



Singapore Pharmacy Board

Annual Report 2006

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
President's Message	1
Introduction	3
Quality Statement, Vision, Mission, Core Values	4
Members of Singapore Pharmacy Board 2006	5
REPORT OF BOARD ACTIVITIES	6
<i>Board Meetings</i>	6
<i>Matters of Professional Misconduct</i>	9
<i>Forensic Examinations for Foreign Graduates</i>	9
THE PHARMACISTS REGISTER FOR THE YEAR 2006	10
<i>Total Number of Registered Pharmacists</i>	10
<i>Number of Foreign Trained Registered Pharmacists</i>	11
<i>Profile of Registered Pharmacists</i>	12
<i>Employment Status</i>	13
<i>Fields of Employment</i>	14
<i>Basic Degrees</i>	15
<i>Post-Basic Degrees</i>	16
<i>Pharmacists Residing Overseas</i>	17
<i>Non-Renewal of Annual Certificate</i>	18
CONCLUSION	19
<i>Annexes</i>	20
<i>CODE OF ETHICS</i>	20
<i>GUIDE ON ADVERTISING FOR PHARMACISTS AND PHARMACIES</i>	25
<i>REQUISITES FOR PRE-REGISTRATION TRAINING</i>	29
<i>APPROVED INSTITUTIONS FOR PRE-REGISTRATION TRAINING</i>	30
<i>SCHEDULE OF FEES</i>	31

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Board held eight meetings in the year, which were focused on revising the Pharmacists Registration Act (PRA), finalising the Continuing Professional Education (CPE) Framework for pharmacists, and other registration-related matters.

The CPE Accreditation Committee was appointed by the Board to assist in the implementation of the CPE system and framework. It produced the Guidebook to Compulsory CPE for Pharmacists and the Guide for CPE Providers in August 2006. As of Sep 2007, there are 43 approved CPE providers. Of these, two are providers of online education.

The Competency Standards Workgroup, chaired by Ms Chan Soo Chung, developed the Competency Standards Framework, which establishes the minimum competency standards of pharmacists for entry to practice. A document was produced to describe the competency standards and exit criteria for pharmacists-in-training to enter the Singapore Register of Pharmacists. All learning and evaluation requirements are also detailed in this document.

The Specialist Accreditation Committee (SAC) chaired by Dr Camilla Wong actively solicited opinions and views on pharmacy specialisation from pharmacists, doctors, and other key stakeholders. A local survey amongst pharmacists was conducted. Focus group discussions with doctors and key stakeholders of major institutions were also organised to gather feedback on the need and demand for specialist pharmacists.

The SPBulletin continued to be the channel of communication from the Pharmacy Board to all registered pharmacists. The newsletters were sent out to all registered pharmacists quarterly by email, informing pharmacists of updates and changes to the Board procedures, CPE guidelines, and other

¹ CPDS: Continuing Professional Development System

professional matters.

The year 2006 saw much activity developing frameworks for competency of pharmacists and continuing professional development. This is necessary to ensure high standards of pharmacy practice in Singapore, and valuable contribution of pharmacists to patient care and the healthcare system. I would like to thank Board members and pharmacists serving in the various committees, and workgroups for their time and invaluable contributions to the profession.

Thank you.

Ms Ang Hui Gek

President/Registrar

Singapore Pharmacy Board

INTRODUCTION

The Singapore Pharmacy Board is the professional board established under the Pharmacists Registration Act 1979 to maintain a Register of Pharmacists and to investigate into any complaints against pharmacists for professional misconduct. Pharmacists found guilty of professional misconduct may be reprimanded, suspended or removed from the Register.

The Board also renews annual practising certificates and issues certificates of good character. The Board specifies pre-registration requisites, approves pre-registration training centres and directs continuing education.

Under the current Pharmacists Registration Act 1979, the Singapore Pharmacy Board comprises six members. Two *ex-officio* members stipulated in the Act are the Chief Pharmacist, Ministry of Health and the Head of Department of Pharmacy, National University of Singapore. By statute, the Chief Pharmacist is also the President and Registrar of the Board. The other four members are pharmacists chosen from the private and public sectors. They are appointed for a term of three years by the Minister for Health.

