



SINGAPORE MEDICAL COUNCIL

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31 March 2022

INTERIM ORDERS COMMITTEE INQUIRY FOR DR KHOO BOO KIAN

1. On 25 November 2021, the Singapore Medical Council ("**SMC**") received information ("**Information**") from the Ministry of Health ("**MOH**") concerning one Dr Khoo Boo Kian. Among other things, it was alleged that: (a) Dr Khoo sent WhatsApp messages containing unverified and misleading information on COVID-19 in a chatgroup ("**Chatgroup**") with a total of 206 participants; and (b) in these messages, Dr Khoo made misleading claims on the efficacy of Ivermectin in treating and preventing COVID-19 and had also promoted the use of Ivermectin to treat and prevent COVID-19. In particular, Dr Khoo encouraged Chatgroup participants to order Ivermectin over the Internet through an unapproved source.
2. The Information was subsequently referred to an Interim Orders Committee ("**IOC**") to determine if it was necessary for the protection of members of the public, or was otherwise in the public interest, or was in the interests of Dr Khoo that his registration be suspended or be made subject to conditions or restrictions, pending the conclusion of the relevant proceedings under Part VII of the Medical Registration Act ("**MRA**").
3. An independent Complaints Committee was appointed to inquire into the Information. Investigations by the Complaints Committee are currently ongoing.
4. On 28 March 2022, the IOC, upon due inquiry into the Information referred to it by the SMC and after considering the submissions by Counsel for the SMC and Counsel for Dr Khoo, was satisfied that, pursuant to section 59B(1)(b) of the MRA, it was necessary for the protection of members of the public and in the public interest that with effect from 28 March 2022, Dr Khoo's registration as a medical practitioner is to be subject to the following conditions or restrictions, for a period of 18 months or until the conclusion of the proceedings against Dr Khoo under Part VII of the MRA, whichever is sooner:
 - (a) Dr Khoo must not disseminate or forward any information or document pertaining to the following matters:
 - (i) the safety, efficacy and effectiveness of approved vaccines for COVID-19 in Singapore, insofar as such information or document is contrary to generally accepted evidence that supports the use of these approved vaccines for the treatment and prevention of COVID-19;
 - (ii) the purported safety and efficacy of Ivermectin to treat and prevent COVID-19;
 - (iii) the purported safety and efficacy of any drug, therapeutic product or vaccine in treating and preventing COVID-19, where these agents are either not approved by the Health Sciences Authority ("**HSA**") or are required to be administered solely in the context of a clinical trial; and

- (iv) the sale and supply of Ivermectin;
- (b) Dr Khoo must not use any websites, social media platforms or closed messaging systems to put forward or share any views on the following matters:
 - (i) the safety, efficacy and effectiveness of approved vaccines for COVID-19 in Singapore, insofar as such information or document is contrary to generally accepted evidence that supports the use of these approved vaccines for the treatment and prevention of COVID-19;
 - (ii) the purported safety and efficacy of Ivermectin to treat and prevent COVID-19;
 - (iii) the purported safety and efficacy of any drug, therapeutic product or vaccine in treating and preventing COVID-19, where these agents are either not approved by the HSA or are required to be administered solely in the context of a clinical trial; and
 - (iv) the sale and supply of Ivermectin;
- (c) To the extent that is reasonably practicable, Dr Khoo must seek to remove any posts or messages from any websites, social media platforms or closed messaging systems that he is responsible for or has shared relating to his views on the following matters:
 - (i) the safety, efficacy and effectiveness of approved vaccines for COVID-19 in Singapore, insofar as such information or document is contrary to generally accepted evidence that supports the use of these approved vaccines for the treatment and prevention of COVID-19;
 - (ii) the purported safety and efficacy of Ivermectin to treat and prevent COVID-19;
 - (iii) the purported safety and efficacy of any drug, therapeutic product or vaccine in treating and preventing COVID-19, where these agents are either not approved by the HSA or are required to be administered solely in the context of a clinical trial; and
 - (iv) the sale and supply of Ivermectin;
- (d) Dr Khoo must not:
 - (i) recommend, prescribe, supply or administer Ivermectin and/or any other drug that is not approved by the HSA, to anyone for use in the prevention or treatment of COVID-19;
 - (ii) give false or misleading information about having prescribed Ivermectin and/or any other drug that is not approved by the HSA to anyone for use in the prevention or treatment of COVID-19; and
 - (iii) provide information to suggest that he is able to sell or supply drugs not approved by the HSA for use in the prevention or treatment of COVID-19 outside the context of an approved clinical trial;
- (e) Dr Khoo must not recommend, prescribe, supply or administer Ivermectin to any patient without the prior approval of a fully registered medical practitioner with a valid

practising certificate, whose approval, Medical Council Registration Number and signature must be recorded electronically or in writing;

- (f) If Dr Khoo recommends, prescribes, supplies or administers Ivermectin to a patient pursuant to the conditions set out in (e) above, Dr Khoo must keep a log of all patients to whom he has recommended, prescribed or administered Ivermectin to, the details of the approving medical practitioner, and he must submit this log to the SMC within five calendar days of such recommendation, prescription, supply or administration; and
- (g) Dr Khoo must inform any organisation or person employing him for medical work that his registration is subject to the above conditions.

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