



SINGAPORE MEDICAL COUNCIL

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11 April 2011

PRESS RELEASE

SINGAPORE MEDICAL COUNCIL

DISCIPLINARY INQUIRY FOR DR KHOO BUK KWONG

1. On 2 March 2011, the Disciplinary Committee ("DC") of the Singapore Medical Council ("SMC") held an inquiry for Dr Khoo Buk Kwong ("Dr. Khoo"), age 50 years, a General Practitioner who was practising at Health-Plus Clinic, located at Block 307, Choa Chu Kang Avenue 4 #01-697, Singapore 680307 at the material time.
2. The proceedings arose from a complaint dated 5 November 2008 made by the Ministry of Health ("MOH") against Dr. Khoo. The MOH was concerned over the prescribing practice of Dr Khoo with regard to hypnotics and codeine-containing cough mixtures.
3. Dr. Khoo faced 24 charges of professional misconduct under the Medical Registration Act. The charges against Dr Khoo were that he had failed to exercise due care in the management and/or treatment of his patients for the period from 1999 to 2008, in that he had:
 - (a) Inappropriately prescribed hypnotic medication and codeine-containing medication;
 - (b) Failed to set up any or any sufficient management plan for the treatment of the patients' medical condition;
 - (c) Failed to taper the prescription of hypnotic medication to the patient; and
 - (d) Failed to record or document in the patients' Patient Medical Records sufficient details of the patients' diagnosis, symptoms and condition.
4. Dr Khoo pleaded guilty to these 24 charges.
5. The DC convicted Dr Khoo of the 24 charges. Having regard to all mitigating factors, the DC sentenced Dr Khoo as follows:
 - (a) That he be suspended from practice for a period of 3 months;
 - (b) That he be fined \$2,000;
 - (c) That he be censured;

- (d) That he gives a written undertaking to the Singapore Medical Council that he will not engage in the conduct complained of or any similar conduct; and
 - (e) That he pays the costs and expenses of and incidental to these proceedings, including the costs of the solicitor to the Singapore Medical Council and the Legal Assessor.
6. Dr Khoo's 3-month suspension took effect on 2 April 2011.

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