



MASTER'S MESSAGE

The Academy Council had a hectic schedule after the usual Christmas, year-end and New Year celebrations. This was followed closely by the Lunar New Year welcoming the Dragon year. On behalf of the Council, I would like to wish one and all a happy and prosperous 2012.

The Council met with Minister for Health, Mr Gan Kim Yong, on 13 February 2012 at COMB for lunch. In attendance were senior members of the Ministry of Health including Minister of State, Ms Amy Khor, PS Ms Yong Ying-I, DS Mr Roy Quek, and DMS Prof Satkunanantham.

Issues of the role and relevance of Academy of Medicine, Singapore were on the agenda. Our Fellowship, FAMS (Fellow, Academy of Medicine, Singapore) remains the only postgraduate medical qualification in Singapore.

We were directed towards improving our present Continuing Medical Education (CME) to evolve this into a more relevant Continuing Professional Development (CPD) system with our regulators, the Singapore Medical Council (SMC).

With all FAMS efforts and participation, we hope to have the CPD being the driver and implementation with SMC collaboration. Details of this new platform involving the six core competencies will be tailored to each subspecialty. I hope all FAMS will actively be involved in this new effort. There is indeed a lot of work that needs to be done for this programme.

Other issues brought up during the meeting were:

1. Feedback on Residency programmes
2. Maintaining AMS relevance and attracting new members particularly overseas graduates
3. AMS being able to tap on some HMDP programme relevant for our professionals and CPD

On behalf of the Council, I would like to thank Minister Gan and his MOH team for making time in having this dialogue with us.

Council members, Past Masters (Drs Chew Chin Hin, Raj Nambiar, Ho Lai Yun and Fock Kwong Ming) with invited Fellows had a retreat at the Academy on 25 February 2012. The last endeavour was in 2004. The issues tabled were CPD, postgraduate examinations, ethics and professionalism and financial matters. We also revisited our vision and mission. Going forward, the Council's priority will be increasing the relevance of AMS. Work on CPD committees has already been started by Master-Elect, Dr Lim Shih Hui. We hope to be able to provide a framework for the Academy to spearhead the CPD for each of our subspecialties. We will need to work on this platform and present to MOH and SMC for collaborations. The driver for CPD for medical specialists of Canada, USA and Australia has been the Colleges. We will roll out other issues discussed during this eventful retreat in the near future.



Council members gathered for a retreat on strategic planning.

In honour of our Founder Master, Sir Gordon Arthur Ransome (GAR), we have had the GAR Oration held biennially with the Induction Comitia at the Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine. Past orators were President Devan Nair, Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad and in last year, Dr York Chow, Secretary for Food and Health of Hong Kong.

continued on pg2

CONTENTS

Master's Message	1-2	13th Asian Association of Endocrine Surgeons Congress 2012	6
Election of Academy's Council	2	College of Paediatrics and Child Health, Singapore	6
SMC Election 2012	2	Chapter of Emergency Physicians	7
Membership	3	Chapter of Psychiatrists	7
Professional Affairs	4	Calendar of Events	8
Education & Training	5	Annals	8

continued from pg1 (Master's Message)

To perpetuate the GAR Oration, we will need to raise funds. Members of this Fundraising Committee include Drs Chew Beng Keng, Geh Min, Chew Chin Hin and Lee Suan Yew. The Chairman is Dr Anantharaman. I appeal to all members of the Academy and the medical fraternity to donate generously to this worthy cause.

The Hong Kong Academy of Medicine is our member of the tripartite partner with the Malaysia Academy of Medicine. The 2nd Tripartite Meeting will be held here in 2013 under the chairmanship of Dr Wong Kok Seng. We would like to encourage all FAMS and also trainees/residents of our postgraduate training to contribute and attend this meeting.

The 15th World Conference on Tobacco or Health was held at Suntec Singapore International Convention and Exhibition Centre on 20 to 24 March 2012. I had the opportunity to meet with the Director-General of the World Health Organisation (WHO), Dr Margaret Chan, from Hong Kong. Also present was Dr Donald Li (Vice President, President-Elect of Hong Kong Academy of Medicine) and Presidents of various Colleges from Hong Kong.

