

PROFILE



REPORT BY

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HIGHLIGHTS

FROM THE HONORARY SECRETARY

AIC'S REPLY TO SMA ON CHAS SUBSIDY INCREASE

SMA had written to the Agency for Integrated Care (AIC) to recommend that the quantum of Community Health Assist Scheme (CHAS) subsidies for patients should be subjected to regular reviews and be aligned with the rising Consumer Price Index, in order for CHAS card holders to continue enjoying high-quality and affordable care at participating medical and dental clinics near their homes. AIC replied that it will convey the recommendation to the Ministry of Health, which oversees the policy of funding for primary care. AIC also informed that it will engage SMA further on this issue to close the loop.

DISCOUNTED RATES FOR STETHOSCOPES FOR SMSUK AND SMSI

SMA has obtained special bulk pricing rates for 3M Littman Stethoscopes for medical students under the Singapore Medical Society of United Kingdom (SMSUK) and the Singapore Medical Society of Ireland (SMSI). Students in both medical societies also enjoy complimentary SMA Student Membership (usual fee costs \$20). This is part of SMA's continuing efforts to reach out to more medical students studying in local medical schools as well as abroad.

SMA MERIT AWARD RECIPIENT

Mdm Mun Swee Heong is one of the 2016 SMA Merit Award recipients, and is the oldest recipient of the award at 105 years old. As Mdm Mun was not able to receive the award at the SMA Annual Dinner held on 14 May 2016, SMA Council members and SMA Charity Fund (SMACF) Chairman Prof Wong Tien Yin arranged a special lunch to present her with the award on 26 July 2016, in appreciation of her significant support to the SMA Medical Students' Assistance Fund and SMACF.

MEDIA COVERAGE OF SMJ ARTICLE

A study on the quality of life (QOL) of local caregivers of cancer patients published online in the *Singapore Medical Journal* (SMJ) was recently highlighted in the *Straits Times*. In particular, the study found that caregivers who were male, of Chinese ethnicity, had a parental relationship with the patient and cared for advanced-staged cancer patients had a poorer QOL than their western counterparts. The results point to the need for better support for caregivers to help alleviate their burden. The published research can be found here: <http://goo.gl/RX77zr>.

