

FAQS ON TITLES & DESIGNATIONS DISPLAYED BY MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

No.	Question / SMC's Reply
Q1	Can a registered medical practitioner display his certificates of attendance in Aesthetic Medicine or any other medical related courses at his practice place?
Ans	SMC has no objection to the display certificate of attendance for medical related course by medical practitioner at his practice place.
Q2	Whether the display of non-medical qualifications e.g. LLB and B. Com is allowed? (as some doctors are contemplating going into medico-legal work)
Ans	If they are practising doctors, the non-medical qualifications <u>should not</u> be put together with medical ones in their display as they are not relevant to patient treatment and may be misinterpreted as medical qualifications by patients. If they do medicolegal work and are practising lawyers, they should consult the Law Society.
Q3	Palliative Medicine is not one of the 35 existing specialties in circular. However, it is one of the four new subspecialties to be developed. Can a Consultant or Senior Consultant grade in palliative medicine continue to use the title "Consultant Palliative Care Physician"?
Ans	Until the Register is ready, please use "Consultant, Dept of Palliative Care" or similar designations to comply with the circular. The designation should reflect the doctor's official appointment in the Hospital, Institution or Clinic.
Q4	Can these medical qualifications be displayed? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M Sports Med (UNSW) • Diploma in Acupuncture (SCTCM) • Registered Acupuncturist • MCH (Ortho)
Ans	Only titles registered with the SMC can be displayed. For those registered with other boards, they should not mix qualifications when they present to the patient. Many patients may only want to see them for one type of practice. Their patients must have a choice to see them for either type of practice or for both.
Q5	Can a doctor who is in charge of LASIK services be designated as "Director, LASIK Services" while another doctor who is in charge of comprehensive ophthalmology be designated "Director of Comprehensive Ophthalmology"?

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Ans	No objection to such designations/ administrative titles if they are factual and non laudatory.
Q6	Some doctors had undergone sub-specialty certifications e.g. "Fellow, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, USA" Please advise if the display of such qualification is allowed?
Ans	Only qualifications which have been approved for inclusion in The Register of Medical Practitioners or The Register of Specialists are allowed to be displayed.
Q7	<p>Are the following terminologies stated in the name cards acceptable?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical Interest Breast Surgery Colorectal Surgery Head, Neck and Breast Surgery Laparoscopic & Bariatric Surgery Laparoscopic & Colorectal Surgery Upper GI and Renal Transplant Surgery Vascular Surgery Aviation Medicine Occupational Health Aesthetics • Designation Physician Leader Senior Partner • Qualification GDOM GDFM FACS FACP (Hon)
Ans	For Clinical interest, please refer to the circular under 2(b) (iii). No objection to the organisational designations listed. Only qualifications which have been approved for inclusion in The Register of Medical Practitioners or The Register of Specialists are allowed to be displayed.
Q8	<p>a) Whether the following official appointments / designations could be printed on doctors' name cards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Appointments Asst Chief Executive Officer (Clinical), Chairman, Medical Board Divisional Chairman, Medicine Asst Chairman, Medical Board (Medical Manpower Development)

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	<p>Clinical Director, Office of Clinical Governance Director, Clinical Research Unit Clinical Dir, Communicable Disease Centre Director, Private Patient Services Director, Pre-Admission Counselling & Evaluation Head, Vascular Diagnostic Lab Chief Medical Informatics Officer Clinical Information System Manager (ICU)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Appointments Associate Dean / Director, Clinical Training Advisor, Associate Dean Office & Clinical Training Office Clinical Lecturer, Emeritus Consultant, Ophthalmology • Others Visiting Consultant, Ophthalmology Clinician Scientist <p>b) Whether the following could be printed on doctors' name cards under Scope of Practice / Clinical Interest: Cataract & Refractive Surgery Cornea Service Neuro-Ophthalmology Cognition & Memory-related Disorders Service Orthogeriatric Hip Service Hand Service Adult Reconstruction Service Elderly Pain Service Nuclear Cardiology Cardiac CT Intervention & Nuclear Cardiology</p>
Ans	<p>Please refer to circular 2(b) (iii) for scope of practice. No objection to the administrative/academic titles if they are factual and non-laudatory.</p>
Q9	<p>Can general medical practitioners use the title/designation "Consultant Family Physician"?</p>
Ans	<p>The use of the following titles/designations is not allowed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultant Family Physician • Senior Family Physician" <p>Both "Consultant, Department of Family Medicine" or "Senior Consultant, Department of Family Medicine" are acceptable.</p>

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Q10	Can doctors who have completed a course in Occupational Health and are registered With MOM as "Designated Factory Doctor" (DFD) under the Factory Act, Cap 104 use and display the title "Designated Factory Doctor - DFD"?
Ans	Council has no objection to the display of title " <i>Designated Factory Doctor - DFD</i> " and not "DFD" so as not to mislead the public into thinking that DFD refers to a medical diploma.
Q11	<p>It has been the traditional of Oxford and Cambridge Universities to award Bachelor of Arts degree for the first degree, regardless of the field. Some doctors who graduated from Cambridge University (MBBChir Cambridge) and spent a year doing an intercalated course in the third year and were awarded:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bachelor of Arts in 1998 and 2. Master of Arts in 2001. <p>Can such qualifications which are awarded by Oxbridge BA and MA be allowed to be displayed?</p>
Ans	No objection to the display of Bachelor /Master of Arts degree if they are a factual and non laudatory.
Q12	Can doctors who have been trained in Palliative Medicine or who possess MMed in Occupational call themselves Specialists in Palliative Medicine?
Ans	The use of title "Specialists in Palliative Medicine" is not allowed as Palliative Medicine is not yet been recognised as a medical speciality
Q13	Can Dermatologist who were previously consultant or senior consultant dermatologist in academic institutions use title "Consultant Dermatologist" on their clinic signboards, name cards, stationery and professional advertisements?
Ans	Dermatologists who were previously consultant, and even senior consultant dermatologists in academic institutions cannot use the title consultant dermatologists on their clinic signboards, name cards, stationery and professional advertisements. It can only be used if it is a current official appointment in a Hospital, Institution or Clinic. It should be removed when they no longer hold the appointment.