The meeting was successfully concluded with more preventive measures being spearheaded by WHO to reduce incidence of



Dr Margaret Chan (seated, second from left) and Dr Tan Kok Chai (seated, second from right) with representatives of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine.

smoking, particularly in the developing countries. More awareness of the ill-effects of tobacco was also being taught in the medical school and postgraduate curriculum and has been adopted in Hong Kong.

In closing for this communication, I would like to encourage our FAMS to take a more active role in our activities.

Prof Tan Kok Chai

ELECTION OF THE ACADEMY'S COUNCIL

The Academy held its balloting exercise this year when eight nominations were received out of six Elected Council positions.

A total of 957 returned ballot cards were received out of 2,377 ballot cards that were sent out. Out of these, 103 ballot cards were invalid (100 ballot cards belonged to FAMS with arrears and three were disqualified). The number of valid ballot cards is 854.

The top six candidates who received the most votes were declared duly elected into the Council of the Academy (2012 to 2014):

- Dr Anthony Heng
- Dr Jeyaraj Prema Raj
- Dr Khoo Kei Siong
- Dr Tay Jam Chin
- Dr Teo Eng Kiong
- Dr Thamotharampillai Thirumoorthy

SMC ELECTION 2012

An SMC Election will be held in October 2012. All fully-registered medical practitioners who hold valid practising certificates during the Election will be required to vote. Doctors who are overseas during the Election period will be exempted from voting, if they are able to provide documentary evidence of their overseas status.

Please keep the Council updated of your latest mailing address, so that the Election documents will reach you in a timely manner. Doctors who fail to vote without a valid reason will be subjected to a fine of \$500, and will not be able to renew their practising certificate when it next expires, unless the fine is paid.

The update of particulars form is available on SMC's website at www.smc.gov.sg.

For clarifications, please write to smc_elections@smc.gov.sg

New Enrolment and Membership Scheme

Fellows of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore (FAMS), who are admitted from 1 June 2012, will not be required to pay up front \$1,500, which includes the Entrance Fee of \$500 and Building Endowment Fund (BEF) donation of \$1,000. Instead, the amount totalling \$1,500 will be defrayed over 5 years, where the annual membership fee shall be \$800 for the first 5 years. Thereafter, it shall be restored to the prevailing annual membership fee at \$500.

To Strengthen FAMS Membership and to Improve Allocation of Resources

The Academy Council has restructured its enrolment and membership fees to achieve two primary objectives:

- To improve membership enrolment and strengthen FAMS membership
- To give the Academy flexibility to achieve better allocation of resources

The defrayment of \$1,500 over 5 years will ease the financial obligation at entry for new Fellows. The restructuring will also empower the Academy flexibility in deploying its resources effectually without having to increase its annual membership fees against the setting of escalating cost. The annual membership fee for Fellows has remained unchanged at \$500 since 1999.

The Academy Commemorates 55 Years of Specialists' Training and Education

This year, the Academy proudly marks its 55th year in specialists' education and training. Commemorating this milestone, the Academy is pleased to launch a special enrolment drive to encourage more specialists to join the Fellowship: Fellows who are admitted during the period between 1 June and 31 December 2012 shall enjoy a \$300 concession off the annual fee in Year 1 and hence pay only \$500 in Year 1. Annual fee in Year 2 to Year 5 shall be \$800. Thereafter, it shall be restored to the prevailing annual membership fee at \$500.

For further information, please refer to <http://www.ams.edu.sg/fees.asp>

Membership Benefits and Privileges

Commemorating the Academy's 55th Anniversary, we are pleased to unveil a host of attractive benefits and exciting privileges for our Fellows:

- Air tickets to Hong Kong and PC Books vouchers giveaways
- Dining privileges and Guest Room benefits at Riverview Hotel
- Fujitsu Lifebook at academic prices

More information available at <http://www.ams.edu.sg/benefits.asp>

New Membership Card

The Academy has taken into consideration feedback from FAMS and has implemented changes to the FAMS membership card. The new membership card is making its way to our Fellows, do keep a lookout for it.



