MASTER’S MESSAGE

Induction Comitia
This year, 75 new Fellows were formally inducted into the Academy’s fellowship at the Induction Comitia held on 23 August 2012. Guest-of-Honour, Dr Amy Khor, Minister of State for Health, was joined by invited guests, colleagues, friends and family, to bear witness of the conferment in a capacity-filled auditorium at the Health Promotion Board.

I took the occasion to address and remind all Fellows the challenges, standards and duty of a good physician, and call to emulate the standards of professionalism and ethical practice exemplified by Sir William Osler and Sir Gordon Arthur Ransome.

In her speech, Dr Amy Khor highlighted that the Ministry recognised the Academy’s important role in supporting continuing medical education (CME) activities over the years. She also noted the Academy’s strategic plans and the key priorities, namely to be the leader in providing continuing professional development (CPD) and the maintenance of professional standards for specialists. To that, she commended the Academy for its high sense of duty towards its Fellows.

The entire proceedings of the Induction Comitia, i.e. programme, speeches, quotes and photo gallery, can be viewed on our website.

Guest-of-Honour, Dr Amy Khor, delivering the welcome speech.

Gordon Arthur Ransome Oration Fundraising Campaign
The Gordon Arthur Ransome Oration fundraising campaign, chaired by Dr V Anantharaman, was launched at the Induction Comitia with a moving tribute to the man and his contributions to medicine. Professor Ransome is not only the Academy’s Founding Master but is also widely regarded as the Father of modern medicine, who taught and nurtured many of our eminent clinical leaders.

I am pleased to update that the fundraising campaign has received to-date donations totalling $31,500.00 since its launch. We hope to achieve our target of $400,000.00 by the next Gordon Arthur Ransome Oration which will be held on 23 August 2013.

We are still a long way from our mark. Hence I wish to urge our Fellow Academicians to contribute and help perpetuate the legacy and teachings of Professor Ransome who embodies the highest standards of patient care and education.

To donate, please visit Gordon Arthur Ransome Oration at www.ams.edu.sg/gar.asp.

College of Physicians, Singapore - Medicine Review Course 2012
Once again, the College of Physicians, Singapore has put together an outstanding programme for the Medicine Review Course. The two-day programme, held on 8 to 9 September at the Khoo Teck Puat Hospital Tower B Auditorium, was well attended by 188 registered delegates.

Led by Dr Lau Tang Ching and members of his Organising Committee, the course wove in a rich mix of common and important topics in Internal Medicine, keeping fellow medical specialists and trainees abreast of the recent updates and important developments. The programme was further enhanced by the exceptional choice of speakers and topics for the Seah Cheng Siang Memorial Lecture and College of Physicians, Singapore Lecture.
NUS Medals and Prizes

It is also well-timed to note the Academy’s contribution towards medical education in the formative years. Since 1978, the Academy has endowed several NUS Medals and Prizes to inspire medical students, our doctors of tomorrow, to strive for the highest standard in academic excellence.

Please join me to congratulate the award recipients of Academic Year 2011/2012 on their outstanding achievements:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACADEMY OF MEDICINE MEDALS (since 1989)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chen Rong Hua Christine Faculty of Dentistry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jared Ryan Durnford Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wong Jie Jun Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
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<tr>
<th>GORDON ARTHUR RANSOME GOLD MEDAL (since 1978)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mok Shao Feng Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEAH CHENG SIANG MEDAL (since 1991)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mok Shao Feng Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

College of Dental Surgeons, Singapore Backs Water Fluoridation Policy

On 31 August 2012, the College of Dental Surgeons, Singapore responded in support of the Ministry of Health’s water fluoridation policy to be an ecologically safe and efficacious public health measure. The Academy and its Colleges will continue to be active in providing professional opinions to the Ministry of Health and the public.

Membership Drive

One of the top Academy’s priorities is to increase our fellowship and professional representation. One of the more influential catalysts to achieving this is you. I hope you can join us to call upon our non-Fellow specialists to join the Academy.

The practice of medicine and the interest and future of our specialties should be decided by specialists. A strong and well-represented Academy will be a more dominant body to advocate for our profession and to improve standards of medical care.

A stronger membership will also enable the Academy better critical mass to improve its membership benefits and privileges. Here is where you can find more information to interest your non-Fellow friends and colleagues to join: www.ams.edu.sg/join.asp

We can all make a difference for the Academy, our Fellows and our profession.

