



TRADITIONAL
CHINESE
MEDICINE
PRACTITIONERS
BOARD

**ANNUAL REPORT
2016**

Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board Annual Report 2016

CONTENTS

| | Page |
|---|------|
| Chairman’s Foreword | 2 |
| Members of the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board | 4 |
| Committees | 7 |
| Registration of TCM Practitioners | 10 |
| Continuing Professional TCM Education | 16 |
| Complaints and Inquiries | 17 |
| Financial Report..... | 23 |

Chairman's Foreword

It has been a busy year for the TCM Practitioners Board in implementing policy and processes required under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act.

This report provides a useful overview of activities undertaken by the Board in fulfilling its objective of protecting the safety of patients by ensuring proper registration of TCM practitioners, and good standards of TCM practice.

Appointment of New Board Members

In January 2016, the Board welcomed Mrs Koh Juat Jong to the Board. Mrs Koh, a senior lawyer and former judge, was appointed as a new Board member by the Minister for Health.

Mr Ang Liang and Ms Kwek Mei Lin retired as Board members in April 2016. The Board would like to thank both of them for their invaluable contributions as Board members for the past 9 years. TCM Physicians Mr See Long Hian and Ms Tan Siew Buoy were appointed by the Minister for Health to fill the 2 vacancies. The Board looks forward to the support and contributions of Mr See and Ms Tan in the years to come.

Register of TCM Physicians and Acupuncturists

As at 31 December 2016, a total of 3,115 TCM practitioners is registered with the Board, with 2,868 registered as TCM physicians (amongst these, 1,154 is also registered as acupuncturists) and 247 registered as acupuncturists. Compared to 5 years ago, where the total number was 2,679, there is now a 16.3% increase or 436 more TCM practitioners registered with the Board.

Registration Examination

The passing rate for the 2016 Singapore TCM-Physicians Registration Examination had dropped compared to previous years. Of the 194 candidates who sat for the examination, only 77 passed, with a passing rate of 39.7%. The Board had notified the TCM Colleges of the results and performance of the students. Many of the students failed in the clinical appraisal papers. The TCM Colleges need to look into improving the standards of clinical teaching.

Continuing Professional TCM Education

The Continuing Professional TCM Education (CPE) Programme continued as a voluntary programme in the year 2016. The Board will implement a compulsory CPE Programme for TCM practitioners once the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act has been amended and passed in Parliament. The Board would like to encourage more registered TCM practitioners attending the CPE training to upgrade their professional knowledge and practice.

Professional Conduct

There was a decrease in the number of official complaints received from 8 cases in 2012 to 4 cases in 2016. Of the 4 complaints received in 2016, only one was referred to the Investigation Committee. Although the number of complaints seem to have gone down in the past 2 to 3 years, the Board would like to remind TCM practitioners to always maintain a high standard of practice and adhere to the “Ethical Code and Ethical Guidelines for TCM Practitioners”.

Study Visit

In 2016, a study visit was made to the Beijing University of Chinese Medicine and Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine. The purposes of the visit were to have a better understanding on the latest developments on the regulation of TCM practitioners, TCM clinical training and the TCM examinations in China.

I would like to express my appreciation to all the Board members and TCM physicians who serve in the various committees, and the volunteers who have contributed selflessly your valuable time and effort to the profession.

I would also like to thank Board staff and secretariat for their hard work and dedication to Board activities over the last year.

Mrs Yu-Foo Yee Shoon

Chairman

TCM Practitioners Board

Members of the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board



Mrs Yu-Foo Yee Shoon
Chairman
主席符喜泉女士



Prof Ng Han Seong
Registrar
注册官吴汉昇教授/医生



Prof Lim Shih Hui
委员林诗晖教授/医生



Prof Kam Chan Hin
委员甘燦兴教授



Mr Fong Cheng Ek
委员冯增益医师



Mr Seow Ser Fatt
委员萧士发医师



Mrs Koh Juat Jong
委员韓月榕女士



Ms Tan Siew Buoy
委员陈秋梅医师



Mr See Long Hian
委员施龙现医师

Committees

TCM Practitioners Board was assisted by the following Committees:

Academic Committee

The Academic Committee assesses and approves TCM courses for the purpose of registration of TCM practitioners.

| | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| Chairman: | Mr Teo Eng Kiat | 赵英杰医师 |
| Members: | Prof Kam Chan Hin Ms Fan Xuyang Mr Geng Man Mr Tan Ooh Chye Ms Tan Siew Buoy Ms Zhao Yan | 甘燦兴教授 范旭阳医师 耿满先生 陈有才医师 陈秋梅医师 赵雁医师 |

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee carries out internal audit on the Board's revenue and expenses.

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Chairman: | Mr See Long Hian | 施龙现医师 |
| Members: | Mr Fong Cheng Ek Ms Tan Siew Buoy | 冯增益医师 陈秋梅医师 |

Complaints Committee

The Complaints Committee reviews all complaints received and makes recommendations to the Board.

| | | |
|-----------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Chairman: | Mdm Koh Hin Ling | 许杏莲医师 |
| Members: | Mr Gu Falong A/Prof Koo Wen Hsin Ms Lee Yuh Chin Mr Lee Chow Soon | 顾法隆医师 顾汶星副教授/医生 李郁珍医师 李昭森先生 |

Continuing Professional TCM Education Committee

The Continuing Professional TCM Education (CPE) Committee reviews the structure of CPE for registered TCM practitioners, including the scope of CPE; the points assessment system for CPE events/activities; and the accreditation criteria of CPE events/ activities and CPE event providers.

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------|-------|
| Chairman: | Mr Fong Cheng Ek | 冯增益医师 |
| Members: | (From 5 May 2016) | |
| | Mr Lau Kah Yong | 刘嘉扬医师 |
| | Mr Liew Siaw Foo | 刘少夫医师 |
| | Mr Ong Poh Hong | 王保方医师 |
| | Mr Tan Siew Mong | 陈秀蒙医师 |
| | Mr Yong Choon Lian | 杨竣联医师 |
| | (Till 31 Mar 2016) | |
| | Mr Chew Say Yeow | 周世耀医师 |
| | Mr Gen Man | 耿满先生 |
| | Mr Kok Choon Siong | 郭俊祥医师 |
| | Mr Lim Chui Seng | 林水成医师 |
| | Mr Seow Ser Fatt | 萧士发医师 |
| | Ms Tan Siew Buoy | 陈秋梅医师 |
| | Mr Zhang Aiping | 张爱平医师 |
| | Mr Zhong Weiliang | 仲伟梁医师 |

Credentials Committee

The Credentials Committee reviews all applications for registration.

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------|-------|
| Chairman: | Mr Seow Ser Fatt | 萧士发医师 |
| Members: | Mr Chan Peng Chong | 陈炳忠医师 |
| | Mr Koh Chin Aik | 许振益医师 |
| | Mdm Koh Hin Ling | 许杏莲医师 |
| | Ms Tan Choy Tip | 谭翠蝶医师 |

Ethics Committee

The Ethics Committee reviews ethical matters in TCM practice.

| | | |
|-----------|-------------------|----------|
| Chairman: | Mr Ng Cheong Kim | 黄种钦医师 |
| Members: | Prof Ng Han Seong | 吴汉昇教授/医生 |
| | Mr Liew Siaw Foo | 刘少夫医师 |

Examinations Committee

The Examinations Committee plans and conducts qualifying examinations for the registration of TCM practitioners. A panel of examiners, including foreign external examiners, is appointed to assist the Examinations Committee in the conduct of qualifying examinations.

| | | |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------------------------|
| Chairman: | Ms Kwek Mei Lin | 郭美伶医师 |
| Dy Chairman: | Ms Tan Siew Buoy | 陈秋梅医师 |
| Members: | Mr Chan Peng Chong Ms Cui Shuli Ms Dong Jingjing Mr Gu Falong | 陈炳忠医师 崔淑丽医师 董菁菁医师 顾法隆医师 |
| Working Sub-Group Members: | Mr Ng Wan Hin Ms Ong Zhi Lin, Melissa Ms Tan Xiao Tian, Anne | 吴万兴医师 王稚琳医师 陈晓恬医师 |

Health Committee

The Health Committee reviews complaints relating to the physical or mental fitness of registered TCM practitioners, and makes recommendations to the Board on the fitness to practise.

| | | |
|-----------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Chairman: | Dr Chris Cheah Hean Aun | 谢宪安医生 |
| Members: | Mr Seow Ser Fatt Mr Liew Siaw Foo | 萧士发医师 刘少夫医师 |

Registration of TCM Practitioners

New Registration of TCM Physicians

In the year 2016, 208 applications for registration were received by the Board. Of the 208 applicants, 77 were newly registered TCM physicians who obtained full registration upon passing the Singapore TCM-Physicians Registration Examination.