Induction Comitia 2012

Date: 23 August 2012, Thursday
Venue: Health Promotion Board Auditorium
 3 Second Hospital Avenue, Singapore 168937
Time: 5:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Guest of Honour: Dr Amy Khor, Minister of State, Ministry of Health, Singapore

This year's event will also witness the launch of the Gordon Arthur Ransome Oration Fundraising.

Sedation Task Force

The Ministry of Health (MOH) is concerned that sedation of patients for medical procedures is carried out in clinics by non-anaesthesiologists who may be inadequately trained. During audit checks of medical clinics, it was found that many clinics have doctors performing sedation for procedures. MOH is concerned that healthcare professionals may not be sufficiently experienced and/or adequately trained to perform sedation for such procedures safely.

A task force led by the College of Anaesthesiologists, Singapore with representatives from the other Chapters and Colleges was tasked to put together a set of safety guidelines for the practice of sedation. The guidelines focus on the adequacy of training of the non-anaesthesiologist sedationists, proper patient selection, monitoring of the sedated patients and the post-procedural management of such patients.

The task force committee met and discussed during a span of three months to develop the guidelines and the final draft was submitted to the Ministry of Health for consideration in March 2012. The guideline is targeted for public release in mid 2012.

Professional Opinions – January to May 2012

The Academy of Medicine received several requests seeking professional opinions from the Ministry of Health on the following topics:

- Banking of Stem Cells Extracted from Dental Pulp (College of Dental Surgeons, Singapore)
- Professional Guidance on the Links between Abortion and Subsequent Risk of Developing Breast Cancer (College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, Singapore)
- Risk of Thyroid Cancer Posed by Dental X-Rays and Mammograms
- Insertion of Instruments into Bodily Orifices
- Anti-HBV Drugs – Licensing Condition
- MOH Clinical Practice Guidelines Masterplan FY2013

MOH Clinical Practice Guidelines (CPG) Masterplan FY2013 & Prioritisation Exercise

Since 1998, the Ministry of Health has developed and published CPGs under the MOH CPG programme. The Ministry also collaborates with the Academy of Medicine, Singapore (AMS) to develop CPGs under the AMS-MOH CPG programme. The AMS-MOH CPG programme focuses on the publication of CPGs that provide evidence-based guidance on broader clinical topics, while the MOH CPG programme will publish CPGs to support MOH policy.

The Ministry of Health conducted its annual call for input from professional divisions within MOH, AMS, CFPS, SMA, HPB and HSA on topics for CPG development for publication in FY2013. A committee will be formed with representatives from these stakeholders to prioritise topics for CPG development. The topics for guideline development will be selected and prioritised based on:

- National priorities in disease management
- Public health impact
- Potential number of doctors and patients who can benefit
- Utility of guidelines (e.g. condition where there is effective treatment but wide variation in practice)

The Colleges and Chapters under the Academy of Medicine, Singapore have proposed the following topics for consideration to be developed in FY2013:

No.	College/Chapter	Proposed CPG Topic	Proposers
1.	Chapter of Emergency Physicians	Guidelines on Treatment of Cyanide Poisoning	Prof V Anantharaman Chairman, Chapter of Emergency Physicians
2.	College of Dental Surgeons, Singapore	Guidelines on Osteonecrosis of Jaws related to Bisphosphonate Therapy	A/Prof Yeo Jin Fei Immediate Past President
3.	Chapter of Rheumatologists College of Physicians, Singapore	Gout	Dr Leong Keng Hong Chairman, Chapter of Rheumatologists, CPS