Prof Lim Shih Hui

INDUCTION COMITIA 2012

This year’s Induction Comitia saw a celebration of three significant events. It not only witnessed the annual conferment of new Fellows and the graduation of trainees under the Staff Registrar Scheme, but also the launch of the Gordon Arthur Ransome Oration Fundraising Campaign. Held on 23 August 2012 at the Health Promotion Board Auditorium, the event was graced by Minister of State for Health, Dr Amy Khor.

A total of 75 new Fellows were formally admitted into the Academy, the highest number since 2007. "Once a while, physicians need to reflect on why we chose to practise medicine, and how we should apply our skills. The Induction Comitia 2012 gave us a fresh and timely perspective of the long-standing tradition and history of our profession in Singapore. In the face of challenging times, the Comitia reminded the medical community to work together, irrespective of whether we are working in the private or public sector, to uphold the highest ethical standards of our profession and to do our very best for our patients," said Dr Wong Tien Yin from the College of Ophthalmologists. Dr Wong also led his fellow inductees for the pledge taking.

That evening also saw the graduation of 17 trainees who have successfully completed their diplomas under the Staff Registrar Scheme. They were graduates from the Diploma in Cardiothoracic Surgery, Diploma in Emergency Medicine, Diploma in Geriatric Medicine in Hospital and ILTC (Intermediate and Long Term Care), Diploma in Internal Medicine, Diploma in Neonatology, Diploma in Neurology, Diploma in Orthopaedic Surgery, Diploma in Paediatrics & Child Health, Advanced Diploma in Pathology and Diploma in Rehabilitation Medicine.

Jennifer Ang Abengana was awarded the F.J. Jayaratnam Book Prize by the Chapter of Geriatricians, College of Physicians for her outstanding performance under the Diploma in Geriatric Medicine in Hospital and ILTC (Intermediate and Long Term Care).

At the Induction Comitia, Dr Tan Kok Chai, Immediate Past Master of the Academy, was presented with a Past Master Medallion. A citation of Dr Tan was read by Dr Wong Kok Seng, Assistant Master (Academic Affairs), Master of the Academy. Dr Lim Shih Hui, presented the Past Master Medallion to Dr Tan as an appreciation for his leadership as Master of the Academy from 2010 to 2012.

The highlight of the evening was the launch of the Gordon Arthur Ransome Oration Fundraising Campaign – A Tribute to Gordon Arthur Ransome. The fundraising drive was led by Chairman of the committee, Dr V. Anantharaman.

The Gordon Arthur Ransome Oration was created in 1970 by friends and colleagues to honour the life, values and contribution of Professor Sir Gordon Arthur Ransome (1910 to 1978), who was the Founder Master of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore and is warmly regarded as the father of modern medicine in Singapore. The Oration, hallmark of the Academy, serves as the keynote address at the biennial Singapore-Malaysia Congress of Medicine. The Oration, a distinguished member of the medical profession or community, will be appointed by the Council of the Academy among nominations put forth by the Fellows.
What our new Fellows said...

“I feel honored and privileged in becoming Fellow of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore. Both my wife (also a doctor) and I are deeply touched by Sir Gordon Arthur Ransome’s inspiring life. My wife will hopefully be eligible for FAMS next year on completion of her specialist training. We both pledge to uphold our professional spirit and integrity according to Sir Gordon’s values and teachings.”

~ Dr Duncan Wong, College of Surgeons

“A truly memorable evening, with a particularly timely and poignant tribute to Professor Ransome, reminding us all of what it truly means to practise the Art of Medicine.”

~ Dr Darren Phua, College of Anaesthesiologists

“It was a proud moment for me and my family to be invited to the Comitia 2012 to receive my fellowship. The ceremony was extremely well organised and was a worthwhile experience for me and the other recipients. The address by the Minister, Dr Amy Khor, focussed on the new CPD programmes for the doctors which I am sure will give assurance to patients that their doctors are up to date and fit to practice. This Comitia gave me an opportunity to know about Sir Gordon Arthur Ransome and his contribution to the Academy of Medicine.

“It was a privilege and honour to receive the fellowship from the Master in the presence of the Minister and other dignitaries of the Academy. The function was indeed more special for me as my mother was able to attend despite her health-related problems and I am extremely grateful to the Academy for making this possible.”

~ Dr Suresh Chandran, College of Paediatrics and Child Health

GORDON ARTHUR RANSOME FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN

DONATION FORM

All donors who require tax deductions on their donations are required to provide their tax reference numbers (eg NRIC/PRN/UESN). IRAS will no longer accept claims on tax deductions based on donation receipts.