New Registration of Acupuncturists

Two applications for extension/renewal of conditional registration were received in 2016, and both applications were approved by the Board.

Number of Registered TCM Practitioners in 2016

As at 31 Dec 2016, there were a total of 3,115 registered TCM practitioners in Singapore. 2,868 were registered as TCM physicians where 1,154 were also registered as acupuncturists, and 247 were registered as acupuncturists only.

As compared to 3,057 in 2015, the number of registered TCM practitioners had increased by 58 or 1.9%.

The breakdown of registered TCM practitioners by type of registration, nationality and TCM qualification is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Registered TCM Practitioners by Type of Registration, TCM Qualification and Nationality as at 31 Dec 2016

| Type of TCM Practitioners 中医执业者的类别 | Local TCM Qualification 本地中医学学历 | | | Foreign ¹ TCM Qualification 外国中医学学历 | | | No Formal TCM Qualification 没有正规中医学学历 | | | Total 总数 | | Total 总数 |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---|--------------------------|---------------------|--|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| | Singaporean 新加坡人 | Non-Singaporean 非新加坡人 | Sub - Total 部分总数 | Singaporean 新加坡人 | Non-Singaporean 非新加坡人 | Sub - Total 部分总数 | Singaporean 新加坡人 | Non-Singaporean 非新加坡人 | Sub - Total 部分总数 | Singaporean 新加坡人 | Non-Singaporean 非新加坡人 | |
| TCM Physicians² 中医师 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Full Registration 正式注册 | 1,755 | 265 | 2,020 | 535 | 144 | 679 | 150 | 19 | 169 | 2,440 | 428 | 2,868 |
| Conditional Registration 有条件注册 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total 总数 | 1,755 | 265 | 2,020 | 535 | 144 | 679 | 150 | 19 | 169 | 2,440 | 428 | 2,868 |
| Acupuncturists³ 针灸师 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Full Registration 正式注册 | 180 | 9 | 189 | 12 | 5 | 17 | 36 | 3 | 39 | 228 | 17 | 245 |
| Conditional Registration 有条件注册 | - | 2 | 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 2 |
| Total 总数 | 180 | 11 | 191 | 12 | 5 | 17 | 36 | 3 | 39 | 228 | 19 | 247 |

¹ Includes those graduated from Nanyang Technological University, Singapore College of TCM or Institute of Chinese Medical Studies and awarded with recognised TCM bachelor degree from universities in China
包括那些毕业于南洋理工大学、新加坡中医学院或中医学研究院并荣获受认可的中国大学所颁发的中医学学士学位

² Includes those also registered as acupuncturists 包括那些同时注册为针灸师者

³ Refers to those registered only as acupuncturists 只注册为针灸师者

Table 2 shows the breakdown of registered TCM practitioners by selected characteristics (gender, ethnic group, nationality, age and TCM qualification).

Table 2: Selected Characteristics of Registered TCM Practitioners as at 31 Dec 2016

| Characteristics 特点 | TCM Physicians ¹ 中医师 | | Acupuncturists ² 针灸师 | |
|---|------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| | Number 人数 | % | Number 人数 | % |
| Gender 性别 | | | | |
| Male 男性 | 1,344 | 46.9 | 157 | 63.6 |
| Female 女性 | 1,524 | 53.1 | 90 | 36.4 |
| Ethnic Group 种族 | | | | |
| Chinese 华人 | 2,863 | 99.8 | 235 | 95.1 |
| Malay 马来人 | - | - | 2 | 0.8 |
| Indian 印度人 | 1 | 0.0 | 5 | 2.0 |
| Others 其他 | 4 | 0.2 | 5 | 2.1 |
| Nationality 国籍 | | | | |
| Singapore citizen 新加坡公民 | 2,440 | 85.1 | 228 | 92.3 |
| Malaysia citizen 马来西亚公民 | 152 | 5.3 | 7 | 2.8 |
| People's Republic of China citizen 中国公民 | 208 | 7.3 | 5 | 2.0 |
| Others 其他 | 68 | 2.3 | 7 | 2.9 |
| Age 年龄 | | | | |
| Under 30 years | 223 | 7.8 | - | - |
| 30-39 years | 206 | 7.2 | 14 | 5.7 |
| 40-49 years | 493 | 17.2 | 54 | 21.9 |
| 50-59 years | 872 | 30.4 | 90 | 36.4 |
| 60-69 years | 730 | 25.5 | 52 | 21.1 |
| 70-79 years | 292 | 10.2 | 27 | 10.9 |
| 80 years & above | 52 | 1.7 | 10 | 4.0 |
| TCM Qualifications 中医学历 | | | | |
| Bachelor Degree 专业学士学位 | 596 | 20.8 | 4 | 1.6 |
| Graduate Certificate 专业毕业证书 | 165 | 5.8 | - | - |
| Graduate Diploma 学士后专业证书 | - | - | 38 | 15.4 |
| Diploma 大专专业证书 | 1,809 | 63.1 | 113 | 45.7 |
| Certificate 专业证书 | 129 | 4.5 | 53 | 21.5 |
| No formal qualification 没有正规学历 | 169 | 5.8 | 39 | 15.8 |
| Place of Training 培训地点 | | | | |
| Local Trained (Singapore) 本地培训 (新加坡) | 2,497 | 87.1 | 191 | 77.3 |
| Foreign Trained (Other countries) 外国培训 (其他国家) | 202 | 7.0 | 17 | 6.9 |
| No Formal Training 没有正规培训 | 169 | 5.9 | 39 | 15.8 |
| Total 总数 | 2,868 | 100 | 247 | 100 |

¹ Includes those TCM physicians also registered as acupuncturists 包括那些同时注册为针灸师者

² Refers to those registered only as acupuncturists 只注册为针灸师者

Table 3 shows the number of registered TCM practitioners by practice status and principal place of practice.