Staff Registrar Scheme (SRS) Diplomas – Call for Registration

No.	Speciality	Call for registration	Tentative Commencement Period
1.	Cardiology	Apr and Sep 2012	Jun (5 th Intake) and Nov 2012 (6 th Intake)
2.	Cardiothoracic Surgery	Feb to Jul 2012	Sep 2012 (2 nd Intake)
3.	Geriatric Medicine in Hospital & ILTC	14 Mar to 20 Apr 2012	Aug 2012 (5 th Intake)
4.	Hand Surgery	Jul 2012	Nov 2012 (2 nd Intake)
5.	Internal Medicine	23 Mar to 22 Apr and Sep 2012	May 2012 (4 th Intake) and Nov 2012 (5 th Intake)
6.	Neonatology	May 2012	Jul 2012 (4 th Intake)
7.	Neurosurgery	Jul and Nov 2012	Nov 2012 (4 th Intake) and Mar 2013 (5 th Intake)
8.	Orthopaedic Surgery	Apr and Jul 2012	Aug 2012 (4 th Intake) and Nov 2012 (5 th Intake)
9.	Paediatric Cancer Care	Sep 2012	Nov 2012 (2 nd Intake)
10.	Paediatric and Child Health	Sep 2012	Nov 2012 (6 th Intake)
11.	Radiation Oncology	Sep 2012	Nov 2012 (2 nd Intake)
12.	Rehabilitation Medicine	Mar and Sep 2012	May 2012 (3 rd Intake) and Nov 2012 (4 th Intake)

In-Training Examinations (ITE) – January to June 2012

No.	ITE speciality	Name of ITE	ITE Provider	Date of Exam	Exam Format	No. of Candidates
1.	Diagnostic Radiology	DXIT	American College of Radiology	11, 12, 14 and 15 Jan 2012	Web-based Examination (Prometric)	48 Trainees, 20 Residents (NHG: 6, NUHS: 4, SHS: 10)
2.	Obstetrics & Gynaecology	CREOG	American College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists	21 Jan 2012	Paper Examination	32 Trainees, 17 Residents (NUHS: 3, SHS: 14)
3.	Otolaryngology	OTE	American Board of Otolaryngology	3 Mar 2012	Paper Examination	2 Trainees, 9 Residents (NHG: 2, NUHS: 3, SHS: 4)
4.	Emergency Medicine	EMITE	Emergency Medicine Residency Advisory Committee	7 Mar 2012	Paper Examination	27 Trainees, 23 Residents (NHG: 7, NUHS: 7, SHS: 9)
5.	General Surgery	ABSITE	American Board of Surgery	3, 10 and 14 Mar 2012	Web-based Examination	53 Trainees, 53 Residents (NHG: 16, NUHS: 12, SHS: 25)
6.	Ophthalmology	OKAP	American Academy of Ophthalmology	18 Apr 2012	Web-based Examination (Prometric)	15 Residents (NHG: 4, NUHS: 3, SHS: 8)

The Chapter of General Surgeons and the College of Surgeons Singapore (CSS), supported by the Academy of Medicine, Singapore, hosted the 13th Asian Association of Endocrine Surgeons (ASAES) Congress on 26 to 28 March 2012 at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront.

Focusing on the theme of "Current Practice, New Directions", more than 250 doctors, trainees, nurses and industry delegates from the Asia Pacific region were updated on new developments in research, clinical practice and patient care by local and international experts from around the world.

"Singapore is the host city for this year, the first time in its 26-year history," said A/Prof Cheah Wei Keat, who is the Congress President. "It is indeed a milestone and proud moment for all of us. The congress continues with the tradition of promoting the exchange of knowledge and advancements in endocrine surgery and the training of specialist endocrine surgeons in both Asian and Western countries, as well as developing a spirit of friendship among endocrine surgeons in Asia. It is with this goal in mind that the biennial Congress remains a focal point of gathering of colleagues near and far," A/Prof Cheah said.

Echoing this, Guest of Honour, Prof Tan Kok Chai, Master, Academy of Medicine, Singapore said, "There is no better role model for endocrine surgeons than Dr Emil Theodor Kocher. He is a Swiss surgeon who won the Nobel Prize last century for his work in thyroid diseases."

This year's congress attracted the submissions of more than 150 abstracts from 20 countries. Keeping with tradition, the John Farndon Award for Best Poster Presentation and the Yoshida Fujimoto Award for Best Oral Presentation were awarded to Dr Ki-Won Chun, Department of Surgery, Yonsei University College of Medicine, Seoul, South Korea, and Dr Andrew Thomson, Surgical Resident, Department of Endocrine Surgery Royal North Shore Hospital, Australia, respectively.