Donor’s Details:

Salutation (Prof, Dr, Ms, Mrs, Mr): ___________ NRIC/PRN/UESN:

Surname: _____________________________ Given Name: _____________________________

Address: _______________________________________________________________________
Post Code: ___________

Organisation: __________________________________________________________________

Email: ________________________________________________________________________

Telephone No.: ___________________ (home) ___________________ (office) ___________________ (mobile)

Donation:

1. I wish to donate to the “GORDON ARTHUR RANSOME ORATION FUND”
   - $100
   - $250
   - $500
   - $1,000 (Silver donor)
   - $5,000 (Gold donor)
   - $10,000 and above (Platinum donor) $__________ (please specify amount)

   *All Platinum, Gold and Silver donors will receive special recognition on the Academy’s website.

2. I would like to support the Academy for its work in advancing the “art and science of Medicine” and wish to make a donation of $__________ (please specify amount)

Mode of Donation:

- my cheque made payable to: ACADEMY OF MEDICINE, SINGAPORE

   (Bank: __________________ Cheque No: __________________)

- please charge my credit card: O VISA O MasterCard

   Card Number: __________________ Exp: __/____ (mm/yy) CVV No: ____________ (3-digit code at back of card)

   Name on Card: __________________

   Signature: __________________

Please mail cheque together with this form to:

Academy of Medicine, Singapore
81 Kim Keat Road, #11-00, NKF Centre, Singapore 328836

INDUCTION COMITIA 2012
Professional Opinions Expressed by The Academy and Its Colleges

EFFECTIVE MMR VACCINATION IN SINGAPORE

We refer to Andy Ho’s commentary (MMR vaccine: Shot in the dark?, 5 July 2012) which suggested the need to give a third dose of the MMR (mumps, measles and rubella) vaccine in order to prevent outbreaks of mumps infection in Singapore.

We are concerned that his commentary may erode public trust in our national childhood immunisation programme in Singapore.

Since December 2011, the Ministry of Health, Singapore, recommends that the first dose of the MMR vaccine be given at 12 months of age followed by the second dose at 15-18 months, in order to achieve higher protective antibody levels quicker. There is little scientific evidence currently to support the recommendation for a third dose. To our knowledge, giving the third dose is not recommended as part of any national childhood immunisation policy elsewhere in the world, including the United States.

Presence of immunity as measured by the antibody response to a vaccine differs from the protective efficacy from an actual infection. However, this is still generally accepted world-wide as a surrogate marker of vaccine efficacy.

Reasons for outbreaks despite adequate MMR vaccine coverage are multiple. These may include a minority of individuals who have not seroconverted after vaccination and those who have not been vaccinated with the recommended 2 doses. Outbreaks of mumps, measles and rubella remind us of the importance of strict compliance with our national childhood immunisation programme to achieve adequate herd immunity.

We strongly endorse our evidence-based national childhood immunisation programme, as we have seen a reduction in the incidence of mumps, measles and rubella since the inclusion of the MMR vaccine as part of our national immunisation programme.

On Behalf of the Academy of Medicine, Singapore:

• Dr David Lye
  Chairman, Chapter of Infectious Disease Physicians, College of Physicians, Singapore

• Dr Steven Ng
  President, College of Paediatrics & Child Health, Singapore

IN SUPPORT OF WATER FLUORIDATION AS AN ECOLOGICALLY SAFE AND EFFECTUAL PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURE

We write to support the reply by the Ministry of Health which confirms the safety and cost-effective measure of adding fluoride in low amounts to the drinking water.

Many countries unlike Singapore do not have the convenience of a centrally processed fluoride to which a measured quantity of fluoride can be added in amounts required for optimal effects in reducing caries and preserving teeth. Hence sometimes Fluoride which naturally occurs in the soil can be in greater concentrations than necessary especially when the water is recovered from sources in the depths of the earth like wells. However here in Singapore, because it is easy to control the addition of fluoride to water and regulate it in accordance with the oral health habits, diet and changing conditions of the oral health status of Singaporeans, we have managed to provide a labour saving and effective public health measure which has had a wide reach to all in the population regardless of their socio-economic position or status.

The constant monitoring of the fluoride has resulted in a cost-effective measure which has provided benefit to all. The major benefit happens when the optimally fluoridated water provides a protective local effect. This occurs as the fluoride in the water combines with other minerals present in saliva and is deposited on the surface of the tooth, strengthening it and preventing tooth decay. Hence the effect is topical and whatever amount of fluoride ingested when water is drunk is too minute to cause any systemic effect.