Table 3: Registered TCM Practitioners by Practice Status and Principal Place of Practice as at 31 Dec 2016

| Characteristics 特点 | TCM Physicians ¹ 中医师 | | Acupuncturists ² 针灸师 | |
|---|------------------------------------|------------|------------------------------------|------------|
| | Number 人数 | % | Number 人数 | % |
| Practice Status 执业情况 | | | | |
| Practising full time 全职 | 1,298 | 45.3 | 102 | 41.3 |
| Practising part time 兼职 | 943 | 32.9 | 44 | 17.8 |
| Temporarily not practising 暂不执业 | 307 | 10.7 | 31 | 12.6 |
| Not practising ³ 不执业 | 320 | 11.1 | 70 | 28.3 |
| Principal Place of Practice 主要执业地点 | | | | |
| Western Hospital 医院 | 17 | 0.6 | 24 | 9.7 |
| Polyclinic 综合诊所 | - | - | 1 | 0.4 |
| Western Clinic 西医诊所 | 1 | 0.0 | 48 | 19.4 |
| TCM clinic (including Chinese medicine shop) 中医诊所(包括药材店) | 1,234 | 43.0 | 41 | 16.6 |
| Charitable TCM clinic 慈善中医诊所 | 704 | 24.5 | 1 | 0.4 |
| Educational Institution 教育机构 | 24 | 0.8 | - | - |
| Home 在家执业 | 201 | 7.0 | 22 | 8.9 |
| Others 其他 | 60 | 2.1 | 9 | 3.6 |
| Not practising ³ / Temporarily not practising 不执业 / 暂不执业 | 627 | 22.0 | 101 | 41.0 |
| Total 总数 | 2,868 | 100 | 247 | 100 |

¹ Includes those also registered as acupuncturists 包括那些同时注册为针灸师者

² Refers to those registered only as acupuncturists 只注册为针灸师者

³ Not practising due to non-renewal of practising certificates 由于没有更新执业准证所以不执业

Renewal of Practising Certificates

In the year 2016, 63 TCM practitioners did not renew the practising certificates. Table 4 shows the reasons for non-renewal of practising certificates.

Table 4: Reasons for Non-renewal of Practising Certificates by Type of Registration

| Reasons for Non-Renewal/Suspension of Practising Certificate 没有更新/吊销执业准证的理由 | Full Registration 正式注册 | Conditional Registration 有条件注册 | Total 总数 | % |
|---|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------|------------|
| Upon request from TCM practitioners due to various reasons (studying overseas, retired, etc) 中医执业者因外国留学, 退休等理由而提出不更新 | 44 | - | 44 | 69.8 |
| No response from TCM practitioners 中医执业者没有回应 | 9 | - | 9 | 14.3 |
| Resignation or non-renewal/termination of employment contract 辞职或没有更新/终止聘雇合约 | - | 7 | 7 | 11.1 |
| Deceased 逝世 | 3 | - | 3 | 4.8 |
| Practising Certificates not renewed in 2016 2016 年到期却没有更新的执业准证 | 56 | 7 | 63 | 100 |

Singapore TCM-Physicians Registration Examination (STRE)

The 2016 STRE was conducted on 4 to 9 October. A total of 194 candidates (143 new candidates and 51 repeat) sat for the STRE. 77 out of the 194 candidates passed the 2016 STRE with an overall passing rate of 39.7%.

The breakdown of the 143 new candidates by type of TCM qualifications is shown in Table 5.

Table 5: New Candidates by TCM qualifications

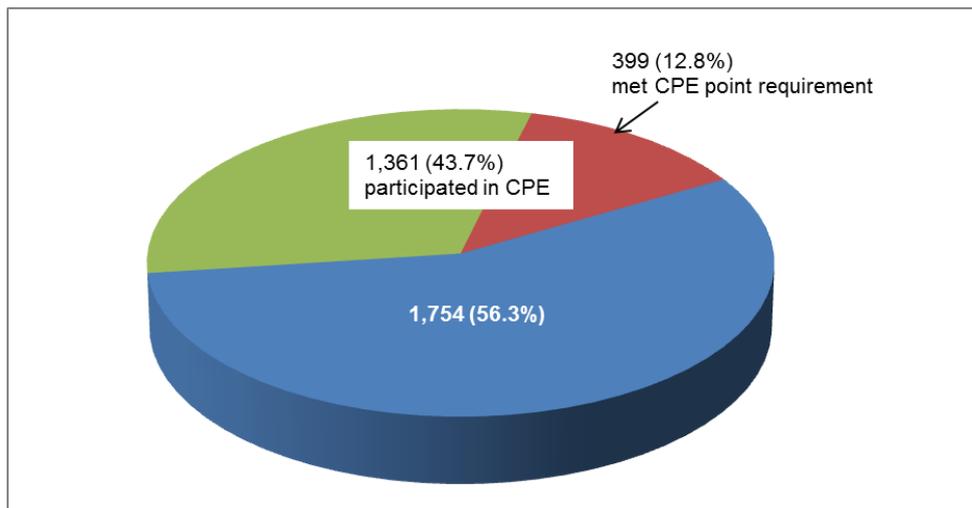
| TCM Qualifications 中医学学历 | Number 人数 |
|--|------------|
| Nanyang Technological University's Double Degree Programme with the Bachelor Degree in Chinese Medicine awarded by the Beijing University of Chinese Medicine 南洋理工大学与北京中医药大学联办的双学位课程（中医专业学士学位） | 30 |
| 5-year full-time TCM Bachelor Degree /Graduate Certificate Course jointly conducted by Singapore College of TCM and Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine 新加坡中医学院与广州中医药大学联办的 5 年全日制中医专业学士学位 /毕业证书课程 | 39 |
| 7-year part-time TCM Bachelor Degree /Graduate Certificate Course jointly conducted by Singapore College of TCM and Guangzhou University of Chinese Medicine 新加坡中医学院与广州中医药大学联办的 7 年部分时间制中医专业学士学位 /毕业证书课程 | 63 |
| 7-year part-time TCM Bachelor Degree /Graduate Certificate Course jointly conducted by Institute of Chinese Medical Studies and Beijing University of Chinese Medicine 中医学研究院与北京中医药大学联办的 7 年部分时间制中医专业学士学位 /毕业证书课程 | 7 |
| Foreign TCM qualifications 外国中医学学历 | 4 |
| Total 总数 | 143 |

Continuing Professional TCM Education

The TCM Practitioners Board has implemented the Voluntary Continuing Professional TCM Education (CPE) Programme since Jan 2013 to encourage registered TCM practitioners to learn and update the relevant professional knowledge.

In 2016, a total of 201 training events were conducted by the accredited training organisations. 1,361 or 43.7% of the registered TCM practitioners had participated in the training events and 399 or 12.8% of them met or exceeded the CPE point requirement.

