



SMC CIRCULAR NO. 3/2022 [SMC 1.1]

1 July 2022

All Registered Medical Practitioners

## COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEDICAL REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) ACT 2020

This circular seeks to inform all registered medical practitioners of:

- a) the commencement of the Medical Registration (Amendment) Act 2020 on <u>1 July</u> **2022**; and
- b) the establishment of the Disciplinary Commission and its members.

## Background and Changes

The Medical Registration (Amendment) Bill ("amended MRA") was passed in Parliament in October 2020. The Singapore Medical Council ("SMC") and the Ministry of Health ("MOH") have since been working with various stakeholders on the transition and operationalisation of the new processes under the amended MRA, for the amended MRA to come into force on 1 July 2022.

A flowchart with an overview of the revised medical disciplinary process is in **Appendix 1**.

3 With the commencement, complaints filed with the SMC, or referred directly to the Disciplinary Commission ("DC") by the SMC, on or after 1 July 2022, will follow the new processes under the amended MRA.

## Establishment of the Disciplinary Commission

- 4 Under the amended MRA, the Minister for Health may appoint a DC, which will be responsible for appointing and overseeing the procedures and processes of the Disciplinary Tribunals ("DTs"). The formation of a new DC addresses concerns about the perceived lack of independence of the DTs that are currently appointed by the SMC by ensuring that there is a clear separation of investigation-prosecution and adjudication functions.
- MOH has appointed a pro tem DC to work through the transition from the old MRA to the amended MRA. The President and members of the pro tem DC, will be formally appointed as the President and Members of the DC on 1 July 2022.

The President and Members of the DC are as listed below, for information:

Name	Designation
Prof Lee Eng Hin (President)	Emeritus Consultant, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, National University Hospital
Prof Walter Tan Tiang Lee	Medical Director and Consultant Plastic Surgeon, Raffles Hospital
Prof Sonny Wang Yee Tang	Emeritus Consultant, Respiratory & Critical Care Medicine, Tan Tock Seng Hospital
Mr Thio Shen Yi, SC	Joint Managing Partner TSMP Law Corporation
Mr Christopher Tan Pheng Wee	Deputy Presiding Judge / Registrar State Courts

- Together with the establishment of the DC, the DC website, accessible via <a href="https://www.dc.gov.sg">www.dc.gov.sg</a>, will also be launched on 1 July 2022.
- 7 MOH and SMC appreciate the support given by the medical community and other stakeholders towards the strengthening of the medical disciplinary process.
- 8 For any clarification on the disciplinary process, please email SMC at <a href="mailto:smc@spb.gov.sg">smc@spb.gov.sg</a>; and DC at <a href="mailto:secretariat@dc.gov.sg">secretariat@dc.gov.sg</a> for any queries on the DC.

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