To remove such an easily organised and all-encompassing public health measure is tantamount to regressing in our fight against dental caries, especially now that other major risk factors like processed food which due to their very nature cause tooth decay are easily available.

Most parents living in Singapore, with their busy lifestyles, may not be able to closely monitor the oral health habits of their children and so the proper use of other fluoride options may not be available to them.

Research findings from reputable studies from the time fluoride was discovered has only shown beneficial effects of fluoride with no untoward effects when it was used in optimal amounts relevant to the environment, climate and conditions of living of the studied society.

• Dr Hemalatha Nathan
  Chapter Chairman of Public Health Dentists
  College of Dental Surgeons, Singapore

IN SUPPORT OF SCREENING MAMMOGRAPHY

We refer to the recent article by Andy Ho that questions the benefits of screening mammography (Hold that mammogram — it may not benefit all; 16 June 2012). There are several statements which require correction.

The article raises the possibility of overdiagnosis based on a study by Chay et al which suggested that a particular model for breast cancer risk assessment overestimates the risk in Asian women. This study is not relevant to population-based mammographic screening and should not be extrapolated to conclude that mammography is of no value.

The article states that cancers detected in women who undergo regular mammograms are likely to be ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS) which if left untreated, "generally doesn’t kill." This is not true. The majority of screen-detected cancers are invasive and not DCIS. DCIS is pre-invasive cancer. While some DCIS may be indolent, others do progress to invasive disease and can cause death. Because we cannot predict which will not become invasive, to assert that all DCIS need not be treated sends a dangerous and erroneous message.

It was mentioned that, "With widespread mammography, the number of cases caught at more advanced stages hasn’t dropped much at all, which a good screening test … should lead to." The essential fact in population-based screening is that at least 70% of the target population should undergo screening before the benefit of lower mortality is seen. In Singapore, the participation rate for screening is low. Of approximately 1,500 invasive breast cancers diagnosed annually, perhaps 15 to 20% of cases are detected by screening. The fact that we still have advanced cases does not mean mammography is no good but that not enough women go for screening.

The article states, "The sensible woman would … do regular breast self-examination (BSE) and see a doctor if any symptoms appear … For women with no family history and no symptoms, regular mammography may not be particularly useful." This is wrong. The only large trial of BSE showed that it was ineffective in reducing breast cancer deaths. A study by National Cancer Centre Singapore and Singapore General Hospital showed that breast cancers found through screening mammography had more favourable features compared to those discovered by women themselves. The screen-detected cancers were smaller, had not spread to the lymph nodes and required less treatment.

It is unfortunate that Andy Ho’s erroneous comments will only confuse the target population we are trying to save.


Academy of Medicine, Singapore’s Workgroup on Mammography:

• Dr Gregory Kaw, Dr Jill Wong, Dr Lester Leong
  Chapter of Diagnostic Radiologists, College of Radiologists, Singapore

• Dr Wong Nan Soon
  Chapter of Medical Oncologists, College of Physicians, Singapore

• Dr Ho Gay Hui, Dr Tan Yah Yuen
  Chapter of General Surgeons, College of Surgeons, Singapore

• Dr Tan Puay Hoon, Dr Jacqueline Hwang
  Chapter of Pathologists, Academy of Medicine, Singapore
Annals Gold Awards and Best Publication Awards

About a dozen reviewers and authors of the best published papers were honoured at the Annals Appreciation Dinner 2012 held on 24 July 2012 at the Mandarin Oriental Hotel. The reviewers and authors were presented with certificates by Dr Lim Shih Hui (Master, Academy of Medicine, Singapore) in recognition for their reviews and published papers in Annals in 2011.

Winners of the Annals, Academy of Medicine Best Publication Award are as follows:

- **Gold**
  - "Hormone Receptors and HE-R2 Status as Surrogates for Breast Cancer Molecular Subtypes Prognosticate for Disease Control in Node Negative Asian Patients Treated with Breast Conservation Therapy’ by Fuh Yong Wong, Francis KC Chin, Kuo Ann Lee, Yoke Lim Soong, Eu Tiong Chua

- **Silver**
  - "Normative Data for Quantitative Calcaneal Ultrasound in Asian Children’ by Siok Ying Goh, Jedeane Mendoza Aragon, Yung Seng Lee, Kah Yin Loke

- **Bronze**
  - "Thyroid Dysfunction and Long-term Outcome during and after Interferon-alpha Therapy in Patients with Chronic Hepatitis C’ byThemistoklis Vafiadis, Panagiotis Anagnostis, Georgios Nalpantidis, Konstantinos Soulietas, Kalopis Patsascura, Nikolaos Grammatikos, Eleni Orfanou-Koumerkeridou, Konstantinos Kargiotis, Aristidis Savakis, Aristidis Deliyiannidis, Nikolaos Eugenidis

AMS Organises Induction on Governance for Board Members

With the objective to equip its Board members with an induction training on board governance, the Academy held an in-house customised course for its Council as well as the Colleges’ Council and Chapters’ Committees on 22 September 2012. The course, entitled ‘Board Governance: An Induction Training for Board Members of Charities and IPCs’, was well-attended by 29 participants.

