

President's Message



*D*ear colleagues,

In the last two years, the COVID-19 pandemic has posed challenges as well as presented opportunities in the way we work and operate. At the SMC much of the operational work was done via video conferencing and online platforms, for example the Physician's Pledge Ceremony.

The Secretariat of healthcare Professional Boards (SPB) supporting the Council explored new ways to enhance efficiency and convenience to our registered healthcare professionals. One of the initiatives that the healthcare Professional Boards including the SMC have rolled out recently was the electronic Registration Certificate (e-RC) and electronic Practising Certificate (e-PC) in the Professional Registration System and collectively known as e-Certs. For doctors, our e-Certs can be viewed and downloaded by a login through the SMC website. The digital PC for healthcare professionals was a parallel separate development in the Singpass app and puts your PC into your personal smartphone. The e-Certs and digital PC are thus readily accessible through personal smartphones providing easy access within a secure system for each registered healthcare professional. You can read about this milestone in digitalisation in our healthcare Professional Boards in this newsletter.

In this first issue of the year, we also share updates from the Ministry of Health (MOH) on MOH's Healthcare Services Act (HCSA), which replaces the regulatory and licensing regime under the Private Hospitals and Medical Clinics Act (PHMCA). This is an important milestone in the regulation of healthcare services. We thank MOH for this important update.

I wish to thank fellow colleagues for your selflessness and unwavering dedication in the two-year battle against COVID-19. It was a journey in which the healthcare professionals have worked hard and with much dedication and it is truly appreciated. We look forward to safer days ahead.

Professor Chee Yam Cheng
President