



SINGAPORE MEDICAL COUNCIL

16 College Road, #01-01 College of Medicine Building, Singapore 169854

E-mail Address: moh_smc@moh.gov.sg

Website: <http://www.smc.gov.sg>

Fax Number: (65) 6258-2134

5 January 2011

PRESS RELEASE

DISCIPLINARY INQUIRY FOR DR SENG TEE KIAT THOMAS

1. On 29 November 2010, the Disciplinary Committee (“DC”) of the Singapore Medical Council (“SMC”) held an inquiry for Dr Seng Tee Kiat Thomas (“Dr Seng”), of Lifecare Family Clinic and Surgery located at Block 106 Hougang Avenue 1 #01-1221 Singapore 130106. The proceedings arose out of a complaint to the SMC dated 10 August 2007 by the Ministry of Health (MOH).

2. Dr Seng initially faced 28 charges of professional misconduct under Section 45(1)(d) of the Medical Registration Act. The charges against Dr Seng were that he had failed to exercise due care in the management and/or treatment of 28 of his patients, in that he had :
 - (a) Inappropriately prescribed Subutex and benzodiazepines;
 - (b) Contravened the MOH’s Guidelines for the Treatment of Opiate Dependence;
 - (c) Failed to refer his patients to a medical specialist for further assessment and management in the course of the patients’ period of treatment;
 - (d) Failed to record or document in the patients’ Patient Medical Records sufficient details of the patients’ diagnosis, symptoms and conditions in the course of the period of treatment save for the initial consultation;
 - (e) Failed to formulate any long term management plan for treatment of the patients’ medical conditions.

3. The SMC proceeded with 25 of the 28 charges against Dr Seng, and Dr Seng pleaded guilty to these 25 charges.

4. Having regard to all the mitigating factors, including the fact that Dr Seng was a first time offender and that he had pleaded guilty, the DC suspended Dr Seng from practice for a period of 3 months. The DC also ordered a fine of S\$3,000.00 to be imposed on Dr Seng and that he be censured. In addition, the DC ordered Dr Seng to give a written undertaking to the SMC that he will not engage in the conduct complained of or of any similar conduct. Dr Seng was also ordered to pay the costs and expenses of and incidental to the inquiry proceedings, including the costs of the counsel to the SMC and the Legal Assessor.

- END -