Among the topics covered on that Saturday afternoon were the definition of charity and its scope; and the duties and responsibilities of charity governing board members. Participants were also exposed to the various statutory returns and statutory records. In addition, they also learned the Code of Governance and the relevant legislations and regulations.

In-Training Examinations (ITE) - May to December 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>ITE Speciality</th>
<th>Name of ITE</th>
<th>ITE Provider</th>
<th>Date of Exam</th>
<th>Exam Format</th>
<th>No. of Candidates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Pathology</td>
<td>RISE</td>
<td>American Society of Clinical Pathologists</td>
<td>8 Sep 2012</td>
<td>Web-based Examination</td>
<td>15 Residents (NHG: 5, NUHS: 3, SHS: 7)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Psychiatry</td>
<td>PRITE</td>
<td>American College of Psychiatrists</td>
<td>27 Sep 2012</td>
<td>Paper Examination</td>
<td>17 Residents (NHG: 6, NUHS: 1, SHS: 10)</td>
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Staff Registrar Scheme (SRS) Diplomas - Call for Registration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Speciality</th>
<th>Call for Registration</th>
<th>Tentative Commencement Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Cardiology</td>
<td>Sep 2012</td>
<td>Nov 2012 (5th Intake)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Internal Medicine</td>
<td>3 to 28 Sep 2012</td>
<td>Nov 2012 (5th Intake)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Neonatology</td>
<td>Sep 2012</td>
<td>Nov 2012 (5th Intake)</td>
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<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Neurosurgery</td>
<td>Nov 2012</td>
<td>Mar 2013 (5th intake)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Paediatric Cancer Care</td>
<td>Sep 2012</td>
<td>Nov 2012 (2nd Intake)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Paediatrics and Child Health</td>
<td>Sep 2012</td>
<td>Nov 2012 (6th Intake)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Radiation Oncology</td>
<td>Sep 2012</td>
<td>Nov 2012 (2nd Intake)</td>
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Staff Registrar Scheme (SRS) Diplomas - Call for Registration

SRS Diploma in Emergency Medicine (DEM) Course

**Entry Interview for the 2012 6th Intake**

Convened on 5 April 2012 at the Lee Kong Chian Boardroom, Academy of Medicine, Singapore, the entry interview for the 6th intake of the SRS Diploma in Emergency Medicine course saw 11 potential candidates interviewed for the course. The interview panel comprised Dr Steven HC Lim (Programme Director), Dr V Anantharaman (Chapter Chairman), Dr Malcolm Mahadevan (Head, Emergency Department, National University Hospital) and Dr Kenneth Heng (Senior Consultant, Emergency Department, Tan Tock Seng Hospital).

**Practical Assessment of Clinical Examination Skills (PACES) Examination/Refset**

Three candidates of the 2010 4th intake and seven candidates of the 2011 5th intake sat for their final assessment examinations/semester 2 PACES on 28 April 2012 at Changi General Hospital in the presence of nine examiners.

**Teaching Sessions/6th Intake (May 2012 to March 2013)**

Candiates of the 2010 5th and the 2012 6th intakes attended the following modules:

- Toxicology (10 May 2012)
- Surgical (14 June 2012)
- Wound and Skin Infection (12 July 2012)
- Disaster/Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT)/Legal and Ethical (23 August 2012)
- Infection (13 September 2012)
Continuing Medical Education

Our Man at Everest – Challenges for Emergency Care

The Chapter held a session on the topic, ‘Our Man at Everest – Challenges for Emergency Care’, on 14 June 2012 at the Singapore General Hospital featuring the speaker, Dr Rasappan Kumaran, the first Singapore doctor to reach the summit of Mt Everest. The session was chaired by the Chapter’s chairman, Dr V Anantharaman.

