

President's Message



*D*ear colleagues,

Season's greetings to all.

We had shared key developments in medical regulation in the article "[Medical Registration \(Amendment\) Bill 2020](#)" in the [December 2020 SMC Newsletter](#). Following that, the Singapore Medical Council continued to work in concert with the Ministry of Health to prepare for the implementation of the Medical Registration (Amendment) Act 2020 (MRAA) which will come into force early next year.

In this issue, we look at some of the frameworks and processes that we are putting in place to resolve complaints effectively and expeditiously, and to deter frivolous and vexatious complaints. You can read about these from page 3 to 5.

As we approach the end of our second year battling the COVID-19 pandemic, we find that we are still learning new things about the COVID-19 virus. The policies and protocols which Singapore has developed to manage the virus and Delta variant since January 2020 have constantly evolved and revised to keep abreast of the rapid developments. While capacity has been ramped up substantially, our healthcare system has nevertheless been under great strain and pressure in recent months and our doctors and healthcare workers have worked very hard. However, with the multi-pronged approach of vaccination, home recovery programme, revised and simplified health protocols for positive cases and vaccination-differentiated safe management measures, all these will help to reduce the number of serious cases and to free up healthcare capacity to cater for critical healthcare needs.

I thank our colleagues for their perseverance and resilience to fight this prolonged battle, and to manage the challenges of the worst pandemic in our lifetime. Through such arduous times, your tenacity and unwavering dedication inspire us to continue and to look forward with hope towards normal times again.

Have a blessed year ahead and stay safe and well.

Professor Chee Yam Cheng
President