

## SMC President's Message



*D*ear colleagues,

In February, the SMC resumed the in-person Physician's Pledge Ceremony, the first since the pandemic hit us three years ago. We were happy to witness a total of 193 younger doctors taking the Physician's Pledge and to celebrate this milestone in their medical career with them. As we recited the Pledge, we were reminded of the fundamental reason of our lifelong calling as a doctor, and that is, to put the safety and well-being of patients as our first consideration.

In August 2022, we initiated the *Series in Professional Ethics* to highlight common ethical issues that may arise during medical practice and to offer some guidance on these issues. It began with the topic of "Propriety and Sexual Boundaries", where Guideline C4 of the 2016 Ethical Code and Ethical Guidelines was referenced. In this issue, we remind doctors about how they are to conduct themselves when dealing with intimate examinations and some ways that they can go about assuring their patients.

In the last edition, we had announced that the SMC would be rolling out compulsory Continuing Medical Education (CME) requirements on Medical Ethics in 2026. The Medical Ethics CME programmes will be prepared and scheduled by the Academy of Medicine Singapore, College of Family Physicians Singapore and Singapore Medical Association from this year.

**Professor Chee Yam Cheng**  
**President**