Traditional Chinese Medicine Poisoning – The Critical Ones

Together with the Chapter of Emergency Physicians and the Toxology Society of Singapore, the Chapter organised a session on the topic, ‘Traditional Chinese Medicine Poisoning – The Critical Ones’, on 30 August 2012. Participants at the Lee Kong Chian Boardroom, Academy of Medicine, Singapore heard Dr Ricky Lau Fei Ling, the Director of Poison Information Centre, Hong Kong, speak on this topic. The session was chaired by the Chapter’s chairman, Dr V Anantharaman.

Workgroup on The State of Emergency Medical Care in Singapore

The workgroup has convened 12 meetings with its final meeting on 18 October 2012 at the National University Hospital. It plans to publish a White Position Paper, an Executive Summary and a coffee table book on ‘The State of Emergency Care in Singapore’ before the end of the year. An article may be submitted as a supplementary issue with the Annals, Academy of Medicine, Singapore.

Master of Medicine (Emergency Medicine) Examinations/ MCEM (UK) Part B & Part C Preparatory Course

Held from 23 to 28 July 2012, this successful course saw participation from the following hospitals:
- National University Hospital (23 July 2012)
- Tan Tock Seng Hospital (24 July 2012)
- Changi General Hospital (25 July 2012)
- Alexandra Hospital, Jurong Health Services (26 July 2012)
- Kandang Kerbau Women’s and Children’s Hospital (27 July 2012)
- Singapore General Hospital (28 July 2012)

Twenty candidates had registered for the course: seven Local Basic Specialist Trainees/Residents; six Local and seven Overseas Other Participants. The faculty comprised 10 lecturers and 45 Practical Assessment of Clinical Examination Skills (PACES) facilitators/examiners.

Continuing Medical Education

Beahavioral and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia

Together with the Department of Psychiatry at the Singapore General Hospital, the Chapter held a session on the topic, ‘Behavioral and Psychological Symptoms of Dementia’ on 18 July 2012. The session was chaired by the Chapter’s chairman, Dr Ng Beng Yeong and the speaker was Dr James Warner (Clinical Director, Older Adults Services, CNWL Foundation Trust; Honorary Reader in Psychiatry/Imperial College London, Institute of Psychiatry, England, London, UK).

New Knowledge of Bipolar Disorders and Advancement in Treatments

A/Prof Gerald A Maguire (Associate Professor of Clinical Psychiatry, Kirkup Endowed Chair in Stuttering Treatment, Department of Psychiatry; Senior Associate Dean, Medical Education, University of California, Irvine School of Medicine, Irvine, California, USA) spoke at a session on the topic, ‘New Knowledge of Bipolar Disorders and Advancement in Treatments’ on 20 July 2012. This session was organised by the Chapter and chaired by the Chapter’s chairman, Dr Ng Beng Yeong.

SRS Diploma in Psychiatry Course

The Chapter endorsed the proposal for the above course that was submitted by the Institute of Mental Health Singapore. It has been submitted to the Education and Training Department, Academy of Medicine, Singapore for approval.

Professional Opinion

The Chapter submitted its opinion to Tan Tock Seng Hospital for the Mental Capacity Assessment in the area of Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) and the Court Appointed Deputy through Dr Aaron Ang (Head and Consultant, Department of Psychological Medicine) to Dr Thomas Lew (Chairman, Medical Board).

Continuing Medical Education

Latest Developments in Body Dysmorphic Disorder & HIV-Associated Neurocognitive Disorders (HAND) in a Southeast Asian Population

Speaking on the topics, ‘Latest Developments in Body Dysmorphic Disorder’ and ‘HIV-Associated Neurocognitive Disorders (HAND) in a Southeast Asian Population’ were Dr David Veale (Consultant Psychiatrist, Maudsley Hospital; Visiting Senior Lecturer, Institute of Psychiatry, King’s College, England, London, UK) and Dr Chan Lai Gwen (Registrar, Department of Psychological Medicine, Tan Tock Seng Hospital) respectively. Held on 17 September 2012, the sessions were co-organised by the Department of Psychiatry at the Singapore General Hospital and the Chapter, with Dr Leslie EC Lim (Senior Consultant, Department of Psychiatry, Singapore General Hospital) serving as the chairperson.

College of Ophthalmologists

19th International Neuro-Ophthalmology Society Meeting 2012 (INOS)

The College, together with the Singapore National Eye Centre, Tan Tock Seng Hospital and National University Hospital organised the 19th International Neuro-Ophthalmology Society Meeting 2012 (INOS), which was held in conjunction with the 28th Singapore-Malaysia Joint Meeting in Ophthalmology from 15 to 18 June 2012 at Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, Singapore.