QUALITY STATEMENT

The Singapore Pharmacy Board strives to achieve quality output of pharmacists through an efficient registration process and overseeing pharmacists' continual development to reach professional standards benchmarked amongst the best in the world.

VISION

To oversee registered pharmacists' continual development to reach professional standards benchmarked amongst the best in the world.

MISSION

To achieve quality output of pharmacists through an efficient registration process.

CORE VALUES

The Board adopts the core values of the Ministry of Health, namely:

Dedication

- We desire to serve.
We believe in giving our best.
We are passionate in what we do.

Professionalism

- We seek to develop a high level of expertise.
We are objective in decision-making.
We do that which is best for Singapore and Singaporeans.

Integrity, Care & Compassion, Teamwork

- We take responsibility for our work.
We go the extra mile to show we care.
We work together for the best outcomes.

MEMBERS OF SINGAPORE PHARMACY BOARD 2006

The members of Singapore Pharmacy Board listed below were first appointed into office on 1st April 2005. Their three-year term will end on 31st March 2008.

President/Registrar (ex-officio)

Ms Ang Hui Gek *BSc (Pharm), Singapore*
Chief Pharmacist
Ministry of Health

Members

Assoc. Prof. Chan Sui Yung (ex-officio) *BSc (Pharm) (Hons), Singapore,
PhD (Pharm Chemistry), UK*
Head, Department of Pharmacy
National University of Singapore

Dr Ellick Wong *BSc (Pharm), Taiwan, MSc,
PhD(Pharmaceutics), UK*
c/o Department of Pharmacy
National University of Singapore

Mr Sia Chong Hock *BSc (Pharm), Singapore*
Deputy Director
Manufacturing and Quality Audit
Centre for Drug Administration
Health Sciences Authority

Ms Linda Seah *BSc (Pharm) (Hons), Singapore*
Managing Director
Novartis Singapore Pte Ltd

Ms Chan Soo Chung *B Pharm (Hons), Malaysia*
General Manager
NHG Pharmacy

REPORT ON BOARD ACTIVITIES

A summary of the Board's activities during the year 2006 is presented under the following headings:

- Board Meetings
- Matters of Professional Misconduct
- Forensic Examinations for Foreign Graduates

Board Meetings

A total of eight Board meetings were held in the year 2006. The meetings were held in the months of January, March, April, May, July, September and November 2006. Some of the issues discussed during these meetings were:

- Revision of Pharmacists Registration Act
- Compulsory Continuing Professional Education for Pharmacists
- Competency Standards for pharmacists in Singapore
- Pharmacy Specialisation

Revision of Pharmacists Registration Act

The Act and its Regulations are being amended to keep up with new developments in the field of pharmacy and medicine. The following are some of the proposed amendments:

- Compulsory Continuing Professional Education (CPE) for Pharmacists

Pharmacists need to keep up with the latest professional developments to provide high quality and cost-effective health care services. Most developed countries have introduced compulsory CPE for their pharmacists to ensure that their practices remain current. In Singapore, continuing professional education for medical practitioners and dentists has already been made compulsory.

Under the Bill, registered pharmacists will need to obtain a practising certificate before they can practise pharmacy. Subsidiary legislation will be introduced to link the issuing of these practising certificates with achieving the required minimum CPE points. This will bring the pharmacy profession in Singapore in line with its medical and dental counterparts.

- Recognition of Specialist Pharmacists

Pharmacists with specialist qualifications will be recognised as specialist pharmacists. The requirements for recognition as a specialist pharmacist would be drawn up by the Specialist Accreditation Committee.

- Introduction of Conditional Registration

The Conditional Register will allow persons who hold qualifications that are deemed not lower in standing than prescribed qualifications. Examinations and other conditions apply.

- Introduction of Temporary Registration

The Temporary Register allows any person who is residing temporarily in Singapore for the exclusive purpose of teaching, research or postgraduate study in pharmacy to be temporarily registered for a period not exceeding 2 years.