Figure 1: TCM Practitioners that participated in Voluntary CPE Programme in 2016

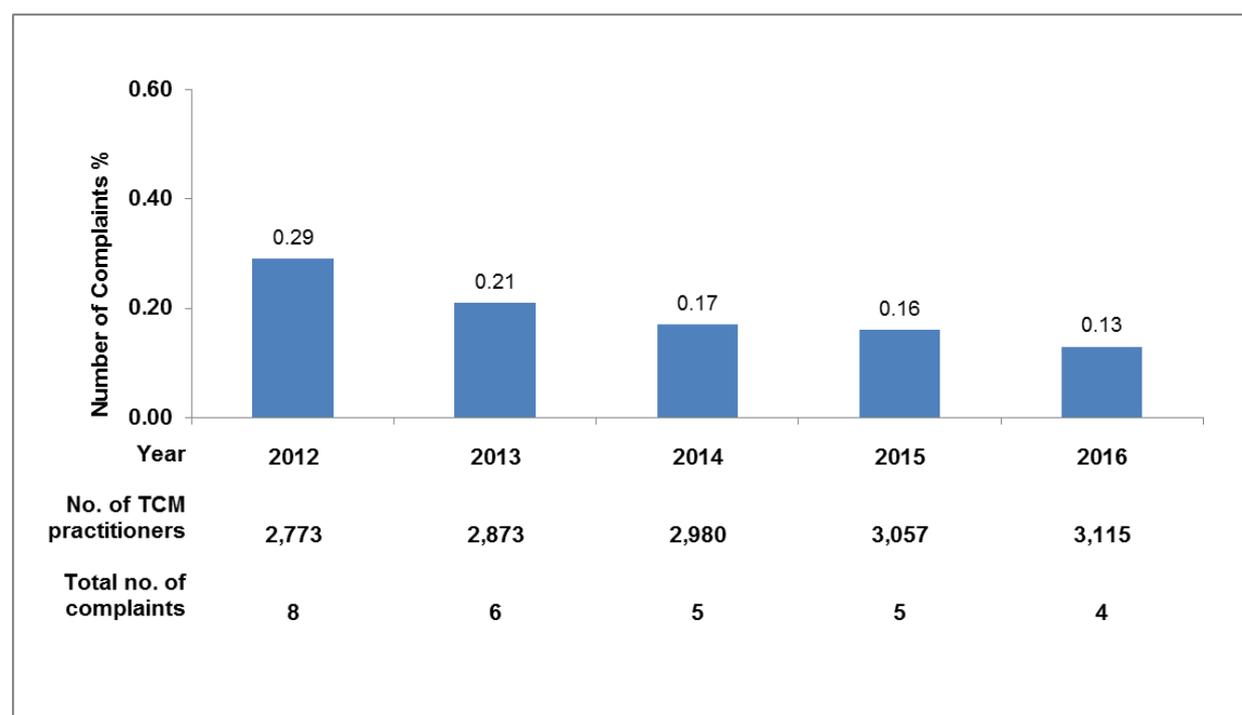


Complaints and Inquiries

In 2016, the Board received 4 new complaints against registered TCM practitioners. All the 4 complaints were supported with statutory declarations from patients or the next-of-kin.

The number of complaints received by the Board from 2012 to 2016 is shown in Figure 2.

Figure 2: Complaints Received by the TCM Practitioners Board (2012-2016)



The Board also looked into 2 complaints carried from 2015. Among the 6 cases dealt with by the Board in 2016, 4 cases were referred to the Investigation Committee, and 5 cases were adjourned to 2017.

Table 6 Complaints Considered by the TCM Practitioners Board in 2016

| Nature of Complaint 投诉的性质 | Complaints received in 2016 2016年收到的投诉 | Complaints carried over from 2015 2015年未完成处理的投诉 | Outcome 结果 | | | | | |
|---|---|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|---|--------------------------------|
| | | | No formal inquiry 无正式听审会 | | | | Referred to Investigation Committee 提交给调查组 | Adjourned to 2017 展延到 2017年 |
| | | | Withdrawn 收回投诉 | No further Action 不采取行动 | Letter of Advice 发出劝导信 | Letter of Warning 发出警告信 | | |
| Professional negligence / Incompetence 专业上的疏忽/不称职 (including misdiagnosis, inappropriate treatment, etc) (包括诊断错误、不适当的医治等) | 3 | 2 | | | | | 1 | 4 |
| Professional misconduct 专业行为不当 (including rude/abusive behaviour, outrage of modesty, illegal assembly etc) (包括辱骂或无礼的行为、非礼病人、非法聚会等) | 1 | | | | | | | 1 |
| Inappropriate professional advice/information 不适当的专业指导/信息 | | | | | | | | |
| Inappropriate/ excessive prescription/ dispensing of Chinese medicines 不恰当处方/配给中药 | | | | | | | | |
| Prescribing / dispensing / use of western medicines 开方/配给/采用西药 | | | | | | | | |
| Criminal conviction 犯刑事罪 | | | | | | | | |
| Other 其他 | | | | | | | | |
| Total 总数 | 4 | 2 | | | | | 1 | 5 |

In addition, the Board received 14 complaints against registered TCM practitioners from other agencies and members of the public without the support of the statutory declaration in 2016. They were advised to submit complaints with the support of statutory declaration, but they did not do so.

The Board also received 4 complaints on suspected illegal TCM practice by non-registered persons. After conducting initial investigation, the matters were subsequently referred to the Ministry of Health's Surveillance & Enforcement Branch for further investigation and action.

Disciplinary Inquiries

The Investigation Committees conducted 4 inquiry hearings in 2016. Table 7 gives the nature of the complaints and the decisions made on these inquiries.

Table 7: Inquiries Conducted by the TCM Practitioners Board in 2016

| Nature of Complaint 投诉的性质 | Inquiries held in 2016 2016 年听审会 | Suspension, Censure and Undertaking 吊销执业准证、给予警戒和书面承诺 | Suspension, Fine, and Censure 吊销执业准证、罚款和给予警戒 | Cancellation 撤销注册 |
|--|-------------------------------------|---|---|----------------------|
| Professional negligence/incompetence 专业上的疏忽/不称职 | 1 | | 1 | |
| Inappropriate professional advice/information 不适当的专业指导/信息 | 1 | | 1 | |
| Criminal conviction 犯刑事罪 | 2 | 1 | | 1 |
| Total 总数 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 1 |

One of the inquiry hearings against a registered TCM physician was concluded in Jul 2016, and the registered TCM physician filed an appeal to the High Court against the findings of the Investigation Committee as well as the Board's decision to suspend him for a period of 3 years and impose financial penalty of \$10,000.

At the High Court hearing, the High Court Judge decided to set aside the decision of the Board on the ground that one of the members of the Investigation Committee had apparent bias during the inquiry hearing. The Board subsequently made an application to the High Court for a rehearing of the complaint.

The High Court Judge had ordered a re-hearing of the complaint against the TCM physician, and a fresh Investigation Committee was to be constituted, comprising entirely new members. The Board would appoint a new legal assessor to give legal advice to the fresh Investigation Committee.

A brief account of the other inquiries conducted in 2016 is given below.

Case 1

1. A complaint was lodged against Mdm Wu Liping by the father of one of her patients. The patient was a 15-year old girl who had consulted Mdm Wu after having missed her menstruation for 5 months.
2. An inquiry was conducted by an Investigation Committee, and the Committee found that:
 - (a) The treatment that the patient sought from Mdm Wu on 11 Apr 2015 and 18 Apr 2015 was for her medical condition of not having her menstruation for the past 5 months.
 - (b) Mdm Wu had failed to conduct an adequate or sufficient clinical examination and medical history taking of the patient.
 - (c) Mdm Wu had also failed to consider and eliminate the possibility that the patient could have been pregnant, given her condition at the time of the consultations.
 - (d) Mdm Wu had misdiagnosed the patient's condition as hormonal imbalance when, in actual fact, the patient was 5 months pregnant at the material time. Mdm Wu had failed to exclude the possibility of pregnancy and/or ask adequate or sufficient basic questions as to the patient's condition.
 - (e) Mdm Wu had prescribed the TCM herbal medication known as “桃红四物汤加味” to the patient without any regard to her actual medical condition. The herbal decoction, meant to revitalise and strengthen the blood flow, posed health risks to both the patient and her unborn child.
 - (f) The diagnosis and TCM herbal medication prescribed and dispensed by Mdm Wu to the patient, as stated in sub-paragraphs (a) to (d) above, was not an appropriate and/or generally accepted TCM treatment and fell short of the standard set out in the Ethical Code.
3. In light of the findings made by the Investigation Committee, it was found that Mdm Wu's misdiagnosis and management of her patient's care contravened Clauses 4.1.1(a) and 4.1.1(e) of the Ethical Code and amounted to a breach of Sections 19(1)(f), 19(1)(i) and 19(1)(j) of the TCM Practitioners Act.
4. After considering the mitigation factors of the case, the Board suspended Mdm Wu's registration as a TCM physician and as an acupuncturist for a period of 3 months, and censured her. Mdm Wu was also fined a sum of \$5,000 and ordered to pay costs and expenses of the inquiry or investigation conducted or action taken against her.

Case 2

1. On 5 January 2006, Mr Choo Led Sin was convicted in the State Courts, Singapore of 1 charge under Section 12 of the Skills Development Levy Act (Cap.306) read with Section 109 of the Penal Code (Cap.224) for obtaining payment of a grant from the Skills Development Fund (“Fund”) by means of a false statement and in pursuance of a conspiracy. Mr Choo falsely stated in an application for a grant from the Fund that he had completed 30 lessons of a foot reflexology course conducted by a training provider, which

led the Workforce Development Agency to disburse a grant of \$1,120 to the training provider. He was sentenced to a fine of \$4,000 on the same day.