Topics covered at the meeting included the optic nerve, ocular motility, pupil, systemic disorders, imaging, and electrophysiology, among others. The scientific programme comprised 10 thematic sessions including ‘Unexplained Visual Loss’, ‘Degenerative Disorders’, oral and poster presentations. International experts from about 30 countries including the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Japan, India and Egypt had participated at the meeting.

For the concurrent 3rd College of Ophthalmologists’ Lectureship and Scientific Meeting which was also one of the highlights of the meeting, the College had invited Prof Neil Richard Miller from Johns Hopkins Hospital to deliver the lecture entitled, ‘Vascular Diseases in Neuro-Ophthalmology’ at the 28th Singapore-Malaysia Joint Meeting in Ophthalmology.
Paediatric Total Nutrition Therapy

The College organised the ‘Paediatric Total Nutrition Therapy’ with the Singapore Paediatric Society (SPS) and the Perinatal Society of Singapore (PSS). Held on 28 July and 4 August 2012 at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel Singapore, the event featured the following highlights:

**Topics of Lectures were:**
- Why Nutrition Matters in the 21st Century
- The Role of Early Nutrition on Brain Cognitive Development
- Bioactive and Functional Nutrients: Complementary Feeding in Childhood
- Feeding Difficulties in Children
- Nutritional Management of Chronic Medical Conditions and Impaired Gastrointestinal (GI) Function

**Speakers include:**
- Dr Marion Aw (Department of Paediatrics, National University Hospital)
- Dr Francisco Rosales/Dr Low Yen Ling (Abbott Nutrition Research & Development)
- Dr Yvonne Ng (Department of Neonatology, National University Hospital)
- Dr Chan Poh Chong (Senior Consultant and Head, Ambulatory and Adolescent Paediatrics, General Paediatrics, National University Hospital)
- Dr Chu Hui Ping (Consultant, Department of Paediatric Medicine, Kandang Kerbau Women’s and Children’s Hospital)
- Dr Nancy Tan (Consultant Paediatrician, SBCG Baby & Child Clinic, Gleneagles Medical Centre)

**Topics of Workshops were:**
- Oral Nutrition Supplementation in Paediatrics
- Childhood Obesity
- Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition Support
- Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition Support

7th College of Paediatrics and Child Health Lecture

The 7th College of Paediatrics and Child Health Lecture was held on 7 July 2012 at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel Singapore, in conjunction with the Inaugural Singapore Paediatric and Perinatal Annual Congress (ISPPAC). The 7th College lecturer was Prof Quak Seng Hock (Senior Consultant and Head, Division of Gastroenterology, Hepatology and Liver Transplantation, Department of Paediatrics, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore). He delivered a lecture on ‘Liver Transplantation, Department of Paediatrics, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore’. He delivered a lecture on ‘Liver Transplantation in Singapore Children: Past, Present and Future’. Prof Quak was presented with a plaque and honorarium from the College President, Dr Steven Ng.

Inaugural Singapore Paediatric and Perinatal Annual Congress

The College, together with the Singapore Paediatric Society (SPS) and the Perinatal Society of Singapore (PSS) organised the inaugural Singapore Paediatric and Perinatal Annual Congress (ISPPAC), which was held in conjunction with the 4th Singapore Paediatric Congress and Singapore Paediatric Nursing Congress at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, Singapore on 7 July 2012. The Congress attracted about 200 delegates, including paediatricians, neonatologists, students (medical/nursing), nurses, paramedical staff, residents and trainees. Six symposia sessions took place with a theme on ‘Integrated Care in Paediatric and Perinatal Medicine’.

**Topics of Workshops were:**
- Oral Poster Session
- Plenary Lecture
- Poster Session
- Plenary Lecture
- Poster Session

**Four merit prizes:**
- Mr Lee Ming Wei (Year 4 Student, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore) who presented a poster on ‘An Observational Study of Early Versus Late Term Infants’.
- Best Poster Award
- Mr Lee Ming Wei (Year 4 Student, Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore) who researched ‘A Retrospective Review of Mortality and Morbidity of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) Infection in Children Admitted to KK Women’s and Children’s Hospital’.
- Plaque presentation ceremony: Prof Quak Seng Hock (left) with Dr Steven Ng.

Effective Measles, Mump, Rubella (MMR) Vaccination in Singapore

The College had responded together with the Chapter of Infectious Disease Physicians, College of Physicians, Singapore through the Academy of Medicine, Singapore to the Straits Times on the above article written by Mr Andy Ho.
Medicine Review Course 2012

Being the 4th year that the College of Physicians, Singapore organised the Medicine Review Course, the organising committee had designed it with numerous topics from various specialties that were interesting, informative and innovative. It shared some new knowledge that participants could bring back and use to help in their patient care.