- Inclusion of disciplinary framework to address complexity of professional misconduct and fitness-to-practise issues

The Bill also seeks to enhance the Pharmacy Council's powers in handling complaints and disciplinary proceedings against registered pharmacists. This aligns disciplinary proceedings with the practices of the medical and dental professions. The Registrar may appoint a legal or a medical assessor as appropriate, to advise on the legal or medical aspects in inquiries into complaints, and the physical or mental fitness of a pharmacist to practise.

Extensive public consultations and professional engagements on the draft Bill was carried out. Further amendments to the Bill were made after taking into consideration the feedback.

Compulsory Continuing Professional Education for Pharmacists

The CPE accreditation committee continued its assigned task of reviewing and approving qualified providers for CPE programmes, and providing guidance for the administration of the CPE system.

The Board appointed a new CPE accreditation committee in February 2007 to continue the ongoing work of supporting the CPE framework for pharmacists.

Competency Standards Workgroup

The Competency Standards Workgroup, comprising 6 members, was appointed by the Board to set up the competency standards framework, and to establish the minimum competency standards of pharmacists for entry to practice. This document is available at the SPB website for download:

(<http://www.spb.gov.sg/html/MungoBlobs/207/762/SPB%20Competency%20Standards%20Framework%202006%20v1.0.doc>)

Pharmacist Specialisation

The Specialist Accreditation Committee (SAC) appointed by the Board conducted focus group discussions with medical specialists, to identify the pharmacy specialties that would provide significant contribution to better safer patient care.

Matters of Professional Misconduct

The Board did not receive any complaints against pharmacists during the year 2006.

Forensic Examinations for Foreign Graduates / De-registered Pharmacists

In 2006, two forensic examinations were held for a total of 19 candidates. The examinations were conducted on 20th April 2006 (11 candidates) and 27th November 2006 (8 candidates). All 19 candidates passed at their first attempt.

Of the 19 candidates, 17 held degrees from other countries – 8 from Australia, 4 from the United Kingdom, 2 from the United States, 2 from Malaysia, and 1 from New Zealand. Two candidates were pharmacists seeking restoration after being de-registered for more than 5 years.

THE PHARMACISTS REGISTER FOR THE YEAR 2006

Total Number of Registered Pharmacists

At year-end, there were 1,421 pharmacists on the register, a net increase of 91 over that of the previous year. This included registration of 21 foreign-trained graduates.

The number of pharmacists registered in Singapore over the past 5 (five) years is shown in Table 1.

Table 1
Number of Registered Pharmacists in Singapore (2002-2006)

Year	Total Number of Pharmacists on the Register	Net Increase(+) / Decrease(-) Over the Previous Year
2002	1191	+50
2003	1236	+45
2004	1288	+52
2005	1330	+42
2006	1421	+91

Number of Foreign Trained Registered Pharmacists

A total of 215 foreign-trained pharmacists had registered with the Board over the past 15 years. The number registered each year since 1992 is shown in Table 2.

Table 2
Total Number of Foreign Trained Pharmacists (1993-2006)

Year	Number of Pharmacists
1992	7
1993	12
1994	7
1995	9
1996	10
1997	28
1998	22
1999	15
2000	27
2001	17
2002	11
2003	15
2004	5
2005	9
2006	21
Total	215

Profile of Registered Pharmacists

The general profile of registered pharmacists in 2006 is shown in Table 3. The population of registered pharmacists in Singapore comprised approximately 27% male and 73% female pharmacists. The number of male pharmacists increased by 16 in the year 2006, while female pharmacists increased by 75.

Majority of the pharmacists are Chinese (93.0%). Indian pharmacists make up 4.1% and Malay pharmacists 1.8%. Of the 1,421 pharmacists registered, three-quarters are Singaporeans (74.4%).