2. On 4 August 2010, Mr Choo was convicted in the State Courts of 5 charges for several offences under Section 12 read with Section 14 of the Skills Development Levy Act (Cap. 306) and Section 511 of the Penal Code (Cap. 224) for unlawfully obtaining payment of grants from the Fund. Mr Choo declared 5 trainees to be direct employees of the Clinic and/or financially sponsored in full by the Clinic to obtain grants of S\$2,250 each from the Fund when he knew that these trainees were not employees of the Clinic and that the course fees were in fact borne by the trainees. He was sentenced to a total of 8 weeks' imprisonment on 2 September 2010.
3. The Board appointed an Investigation Committee to conduct an inquiry. The Investigation Committee's findings were-
 - (a) It was not in dispute and there was clear un rebuttable evidence that Mr Choo had been convicted of the offences.
 - (b) The 2006 Conviction under Section 12 of the Skills Development Levy Act (Cap. 306) read with Section 109 of the Penal Code (Cap. 224) relate to fraud and/or dishonesty, which rendered Mr Choo unfit to remain on the Register pursuant to Section 19(1)(g) of the Act.
 - (c) The 2010 Conviction under Sections 12 and 14 of the Skills Development Levy Act (Cap. 306) read with Section 511 of the Penal Code (Cap. 224) relate to fraud and/or dishonesty, which rendered Mr Choo unfit to remain on the Register pursuant to Section 19(1)(g) of the TCM Practitioners Act.
 - (d) The Convictions also implied a defect in character which rendered Mr Choo unfit to remain on the Register pursuant to Section 19(1)(h) of the TCM Practitioners Act.
4. Having taken into account the mitigation factors of the case, the Board suspended Mr Choo's registration as a TCM physician and as an acupuncturist for a period of 9 months, censured him and ordered that he give an undertaking that he would not commit such or similar offences again. Mr Choo had to pay costs and expenses of the inquiry or investigation conducted or action taken against him.

Case 3

1. Mr Lim Fook Sin was convicted and jailed for 2 years and 9 months on 2 August 2013 in the State Courts, Singapore for administering acupuncture treatment on his lady boss which resulted in her being immobilised. Mr Lim was subsequently charged for using criminal force on his lady boss with the intent to outrage her modesty, and sexually assaulting his lady boss without her consent.
2. An inquiry was conducted by an Investigation Committee appointed by the Board, and the Committee's findings were-
 - (a) It was not in dispute and there was clear un rebuttable evidence that Mr Lim had been convicted of the offences under Sections 354(1), 376(2)(a) and 376(3) of the Penal Code (Cap. 224) before the State Courts.

- (b) The said convictions implied a defect in character which rendered Mr Lim unfit to remain on the Register pursuant to Section 19(1)(h) of the TCM Practitioners Act.
- (c) The facts disclosed relating to Mr Lim's conduct in the said convictions amounted to professional misconduct on the part of Mr Lim pursuant to Section 19(1)(i) of the Act.
- (d) The facts disclosed relating to Mr Lim's conduct in the said convictions amounted to improper act or conduct which renders Mr Lim unfit to remain on the Register pursuant to Section 19(1)(j) of the Act.

3. Due to the grave and serious nature of the offences committed by Mr Lim and his convictions, the Board decided to cancel Mr Lim's registration as a TCM physician and as an acupuncturist under Section 19(1) of the TCM Practitioners Act.

Financial Report

STATEMENT BY THE BOARD'S MANAGEMENT

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

In our opinion:

- (a) the accompanying financial statements of Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board (the "Board") as set out on pages **29** to **49** are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A) (the "Act") and Statutory Board Financial Reporting Standards ("SB-FRS") so as to give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board as at **31 March 2017** and of the financial performance, changes in accumulated fund and cash flows of the Board for the year ended on that date;
- (b) at the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Board will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due; and
- (c) nothing came to our notice that caused us to believe that the receipts, expenditure, and investment of monies and the acquisition and disposal of assets by the Board during the financial year have not been in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

The Board's Management has, on the date of this statement, authorised these financial statements for issue.

On behalf of the Board,



Mrs. Yu-Foo Yee Shoon
Chairman



Prof Ng Han Seong
Registrar

Singapore, 24 Aug 2017

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD**
(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of **Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board** (the “Board”) which comprise the balance sheet as at **31 March 2017**, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in accumulated fund and statement of cash flows of the Board for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies as set out on pages **29 to 49**.

In our opinion, the accompanying balance sheet, statement of comprehensive income and statement of changes in accumulated fund of the Board are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A) (the “Act”) and Statutory Board Financial Reporting Standards (“SB-FRS”) so as to give a true and fair view of the financial position of the Board as at 31 March 2017 and of the financial performance, changes in accumulated fund and cash flows of the Board for the year ended on that date.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing (SSAs). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors’ responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Board in accordance with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA) Code of Professional Conduct and Ethics for Public Accountants and Accounting Entities (ACRA Code) together with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Singapore, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements and the ACRA Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD**
(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

Other information

The Board's Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the Statement by the Board's Management included in page 24 but does not include the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not and will not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information identified above and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed on the other information that we obtained prior to the date of this auditor's report, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibility of Board's Management for the Financial Statements

The Board's Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with the provisions of the Act and SB-FRS, and for devising and maintaining a system of internal accounting controls sufficient to provide a reasonable assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorised use or disposition; and transactions are properly authorised and that they are recorded as necessary to permit the preparation of true and fair financial statements and to maintain accountability of assets.

In preparing the financial statements, the Board's Management is responsible for assessing the Board's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Board or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Board's Management's responsibilities include overseeing the Board's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with SSAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD**
(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements (continued)

As part of an audit in accordance with SSAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by Board's Management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Board's Management use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Board's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Board to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Board's Management regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD**
(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

Board's Management's Responsibility for Compliance with Legal and Regulatory Requirements

Board's Management is responsible for ensuring that receipts, expenditure, investment of moneys and the acquisition and disposal of assets, are in accordance with the provisions of the Act. This responsibility includes implementing accounting and internal controls as management determines as necessary to enable compliance with the provisions of the Act.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on Board's Management's compliance based on our audit of the financial statements. We conducted our audit in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing. We planned and performed the compliance audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the receipts, expenditure, and investment of moneys and the acquisition and disposal of assets, are in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

Our compliance audit includes obtaining an understanding of the internal control relevant to the receipts, expenditure, investment of moneys and the acquisition and disposal of assets; and assessing the risks of material misstatement of the financial statement from non-compliance, if any, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Because of the inherent limitations in any accounting and internal control system, non-compliances may nevertheless occur but not detected.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on Board's Management's compliance.

Opinion

In our opinion:

- a) the receipts, expenditure, investment of moneys and acquisition and disposal of assets by the Board's Management during the year are, in all material respects, in accordance with the provisions of the Act; and
- b) proper accounting and other records have been kept by the Board's Management, in accordance with the provisions of the Act.