The congress also saw big names in the medical devices participating in the trade exhibition and showcasing the latest technologies.



Prof Tan Kok Chai and Prof Cheah Wei Keat declared the opening of 13th ASASE 2012.

COLLEGE OF PAEDIATRICS & CHILD HEALTH, SINGAPORE

Continuing Medical Education

Topic: 'Therapeutic Hypothermia for Hypoxic Encephalopathy'

The Faculty of the Combined Neonatal Update held a session on the topic, 'Therapeutic Hypothermia for Hypoxic Encephalopathy' on 18 February 2012 at the Raffles Town Club. The session's speakers that afternoon were Dr Joseph Manuel Gomez (KKWCH), A/Prof Lee Jiun and Dr V Kalaimathy (NUHS) and Dr Sridhar Arunachalam (SGH). The chairperson was A/Prof Victor Samuel Rajadurai (KKH).

Lecture

Theme: 'Updates on Paediatric Airway Allergies'

- Date: 31 March 2012
- Time: 2:10 pm
- Venue: Legacy Suite, Level 2, Marriott Singapore
- Speakers: Dr Jenny Tang Poh Lin (Gleneagles Medical Centre) and Dr Liew Woei Kang (Mount Elizabeth Medical Centre)
- Chairperson: Dr Cheng Yew Kuang (Gleneagles Medical Centre)
- Organiser: College of Paediatrics & Child Health, Singapore

Lecture

Theme: 'Scientific Updates on Paediatric Feeding Difficulties'

- Date: 31 March 2012
- Time: 2:25 pm
- Venue: Riverfront Ballrooms 1 & 2, Level 2, Grand Copthorne Waterfront Singapore
- Speakers: Dr Glen Berall (Toronto, Canada), Dr Chu Hui Ping (Raffles Hospital) and Dr Michelle Tan (NUHS)
- Chairperson: Dr Steven Ng (CPCHS President)
- Co-organisers: College of Paediatrics & Child Health, Singapore & Singapore Paediatric Society

Continuing Medical Education

Topic: 'Beyond Traditional Clinical Research in Emergency Medicine: Becoming an Expert'

The Chapter held a session on the topic, 'Beyond Traditional Clinical Research in Emergency Medicine: Becoming an Expert' on the evening of 23 February 2012 at the Lee Kong Chian Boardroom, Academy of Medicine. The session was chaired by the Chapter Chairman, Prof V Anantharaman and the speaker was Prof Amal Mattu (Baltimore, Maryland, USA).

Workgroup on 'The State of Emergency Medical Care in Singapore'

The Chapter had convened a workgroup on 'The State of Medical Care in Singapore' (SEMS). The workgroup held its 7th meeting on 17 January 2012 at the Singapore General Hospital. The 8th meeting took place on 7 February 2012 at the Changi General Hospital. Finally, the workgroup participated in a Lunch Symposium Open Forum Discussion on 'The State of Emergency Care in Singapore' during the Annual Scientific Conference of the SEMS. The session took place on 26 February 2012 at Suntec Singapore International Convention & Exhibition Centre.

Staff Registrar Scheme (SRS): Diploma in Emergency Medicine Course

Candidates of the 4th and 5th intakes of the Diploma in Emergency Medicine course under the Staff Registrar Scheme (SRS) attended the following teaching modules conducted by specialists from Emergency Medicine, Obstetrics and Gynaecology, Ophthalmology and other disciplines:

- Analgesia & Sedation (12 January 2012)
- Splintage & Mobility (12 January 2012)
- Geriatric (9 February 2012)
- Trauma (8 March 2012)

Upcoming: Emergency Medicine (EM) Examination/MCEM (UK) Part B & Part C Preparatory Course

- Dates:** 23 to 28 July 2012
Venue: Restructured hospitals in Singapore
External Visiting Lecturer: Prof Colin A Graham, Professor of Emergency Medicine, Chinese University of Hong Kong, (Editor-in-Chief, European Journal of Emergency Medicine)

This intensive course is targeted at local Basic Specialist Emergency Medicine Residents/Trainees, Non-Residents and Doctors. Places are limited. For further details and registration, please contact the Secretariat, Ms Shanita Nadarajan at shanita_nadarajan@ams.edu.sg.