Table 3
General Profile of Registered Pharmacists

General Profile		Number	Percentage (%)
Total Number		1421	100
Sex	Male	380	26.7
	Female	1041	73.3
Ethnic Group	Chinese	1321	93.0
	Malay	26	1.8
	Indian	59	4.1
	Others	15	1.1
Nationality	Singaporean	1058	74.4
	Malaysian	318	22.4
	Others	45	3.2
Age Group	20-29	401	28.2
	30-39	524	36.9
	40-49	275	19.3
	50-59	133	9.4
	60 and above	88	6.2

Employment Status

The statistics on employment status of registered pharmacists at end of Dec 2006 are shown in Table 4.

A total of 1,176 or 82.7% of registered pharmacists were engaged in full-time employment and 105 or 7.4% were in part-time employment. There is a small increase (0.7%) in the proportion of pharmacists engaged in full-time and (0.1%) part-time employment in pharmacy-related fields when compared to the previous year.

Table 5 shows the age distribution of the number of registered pharmacists who were not working.

Table 4
Working Status of Registered Pharmacists

Working Status	Number	Percentage (%)
Total Number	1421	100
Full-time employment	1176	82.7
Part-time employment	105	7.4
Employed in non-pharmaceutical fields	14	1.0
Not working	126	8.9

Table 5
Age Distribution of Registered Pharmacists Not Working

Age Group	Female	Male	Total
20 – 29	20	6	26
30 – 39	36	5	41
40 – 49	21	3	24
50 – 59	13	5	18
60 and above	7	10	17
Total	97	29	126

Fields of Employment

Table 6 shows the fields of employment of pharmacists in the private and public sectors.

Private Sector

In the private sector, the percentage of registered pharmacists employed in “Wholesale & Retail” increased by 0.9% when compared to 2005.

Public Sector

Majority of the public sector pharmacists were employed in patient-care services; hospitals (56.6%) and polyclinics (13.1%). 10.9% of pharmacists were employed in the area of pharmaceutical regulation. The remaining 19.4% were employed in the areas of academia, administration and other fields.

Table 6
Fields of Employment of Registered Pharmacists in the year 2006

Fields of Employment	Number	Percentage (%)
Private Sector	846	100
Wholesale & Retail	272	32.1
Marketing	114	13.5
Wholesale	104	12.3
Clinical Trials / Research	69	8.2
Hospital	43	5.1
Manufacturing	34	4.0
Locum	15	1.8
Non-pharmaceutical	14	1.7
Volunteer Welfare Organisation	10	1.2
Medical/Dental Clinic	8	0.9
Health Information Services	7	0.8
Consultancy	3	0.3
Others (including those working overseas)	153	18.1
Public Sector	449	100
Hospitals	254	56.6
NHG & SingHealth Polyclinics	59	13.1
Academia	50	11.1
Pharmaceutical Regulation	49	10.9
Administration	26	5.8
Others	11	2.5

Basic Degrees

The pharmacists registered in Singapore obtained their basic pharmacy degrees from a relatively good spread of different countries. Slightly more than four-fifths or 83.1% of our registered pharmacists obtained their basic pharmacy qualifications in Singapore. This is followed by Australia (5.9%), the United Kingdom (4.4%), Malaysia (3.2%) and the United States (1.4%).

Table 7
Basic Degrees of Registered Pharmacists in year 2006

Country	Number	Percentage (%)
Singapore	1181	83.1
Australia	84	5.9
United Kingdom	62	4.4
Malaysia	45	3.2
United States	20	1.4
Canada	11	0.8
New Zealand	10	0.7
Others ¹	8	0.5
Total	1421	100

² Under exemption.

Post-Basic Degrees

Table 8 shows the number of pharmacists on the register who had obtained higher qualifications in pharmacy. A total of 95 post-basic pharmacy degrees were recorded, with Clinical Pharmacy being the most common specialty (35.8%). This was followed by Pharmacology and Pharmaceutics (14.7% each), Pharmaceutical Chemistry (13.7%) and Pharmaceutical Technology (8.4%).