Audit Alliance LLP

Public Accountants and Chartered Accountants

Singapore, 24 Aug 2017

TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD

(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME*For the financial year ended 31 March 2017*

| | Note | 2017 S\$ | 2016 S\$ |
|--|------|------------------|------------------|
| Income | | | |
| Application fees | | 63,700 | 56,100 |
| Administrative income | | 2,215 | 4,620 |
| Certification fees and duplicate certificate fees | | 5,330 | 7,550 |
| Examination fees | | 108,900 | 101,650 |
| Finance income | | 947 | 845 |
| Other fees | | 1,000 | 4,250 |
| Other income | | 42 | 33 |
| Practising certificate fees | | 749,593 | 745,568 |
| Revenue from legal proceeding | | 58,990 | 87,347 |
| Total Income | | 990,717 | 1,007,963 |
| Less: Expenditure | | | |
| Depreciation of plant and equipment | 8 | 3,067 | 3,578 |
| Manpower and related costs | 4 | 627,832 | 608,588 |
| Other operating expenses | 5 | 553,356 | 285,853 |
| Rental | 6 | 88,904 | 87,262 |
| | | 1,273,159 | 985,281 |
| (Deficit) / surplus before grants and contribution to consolidated fund | | (282,442) | 22,682 |
| Grants | | | |
| Grants received from Ministry of Health | | - | 116,325 |
| (Deficit) / surplus for the year before statutory contribution to consolidated fund | | (282,442) | 139,007 |
| Statutory contribution to consolidated fund | 7 | - | 23,631 |
| Net (deficit) / surplus for the year, representing total comprehensive (loss) / income for the year | | (282,442) | 115,376 |

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD

(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

BALANCE SHEET*As at 31 March 2017*

| | Note | 2017 S\$ | 2016 S\$ |
|---|------|------------------|------------------|
| Non-current assets | | | |
| Plant and equipment | 8 | <u>2,445</u> | <u>2,983</u> |
| Current assets | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 9 | 1,067,641 | 1,204,601 |
| Other receivables | 10 | <u>21,183</u> | <u>18,796</u> |
| Total current asset | | <u>1,088,824</u> | <u>1,223,397</u> |
| Total assets | | <u>1,091,269</u> | <u>1,226,380</u> |
| Equity | | | |
| Capital fund | | 760,852 | 760,852 |
| Accumulated fund | | <u>(468,958)</u> | <u>(186,516)</u> |
| Net equity | | <u>291,894</u> | <u>574,336</u> |
| Non-current liability | | | |
| Unearned revenue | 11 | <u>100,962</u> | <u>68,666</u> |
| Current liabilities | | | |
| Trade and other payables | 12 | 162,426 | 126,778 |
| Unearned revenue | 11 | 492,583 | 399,128 |
| Provisions for contributions to Consolidated Fund | 7 | 23,631 | 23,631 |
| Provisions for unutilised leave | | <u>19,773</u> | <u>33,841</u> |
| Total current liabilities | | <u>698,413</u> | <u>583,378</u> |
| Total equity and liabilities | | <u>1,091,269</u> | <u>1,226,380</u> |

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD
(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ACCUMULATED FUND

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

| | Capital fund S\$ | Accumulated fund S\$ | Total S\$ |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| 2017 | | | |
| Beginning of financial year | 760,852 | (186,516) | 574,336 |
| Total comprehensive loss for the year | - | (282,442) | (282,442) |
| End of financial year | 760,852 | (468,958) | 291,894 |
| 2016 | | | |
| Beginning of financial year | 760,852 | (301,892) | 458,960 |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | - | 115,376 | 115,376 |
| End of financial year | 760,852 | (186,516) | 574,336 |

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD
(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

| | Note | 2017 S\$ | 2016 S\$ |
|---|------|------------------|-------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities (Deficit) / surplus before contribution to consolidated fund | | (282,442) | 139,007 |
| Adjustments for: | | | |
| Depreciation of plant and equipment | 8 | 3,067 | 3,578 |
| Interest income | | (947) | (845) |
| (Deficit) / surplus before working capital changes | | (280,322) | 141,740 |
| Operating cash flows before working capital changes: | | | |
| Other receivables | | (2,387) | 70,879 |
| Trade and other payables and unearned revenue | | 147,331 | (347,664) |
| Net cash flows used in operating activities | | (135,378) | (135,045) |
| Cash flow from investing activities | | | |
| Additions of plant and equipment | 8 | (2,529) | - |
| Interest received | | 947 | 845 |
| Net cash flows (used in) / generated from investing activities | | (1,582) | 845 |
| Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents | | (136,960) | (134,200) |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the financial year | | 1,204,601 | 1,338,801 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of the financial year | 9 | 1,067,641 | 1,204,601 |

The accompanying notes form an integral part of these financial statements.

TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD

(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

1. General information

Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board (“the Board”) was constituted under The Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A) (“the Act”). Its principal place of business is located at 81 Kim Keat Road, Level 9, NKF Centre, Singapore 328836.

The principal activities of the Board are to approve or reject application for registration, to accredit courses in the practice of traditional Chinese medicine in Singapore for the purpose of registration and the institution of higher learning in Singapore offering any of these courses; to make recommendations to the appropriate authorities for the continuing training and education of registered persons; to determine and regulate the conduct and ethics of registered persons and generally to do all such acts, matters and things as are necessary or authorised to be carried out under the Act and any regulations made thereunder.

2. Significant accounting policies

2.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the Board have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A) (“the Act”) and Statutory Board Financial Reporting Standards (“SB-FRS”) under the historical cost convention, except as disclosed in the accounting policies below. SB-FRS includes Statutory Board Financial Reporting Standards, Interpretations of SB-FRS and SB-FRS Guidance Notes as promulgated by the Accountant-General.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with SB-FRS requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Board’s accounting policies. It also requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates and assumptions. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the financial statements are disclosed in Note 3.

The financial statements are presented in Singapore Dollars, which is the functional currency of the Board. All the values are rounded to the nearest one dollar.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

2.2 Changes in accounting

(i) Interpretations and amendments to published standards effective in 2016

On 1 April 2016, the Board adopted the new or amended SB-FRS and Interpretations to SB-FRS ("INT SB-FRS") that are mandatory for application from that date. Changes to the Board's accounting policies have been made as required, in accordance with the transitional provisions in the respective SB-FRS and INT SB-FRS.

The adoption of the above SB-FRS or INT SB-FRS did not result in any substantial changes to the Board's accounting policies and had no material effect on the amounts reported for the current or prior financial years.

(ii) New or amended standards and interpretations effective after 1 April 2017

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are mandatory for accounting years beginning on or after 1 April 2017.

The Board is currently assessing the impact on the adoption of the new standards in the period of initial application.

2.3 Revenue recognition

Revenue is measured at fair value of the consideration received or receivable.

The Board recognises revenue when the amount of revenue and related cost can be reliably measured, it is probable that the collectability of the related receivables is reasonably assured and when the specific criteria for each of the Board's activities are met.

Practising certificate fees, which are levied on TCM Physicians and Acupuncturists on a two yearly basis, is recognised in the financial statement on an accruals basis.

Other incomes are recognised on cash basis.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Employee benefits

Defined contribution plans

Defined contribution plans are post-employment benefit plans under which the Board pays fixed contributions into separate entities such as the Central Provident Fund on a mandatory, contractual or voluntary basis. The Board has no further payment obligations once the contributions have been paid.

Employee leave entitlements

Employee entitlements to annual leave are recognised when they accrue to employees. A provision is made for the estimated undiscounted liability for annual leave expected to be settled wholly within 12 months from the reporting date as a result of services rendered by employees up to the end of the financial year.

2.5 Leases

When the Board is lessee of an operating lease:

Leases where substantially all risks and rewards incidental to ownership are retained by the lessors are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessors) are recognised in statement of comprehensive income on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

2.6 Government Grants

Government grants are recognised as a receivable at their fair value where there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and the Board will comply with all the attached conditions.

The Board receives government operating grants based on the projected deficit for the financial year, and adjusted for over or under-funding in previous periods determined based on the audited results of the relevant period.

A government operating grant that is intended to compensate expenses or losses already incurred is recognised as income in the period it becomes receivable.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

2.7 Tax

The income of the Board is exempted from income tax under Section 13(1) (e) of the Singapore Income Tax Act.

2.8 Plant and equipment

(i) Measurement

All items of plant and equipment are initially recorded at cost. The cost of an item of plant and equipment is recognised as an asset if, and only if, it is probably that future economic benefits associated with the item will flow to the Board and the cost of item can be measured reliably.

Plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment loss, if any.

(ii) Depreciation

Depreciation is charged so as to write off the cost of assets over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method, on the following bases:

| | <u>Useful life</u> |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Computer equipment and software | 3 years |
| Office equipment | 5 years |
| Renovation | 6 years |
| Furniture and fittings | 8 years |

Fully depreciated assets still in use are retained in the financial statements. The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each reporting period, with the effect of any changes in estimate accounted for on a prospective basis.

(iii) Disposal

An item of plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal.

The gain or loss arising on the disposal or retirement of equipment is determined as the difference between the sales proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognised in Statement of Comprehensive Income.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

2.9 Financial assets

The Board classifies its financial assets as loans and receivables.

(i) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. Such assets are recognised initially at fair value plus any directly attributable transaction costs. Subsequent to initial recognition, loans and receivables are measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses.

Loans and receivables comprise cash and cash equivalents and other receivables. Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash balances at bank and on hand.

(ii) Recognition and derecognition

Regular way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on trade date – the date on which the Board commits to purchase or sell the asset.

Financial assets are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the financial assets have expired or have been transferred and the Board has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership. On disposal of a financial asset, the difference between the carrying amount and the sale proceeds is recognised in statement of comprehensive income.

(iii) Initial measurement

Financial assets are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs.

(iv) Subsequent measurement

Loans and receivables are subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

2.10 Impairment of financial assets

Loans and receivables

Significant financial difficulties of the debtor, probability that the debtor will enter bankruptcy and default or significant delay in payments are objective evidence that these financial assets are impaired.

The carrying amount of these assets is reduced through the use of an impairment allowance account which is calculated as the difference between the carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the original effective interest rate. When the asset becomes uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance account. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are recognised against the same line item in profit or loss.

The impairment allowance is reduced through profit or loss in a subsequent period when the amount of impairment loss decreases and the related decrease can be objectively measured. The carrying amount of the asset previously impaired is increased to the extent that the new carrying amount does not exceed the amortised cost had no impairment been recognised in prior periods.

2.11 Impairment of non-financial assets

The carrying amounts of the Board's non-financial assets are reviewed at each reporting date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If any such indication exists, the assets' recoverable amounts are estimated.

The recoverable amount of an asset or cash-generating unit is the greater of its value in use and its fair value less costs to sell. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. For the purpose of impairment testing, assets that cannot be tested individually are grouped together into the smallest group of assets that generate cash inflows from continuing use that are largely independent of the cash inflows of other assets or groups of assets (the cash-generating unit, or CGU).

An impairment loss is recognised if the carrying amount of an asset or its CGU exceeds its estimated recoverable amount. Impairment losses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

Impairment losses recognised in prior periods are assessed at each reporting date for any indications that the loss has decreased or no longer exists. An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount. An impairment loss is reversed only to the extent that the asset's carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined, net of depreciation, if no impairment loss had been recognised.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

2.12 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash held with banks that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in risk.

2.13 Trade and other payables

Trade and other payables represent liabilities for goods and services provided to the Board prior to the end of financial year which are unpaid. They are classified as current liabilities if payment is due within one year or less (or in the normal operating cycle of the business if longer). Otherwise, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade and other payables are initially recognised at fair value, and subsequently carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

2.14 Offsetting of financial instruments

Financial assets and liabilities are offset and the net amount reported in the balance sheet when there is a legally enforceable right to offset and there is an intention to settle on a net basis or realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

2.15 Fair value estimation of financial assets and liabilities

The carrying amount of current financial assets and liabilities carried at amortised cost approximate their fair values.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

2. Significant accounting policies (continued)

2.16 Related parties

A related party is defined as follows:

- (i) A person or a close member of that person's family is related to the Board if that person:
 - (a) Has control or joint control over the Board;
 - (b) Has significant influence over the Authority;
 - (c) Is a member of the key management personnel of the Board or of a parent of the Board.

- (ii) An entity is related to the Board if any of the following conditions applies:
 - (a) The entity and the Board are members of the same group (which means that each parent, subsidiary and fellow subsidiary is related to the others).
 - (b) One entity is an associate or joint venture of the other entity (or an associate or joint venture of a member of a group of which the other entity is a member).
 - (c) Both entities are joint ventures of the same third party.
 - (d) One entity is a joint venture of a third entity and the other entity is an associate of the third entity.

 - (e) The entity is a post-employment benefit plan for the benefit of employees of either the Board or an entity related to the Board. If the Board is itself such a plan, the sponsoring employers are also related to the Authority;
 - (f) The entity is controlled or jointly controlled by a person identified in (i);
 - (g) A person identified in (i) (a) has significant influence over the entity or is a member of the key management personnel of the entity (or of a parent of the entity).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

3. Critical accounting estimates, assumptions and judgements

Estimates, assumptions and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

3.1 Key sources of estimation uncertainty

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the balance sheet date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

Depreciation of plant and equipment

The costs of plant and equipment are depreciated on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives. The Board's management's estimates of the useful lives of these plant and equipment are disclosed in Note 2.8. Changes in the expected usage and technological developments could impact the economic useful lives and the residual values of these assets. Therefore, future depreciation charges could be revised. The carrying amount of plant and equipment and the depreciation charge for the year are disclosed in Note 8 to the financial statements.

3.2 Critical judgements made in applying accounting policies

In the process of applying the Board's accounting policies, the management is of the opinion that there are no critical judgements involved that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD
(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

4. Manpower and related costs

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|--|-----------------------|----------------|
| | S\$ | S\$ |
| Employer's contributions to Central Provident Fund | 71,196 | 65,471 |
| Other benefits | 2,311 | 1,779 |
| Shared service cost | 15,178 | 15,178 |
| Staff salary and bonus | 536,298 | 523,779 |
| Training and development | 2,849 | 2,381 |
| | <u>627,832</u> | <u>608,588</u> |

5. Other operating expenses

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | S\$ | S\$ |
| Examination expenses | 73,471 | 71,296 |
| Information Technology (IT) expenses | 110,891 | 125,953 |
| Investigation expenses | 9,411 | 14,969 |
| Legal expenses | 296,955 | - |
| Miscellaneous expenses | 46,783 | 49,708 |
| Transportation expenses | 15,845 | 23,927 |
| | <u>553,356</u> | <u>285,853</u> |

6. Rental expenses

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| | S\$ | S\$ |
| Rental of equipment | 9,639 | 7,997 |
| Rental of premises | 79,265 | 79,265 |
| | <u>88,904</u> | <u>87,262</u> |

TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD
(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

7. Contributions to Consolidated Fund

(a) Statutory contributions to consolidated fund

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|---|-------------|---------------|
| | S\$ | S\$ |
| Statutory contribution to consolidated fund | | |
| - Current year provision | <u>-</u> | <u>23,631</u> |

Under Section 13(1)(e) and the First Schedule of the Singapore Income Tax Act, Chapter 134, the income of the Board is exempt from income tax.

In lieu of income tax, the Board is required to make contribution to the Consolidated Fund in accordance with the Statutory Corporations (Contributions to Consolidated Fund) Act (Chapter 319A) and in accordance with the Financial Circular Minute No M5/2005. Contribution for the financial year is determined based on 17% of net surplus for the financial year.

