scientific Symposium was

"How to Boost the Collaboration of our Medical Journals: Basic, Offers, Needs". The round-table discussion was followed by the signing of an Agreement of Cooperation that aims to strengthen the academic exchange and educational cooperation in the development of our medical journals in terms of sharing articles, peer reviewers, journal assessment and citation. The details of the Agreement will be further discussed at the Asia Pacific Association of Medical Journal Editors Convention 2016 on 26 to 28 August 2016 in Bangkok, Thailand.

The full report will be published in the July 2016 issue of *SMA News*.

DIABETES PREVENTION AND CARE TASKFORCE

SMA President, Dr Wong Tien Hua, has been invited to be a member of the newly formed Ministry of Health Diabetes Prevention and Care Taskforce. The taskforce aims to develop and implement a multi-year diabetes action plan; reach out to the public; engage stakeholders to mobilise a whole-of-nation effort to fight diabetes; monitor progress and evaluate outcomes.

MENTAL CAPACITY ASSESSMENT

On 30 April 2016, 75 medical practitioners attended the second run of the Medico-Legal Seminar on Mental Capacity – Assessment & Report Writing for doctors, held at the Academia.

Topics covered include "Overview of Patients Lacking Capacity (Temporary/Fluctuating)", "Overview of Mental Capacity

MPS-SMA SEMINAR

The Medical Protection Society (MPS) and SMA jointly organised a seminar on 18 May, "Being Open and a Doctor's Duty of Candour – Is there really an option?" Dr Zaid Al-Najjar (Medicolegal Advisor, MPS) spoke on the benefits of being open. Ms Mak Wei Munn (Partner, Allen & Gledhill) highlighted the legal considerations in this area during open disclosure sessions. A/Prof Chin Jing Jih (SMA Council member) provided perspective balanced insight from the clinician's perspective. The seminar concluded with a panel discussion on "Culture or Legislation?" moderated by Dr Teoh Ming Keng of MPS.