Table 8
Number of Pharmacists by Specialty of Post-Basic Degree

Specialty	Number	Percentage (%)
Clinical Pharmacy	34	35.8
Pharmacology	14	14.7
Pharmaceutics	14	14.7
Pharmaceutical Chemistry	13	13.7
Pharmaceutical Technology	8	8.4
Hospital Pharmacy	4	4.2
Pharmacy Practice	4	4.2
Biopharmacy	2	2.1
Pharmacognosy	1	1.1
Pharmaceutical Microbiology	1	1.1
Total	95	100

Pharmacists Residing Overseas

At end 2006, 113 pharmacists on the register were residing overseas. Table 9 shows the countries of residence of these pharmacists. A majority were in Australia (24.8%), followed by Malaysia (14.2%) and the United States (12.4%).

Table 10 shows the reasons cited for residing overseas. The most common reason was “Work” (48.7%) followed by “Accompanying spouse/family” (25.6%).

Table 9
Countries of Residence of Registered Pharmacists Residing Overseas

Country	Number	Percentage (%)
Australia	28	24.7
Malaysia	17	15.0
United States	14	12.4
Hong Kong SAR	12	10.6
China	10	8.8
United Kingdom	8	7.0
Canada	5	4.4
Brunei	2	1.8
Ireland	2	1.8
Taiwan	2	1.8
Thailand	2	1.8
United Arab Emirates	2	1.8
Indonesia	1	0.9
Italy	1	0.9
Netherlands	1	0.9
New Zealand	1	0.9
Niger Republic	1	0.9
South Africa	1	0.9
Sweden	1	0.9
Switzerland	1	0.9
Vietnam	1	0.9
Total	113	100

Table 10
Reasons for Residing Overseas

Reasons	Number	Percentage (%)
Work	55	48.7
Accompany spouse/family	29	25.6
Further studies	14	12.4
Return to home country	13	11.5
Migration	2	1.8
Total	113	100

Non-Renewal of Annual Certificate

40 pharmacists had allowed their annual certificate to expire after December 2006. The primary reasons provided for non-renewal were “Retirement” and “Overseas employment”. Of the 8 pharmacists who did not pay for the retention fees on time, 2 had sought restoration of their names to the register. The other reasons cited for non-renewal are listed in Table 11 as shown.

Table 11
Reasons for Non-Renewal of Annual Practising Certificate

Reasons for Non-Renewal	Number	Percentage (%)
Retired	7	17.5
Overseas employment	7	17.5
Working in non-pharmaceutical fields	6	15.0
Residing overseas	6	15.0
Not working	4	10.0
Return to own country	1	2.5
Not keen to renew	1	2.5
Non-payment of fees	8	20.0
Total	40	100

CONCLUSION

With the passing of the amended Pharmacists Registration Act in Parliament, the pharmacy profession enters a fresh new chapter in the development and regulation of its members.

The intent and purpose for the amendments to the Act are:

- (i) To strengthen the admissions and administrative process of granting registration to pharmacists, with a fortified selection procedure put in place for accepting and supervising foreign talents.
- (ii) To ensure practising pharmacists keep current with knowledge and skills in the practice of pharmacy, through compulsory Continuing Professional Education.
- (iii) To grant recognition to pharmacists in specialised branches of pharmacy practice.
- (iv) To ensure transparency and rigour in inquiries pertaining to disciplinary and health associated with pharmacists' fitness-to-practise .

Professional competency to assure high standards of pharmacy practice will also take focus for the coming few years. The Competency Standards for pharmacists has been approved by the Board, and implemented. All pre-registration pharmacists are subjected to assessments based on these official standards.

Competency assessments for entry to practice may also take the form of examinations. The first will be conducted in February 2008.

Pharmacists with proficiency in specialised fields would be accorded recognition with the setup of the Specialists Register. Pharmacist specialisation will be an exciting area of development for the profession.

This is a pivotal moment in the development of the pharmacy profession in Singapore. I am excited at the great possibilities the future of pharmacy holds for all. Let us all join our hands together to embrace this moment of change, of opportunities, and pursue the best we can be.