The College of Physicians, Singapore is committed to medical education, and advancement of the art and science of Internal Medicine and its specialties, and will continue to work at providing good and relevant educational programmes activities to support everyone’s needs.

This two-day programme was held on 8 to 9 September at the Auditorium, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital.

Highlights of the event included:

• 22nd Seah Cheng Siang Memorial Lecture
  ‘Renal Transplantation in Singapore: a historical perspective, controversies, challenges and future directions’ delivered by Prof A Vathsala, Head & Senior Consultant, National University Hospital.

• 9th College of Physicians, Singapore Lecture
  ‘Medical Education and Professional Training: Changing the Trajectory’ delivered by Prof C Rajasoorya, Senior Consultant, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital.

This year’s programme featured a wide range of topics covering the various specialties of Internal Medicine in the form of updates on new developments, topical reviews and approaches to management. They are relevant in the daily clinical practice where doctors strive to provide an evidence-based approach in their clinical care to patients. It was also important in helping the participants to keep abreast of new developments in medicine and refresh their knowledge in order to remain current in their practice, despite their busy schedules.

College of Surgeons 8th Dinner Lecture cum Annual Combined Surgical Meeting 2012 Opening Ceremony

In conjunction with the Annual Combined Surgical Meeting 2012 Opening Ceremony, the College held its 8th College Dinner on 3 August 2012 at Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, Singapore with the Minister of Health, Gan Kim Yong, as the Guest of Honour, in attendance.

Highlights of the event included:

• 8th College of Surgeons Lectureship delivered by Dr Saw Huat Song, cardiothoracic surgeon, on the topic ‘Surgery beyond Scallops’.

• 17th Yahya Cohen Memorial Lectureship/ 17th Yahya Cohen Memorial Lecture Award presented to Dr Edmund Chiong, urologist, for his winning paper, ‘NRAMP1 and hGPX1 Gene Polymorphism and Response to Bacillus Calmette-Guerin Therapy for Bladder Cancer’.

• College of Surgeons Gold Medal Award 2012 presented to the best performing advanced surgical trainees in the exit examinations 2011/2012 – Dr Han Hong Juan (for Otorhinolaryngology); Dr Antony Gardner (for Orthopaedic Surgery); and Dr Koh Piay Theng, Tina (for Cardiothoracic Surgery).

• Medicine Review Course 2012 was well attended by doctors, medical students and registrars.

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CHAPTER OF GENERAL SURGEONS

5th Exit Examination Preparatory Course

Eight trainees attended the 5th Exit Examination Preparatory Course between 26 and 29 June 2012 at National University Hospital, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital, Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Changi General Hospital and Singapore General Hospital. The course was convened by Dr Stephen Chang.

Annual Combined Surgical Meeting 2012

After an absence of about a decade, the Chapter held the Annual Combined Surgical Meeting 2012 on 4 August 2012 at Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, Singapore, bringing together surgeons of all specialties to a national meeting in an atmosphere of education, exchange of ideas and fostering camaraderie in the surgical fraternity.

The theme of the meeting was ‘Surgical Sub-specialisation: A New Paradigm in Singapore’ and a notable highlight was the delivery of the keynote lecture by Dr Raj Mohan Nambiar on the topic, ‘Future Implications of Surgical Training – The Impact of Subspecialty Practice’. Participants at the event presented their research presentations and took part in resident’s debate comprising teams from three different clusters (Colorectal; Endoscopic and Laparoscopic; and Obesity and Metabolic).

CHAPTER OF HAND SURGEONS

Hand, Wrist and Distal Radius Cadaveric Workshop

The Chapter organised the Hand, Wrist and Distal Radius Cadaveric Workshop from 2 to 3 August 2012 at the National University Hospital and Singapore General Hospital. Helmed by organising chairman, Dr Vincent Tay, the well-attended workshop aimed to impart skills on implant procedures and knowledge on the various approaches for each procedure.

4th Chapter Dinner Lecture

At the Chapter’s 4th Dinner Lecture that was held on 2 August 2012 at Sheraton Towers, Prof Alexander Shin, (consultant at Mayo Clinic Division of Hand Surgery and programme director of the Hand Surgery fellowship programme in Mayo Clinic) spoke on the topic, ‘History of Hand Surgery at Mayo Clinic’. Prof Shin is also the education chair of the American Society of Surgery of the Hand and was the 2004 to 2005 Sterling Bunnell travelling fellow.

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

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