(b) Movement in provision for contribution to consolidated fund

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| | S\$ | S\$ |
| Beginning of financial year | 23,631 | - |
| Current year provision | <u>-</u> | <u>23,631</u> |
| End of financial year | <u>23,631</u> | <u>23,631</u> |

TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD
(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

8. Plant and equipment

| | <u>Computer</u> <u>software</u> S\$ | <u>Office</u> <u>equipment</u> S\$ | <u>Renovation</u> S\$ | <u>Furniture</u> <u>and</u> <u>fittings</u> S\$ | <u>Total</u> S\$ |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------|--|---------------------|
| 2017 | | | | | |
| Cost | | | | | |
| Beginning of financial year | 176,055 | 55,047 | 50,544 | 28,630 | 310,276 |
| Additions | - | 2,529 | - | - | 2,529 |
| End of financial year | <u>176,055</u> | <u>57,576</u> | <u>50,544</u> | <u>28,630</u> | <u>312,805</u> |
| Accumulated depreciation | | | | | |
| Beginning of financial year | 176,055 | 55,047 | 50,544 | 25,647 | 307,293 |
| Depreciation charge | - | 84 | - | 2,983 | 3,067 |
| End of financial year | <u>176,055</u> | <u>55,131</u> | <u>50,544</u> | <u>28,630</u> | <u>310,360</u> |
| Carrying amount | | | | | |
| At 31 March 2017 | <u>-</u> | <u>2,445</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>2,445</u> |
| | | | | | |
| | <u>Computer</u> <u>software</u> S\$ | <u>Office</u> <u>equipment</u> S\$ | <u>Renovation</u> S\$ | <u>Furniture</u> <u>and</u> <u>fittings</u> S\$ | <u>Total</u> S\$ |
| 2016 | | | | | |
| Cost | | | | | |
| Beginning / End of financial year | 176,055 | 55,047 | 50,544 | 28,630 | 310,276 |
| Accumulated depreciation | | | | | |
| Beginning of financial year | 176,055 | 55,047 | 50,544 | 22,069 | 303,715 |
| Depreciation charge | - | - | - | 3,578 | 3,578 |
| End of financial year | <u>176,055</u> | <u>55,047</u> | <u>50,544</u> | <u>25,647</u> | <u>307,293</u> |
| Carrying amount | | | | | |
| At 31 March 2016 | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>2,983</u> | <u>2,983</u> |

TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD
(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

9. Cash and cash equivalents

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| | S\$ | S\$ |
| Cash and bank balances | 139,160 | 276,927 |
| Fixed deposits | 928,481 | 927,674 |
| | <u>1,067,641</u> | <u>1,204,601</u> |

Cash and cash equivalents are denominated in Singapore dollar.

10. Other receivables

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|---------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| | S\$ | S\$ |
| Other receivables | 2,197 | 89 |
| Interest receivable | 140 | - |
| Deposits | 18,520 | 18,520 |
| Prepayments | 326 | 187 |
| | <u>21,183</u> | <u>18,796</u> |

Other receivables are denominated in Singapore dollar.

11. Unearned revenue

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | S\$ | S\$ |
| Practising Certificate fees received | | |
| - due within 12 months | 492,583 | 399,128 |
| - due after 12 months | 100,962 | 68,666 |
| | <u>593,545</u> | <u>467,794</u> |

Unearned revenue represents the Practising Certificate fees received in advance denominated in Singapore dollar.

TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD
(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

12. Trade and other payables

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | S\$ | S\$ |
| Trade payables: | | |
| - Third party | 231 | 36,644 |
| - Related party | 143,117 | 77,799 |
| Accruals | 19,078 | 12,335 |
| | <u>162,426</u> | <u>126,778</u> |

Related party transactions disclosed in Notes 17.

Trade payables to related party are unsecured, interest-free and repayable on demand.

Trade and other payables are denominated in Singapore dollar.

13. Operating lease commitments

The Board leases office space from non-related parties under non-cancellable operating leases.

These leases have tenure of 1 to 3 years, varying terms and renewal options.

The lease terms do not contain restrictions on the Board's activities concerning further leasing.

As at the balance sheet date, future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases where the Board is the lessee are as follows:

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|---|----------------------|----------------|
| | S\$ | S\$ |
| Operating lease payments due | | |
| - within 1 year | 52,843 | 79,265 |
| - after 1 year but not later than 5 years | - | 52,843 |
| | <u>52,843</u> | <u>132,108</u> |

The above operating lease commitments are based on known rental rates as at the date of this report and do not include any revision in rates which may be determined by the lessor.

TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD
(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

14. Reserves management

The reserves management objective of the Board is to safeguard the Board's ability to continue as a going concern.

The Board's management monitors its cash flows, availability of funds and overall liquidity position to ensure the Board is able to fulfil its continuing obligations.

The Board is not subject to externally imposed reserve requirements.

There were no changes to the Board's approach to reserves management during the year.

15. Fair value of financial assets and liabilities

The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, receivables and payable approximate their respective fair values due to the relatively short-term maturity of these financial statements.

Categories of financial instruments

The following table sets out the financial instruments as at the end of the reporting period:

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| | S\$ | S\$ |
| Financial Assets | | |
| Other receivables | 20,857 | 18,609 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | <u>1,067,641</u> | <u>1,204,601</u> |
| | <u>1,088,498</u> | <u>1,223,210</u> |
| Financial Liability | | |
| Trade and other payables | <u>162,426</u> | <u>126,778</u> |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

16. Financial risk management objectives and policies

The Board is exposed to financial risks arising from its operations and the use of financial instruments. The key financial risks are credit risk, interest rate risk and liquidity risk. The Board's management reviews and agrees on policies for managing each of these risks and they are summarised below:

Credit risk

Credit risk is the potential risk of financial loss resulting from the failure of customers or other counterparties to settle their financial and contractual obligations to the Board as and when fall due.

The Board's main financial assets consist of cash and cash equivalents and short to medium term fixed deposits. Cash and bank deposits are placed with financial institutions which are regulated.

At the balance sheet date, there was no significant concentration of credit risk. The maximum exposure to credit risk is represented by the carrying amount of each financial asset in the balance sheet.

Financial assets that is impaired

The carrying amount that receivables individually determined to be impaired as at the balance sheet date is nil (2016: nil).

Receivables that are individually determined to be impaired at the balance sheet date relate to debtors that are in significant financial difficulties and have defaulted on payments. These receivables are not secured by any collateral or credit enhancements.

There are no financial assets that are past due as at the balance sheet date.

Interest rate risk

The Board does not have any interest-bearing financial liabilities. Its only exposure to changes in interest rates relates to interest-earning bank deposits. The management monitors movements in interest rates to ensure deposits are placed with financial institutions offering optimal rates of return.

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that the Board will encounter difficulty in meeting financial obligations due to shortage of funds.

The management exercises prudence in managing its operating cash flows and aims at maintaining a high level of liquidity at all times.

All financial liabilities of the Board are repayable on demand or mature within one year.

TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE PRACTITIONERS BOARD
(Constituted under the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Act (Cap.333A))

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the financial year ended 31 March 2017

16 Financial risk management objectives and policies (continued)

As explained in Note 2.6, the Board receives government operating grants to fund any deficit incurred for the year.

17. Related party transactions

The Board is a statutory board incorporated under Ministry of Health. As a statutory board, all government ministries and departments, other statutory boards and Organs of State are deemed related parties of the Board.

In addition to the information disclosed elsewhere in the financial statements, the following transactions took place between the Board and related parties at terms agreed between the parties.

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|--|----------------|--------------|
| | S\$ | S\$ |
| Ministries and Statutory Boards | | |
| - Amount due to (Trade) | 143,117 | 77,799 |
| - Amount due to (Non-trade) | 8,189 | <u>2,372</u> |

18. Comparative figures

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform to the current year financial statement presentation.

19. Authorisation of financial statements

The financial statements of the Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board for the year ended 31 March 2017 were authorised for issue by the Board on 24 Aug 2017.

**TRADITIONAL CHINESE MEDICINE
PRACTITIONERS BOARD**

新加坡中医管理委员会

81 Kim Keat Road #09-00 Singapore 328836

Tel : 6355 2488 Fax : 6355 2489

Email : enquiries@tcmpb.gov.sg