CODE OF ETHICS

1 A Pharmacist shall regard the health of the patient as his priority in his work.

- (a) A pharmacist shall not supply to any member of the public any substance, medicinal product or medical appliance which the pharmacist knows, or has reason to believe, is intended to be used in a manner which would be detrimental to health.
- (b) A pharmacist shall seek consultation with a professional colleague, and with other health professionals, when deemed to be in the best interests of the patient.
- (c) A pharmacist shall not encourage a member of the public to purchase or obtain more of a medicinal product than he may require.

2 A Pharmacist shall strive to achieve and maintain the highest standard of professional services.

- (a) A high standard of professional conduct in pharmacy, and an efficient pharmaceutical service is necessary in the public interest. Every pharmacist shall play his part in providing such a service, and shall avoid any act or omission which will prejudice the providing of such a service, or impair confidence in the pharmaceutical professional as a whole.
- (b) A pharmacist must supply professional advice and counselling on medication at every opportunity, and shall only refrain from doing so when deemed to be in the best interests of the patient.
- (c) Where premises are registered under the Medicines Act and operate as a pharmacy, a reasonably comprehensive pharmaceutical service shall be

provided.

- (d) The systems and methods in a pharmacy shall be such that there is no risk of error or contamination in the preparation, dispensing and supply of medicinal products.
- (e) Employment as the sole pharmacist shall not be offered to, nor accepted by, a pharmacist who is not able to perform the full duties of a pharmacist-in-charge of a pharmacy.

3 A Pharmacist shall respect the trust and confidentiality of his professional relationship with the patient.

The nature of the ailment and treatment of a patient shall not be divulged to a third party except by order of a court of law.

4 A Pharmacist shall always reinforce the confidence and trust placed in his colleagues by patients.

- (a) The therapeutic efficacy of prescriptions shall not be discussed with patients or others in such a manner as to impair confidence in the prescriber.
- (b) A pharmacist who has accepted a prescription for dispensing, shall dispense the prescription exactly in accordance with the prescriber's wishes. A pharmacist must not (except with the approval of the prescriber, or in an emergency) substitute any product for a specifically named product, even if the therapeutic effect and quality of both products are identical.
- (c) Where there are errors in dosage or potential drug interactions, the pharmacist must inform the prescriber immediately in a discreet manner, so as not to alarm the patient.

5 A Pharmacist shall always assist his colleagues and other health professionals, when called upon for advice or help.

A pharmacist shall at all times be ready to help other pharmacists in providing an efficient pharmaceutical service.

6 A Pharmacist shall maintain effective professional relationships with his colleagues and other health professionals, and pay due regard to their opinions and achievements.

While the closest professional co-operation between pharmacist and doctor is desirable, a pharmacist shall not recommend a medical practitioner or medical practice unless on request by a member of the public seeking such advice.

7 A Pharmacist shall refrain from publicly criticising his colleagues and members of other health professions.

Improper conduct by pharmacists will not be condoned by the Singapore Pharmacy Board. Complaints of such misconduct must be directed in confidence to the President of the Singapore Pharmacy Board at College of Medicine Building, 16 College Road, Singapore 169854

8 A Pharmacist shall refrain from attracting clientele to himself and away from his colleagues.

- (a) Canvassing to promote the pharmacy is unethical.
- (b) A discreet notice, relating to Pregnancy Testing Services, Urinoanalysis or Patient Counselling Services, may be exhibited at the premises.
- (c) A dispensing pharmacist shall wear a nametag bearing his name and designation as 'pharmacist' and white jacket or overalls to denote his profession.

- (d) The display of the qualification(s) of a pharmacist on stationery, as well as on any part of his premises, shall be discreet and shall be no more than the qualification(s) officially entered in the Register of Pharmacists by the Singapore Pharmacy Board.
- (e) No payment shall be made to a medical practitioner by way of commission or any other material consideration in connection with the dispensing of a prescription.
- (f) No inducement such as a prize or gift shall be offered to encourage the public to bring prescriptions to the pharmacy.
- (g) No advertisements or representations shall be made in any manner calculated to suggest that the professional skill of a pharmacist or his facilities for pharmaceutical services, are of a higher order than those of other pharmacists; or in a manner reflecting adversely on the skill or ability or professional services rendered by other pharmacists.
- (h) A pharmacist shall not allow others to use his name, qualifications, address or photograph in connection with an advertisement or representation to the public of any medicinal product.