CHAPTER OF PSYCHIATRISTS

Continuing Medical Education

Topic: 'Better Remission for Better Functionality in Major Depressive Disorder'

Dr Ruth Baruch from Toronto, Ontario, Canada spoke to attendees at a session on the topic 'Better Remission for Better Functionality in Major Depressive Disorder' under the Chapter's Continuing Medical Education (CME) programme. The session was held on 16 March 2012 at the Imperial Treasure, Paragon and was chaired by Dr Adrian Wang, a Fellow of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore (FAMS) and a consultant psychiatrist in private practice.

IN MEMORIAM

The Academy records with sadness the demise of the following Fellows:

- Dr Chew Guan Khuan, Andrew (Internal Medicine) *Honorary Fellow*
- Dr Chew Seck Blow (Respiratory Medicine)
- Dr Khoo Oon Teik (Internal Medicine) *Past Master (1964 - 1966)*
- Dr Toh Chin Chye *Honorary Fellow*

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Event	Date	Venue	Organiser	Event Website
Inaugural Singapore Paediatric & Perinatal Annual Congress (ISPPAC)	7 Jul 12	Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel	College of Paediatrics and Child Health, Singapore	www.cpchs.sg
Advanced Cardiac Life Support Course (ACLS) - Recertification	15 Sep 12	Singapore First Aid Training Centre	Academy of Medicine, Singapore	www.ams.edu.sg
"Advanced Cardiac Life Support Course (ACLS) - Full Certification"	8 to 9 Sep 12	Singapore First Aid Training Centre	Academy of Medicine, Singapore	www.ams.edu.sg
46th Malaysia-Singapore Congress of Medicine	12 to 14 Jul 12	Shangri-La Hotel Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	Academy of Medicine, Singapore, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia, Hong Kong Academy of Medicine	mscm.acadmed.my/
Hand, Wrist & Distal Radius Cadaveric Course	2 to 3 Aug 12	ASTC & PGMI	Chapter of Hand Surgeons	www.css.edu.sg
Annual Combined Surgical Meeting	4 Aug 12	Grand Copthorne Waterfront	Chapter of General Surgeons	www.css.edu.sg
Medicine Review Course 2012	8 to 9 Sep 12	Khoo Teck Puat Hospital	College of Physicians, Singapore	cps.ams.edu.sg/
Introductory Thyroid & Parathyroid Ultrasound Course	9 Sep 12	Tan Tock Seng Hospital	Chapter of Otorhinolaryngology	www.css.edu.sg
1st Singapore International Public Health Conference in conjunction with 7th Singapore Public Health & Occupational Medicine Conference	1 to 2 Oct 12	Grand Copthorne Waterfront	Chapter of Public Health & Occupational Physicians and National University of Singapore	www.phconference.org
47th Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine	23 to 24 Aug 13	Suntec Singapore (TBC)	Academy of Medicine, Singapore	www.smcm-ams.com/

ANNALS



In an effort to go-green and reduce paper wastage and reduce costs, Annals has started a new publishing approach since 2009 – publish often, print infrequently. Meaning, online issues would be published on a monthly basis while hardcopies would be printed and circulated to members who opt for print copies. If you would like to receive a print copy, please fill in the form below and fax it to 6593 7867 or email it to annals@ams.edu.sg.

To: Annals Editorial Office (Fax: 65937867)

[] Yes, please continue to send the print copy

Name: _____

Signature: _____

Mailing address: _____

For enquiries or feedback on the newsletter, please call 6593 7865 or email: annals@ams.edu.sg

Academy of Medicine, Singapore

81 Kim Keat Road, #11-00 NKF Centre Singapore 328836 | Tel: 6593 7800 | Fax: 6593 7880 | Email: main@ams.edu.sg