9 A Pharmacist shall observe the laws relevant to the practice of his profession at all times.

- (a) Secret or cipher prescriptions shall not be dispensed, and a pharmacist shall not, in any way, be a party to the use of such prescriptions.
- (b) Information regarding professional services and cost shall be given to the patient truthfully, accurately and fully.

10 A Pharmacist shall concern himself with the facilities and methods of educating and training new pharmacists.

- (a) A pharmacist, who is a registered master under an agreement of pupillage, must maintain the facilities and equipment of his practice to a required standard as laid down by the Singapore Pharmacy Board.
- (b) A pharmacist shall not withhold any known professional information with respect to the art and science of pharmacy from either his colleagues or any pre-registration pharmacist under his supervision.

11 A Pharmacist shall keep abreast of the progress of pharmaceutical knowledge in order to maintain the highest standard of professional competence.

12 A Pharmacist shall refrain from accepting conditions of service which do not ensure his professional independence.

GUIDE ON ADVERTISING FOR PHARMACISTS & PHARMACIES

A INTRODUCTION

- 1 As pharmacy is a profession, pharmacists are prohibited from publishing or distributing any advertisements concerning their practice as pharmacists. However, advertisements may be permitted under certain circumstances.
- 2 This guide is therefore drawn up for pharmacists in the areas of advertising of pharmacists and pharmacies. It provides advice on good professional practice, and should help pharmacists to interpret and avoid breaching the Code of Ethics. A breach of the Code of Ethics could form the basis of a complaint of misconduct.
- 3 Guidelines cannot cover every situation. When in doubt, the advice of the Singapore Pharmacy Board should be sought.

B CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE ADVERTISING IS PERMITTED

- 1 A pharmacist may publish or distribute an advertisement concerning his practice as a pharmacist, provided that the advertisement is restricted to name, academic qualifications, address and telephone number in business/name card.
- 2 A pharmacy may publish or distribute an advertisement concerning its practice as a pharmacy, provided that the advertisement is restricted to its address, days and hours of service and telephone number in the media, and as part of the letterhead in their business stationery.
- 3 When advertising in telephone and other local directories, entries

should be limited to the standard entry and may include hours of service.

- 4 A pharmacist may use the terms ‘dispensing pharmacist’, ‘prescriptions’, ‘pharmacist’, ‘night pharmacy’, ‘night dispensing’, or such other terms as may be approved by the Board, as a description on a fascia or other appropriate position on the premises of a pharmacy or pharmacy department.
- 5 A pharmacist may advertise goods and services, other than those used in his practice as a pharmacist, where such advertising does not, either directly or indirectly, encourage indiscriminate or unnecessary use of drugs and medicines from another pharmacist, for example, surgical goods such as gloves, cosmetics or other non-medicinal products. A discreet notice relating to pregnancy testing service, urinoanalysis, patient counselling services, blood glucose testing, patient medication records services, drug information centre or blood pressure testing, may be exhibited at the premises.
- 6 A dispensing pharmacist may wear a nametag bearing his name and designation as ‘pharmacist’.
- 7 The display of qualification(s) of a pharmacist on stationery, as well as on any part of his premises, should be discreet and should be no more than the qualification(s) or higher qualification(s) officially entered in the Register of Pharmacists.

C CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE ADVERTISING IS NOT PERMITTED

- 1 Canvassing to promote dispensing or any other professional service, or to promote the sale by retail of medicinal products, other than veterinary drugs, should not be undertaken.

- 2 No advertisement or representation should be made in any manner, calculated to suggest that the professional skill of a pharmacist, or his facilities for pharmaceutical services, are of a higher order than those of other pharmacists; or in a manner reflecting adversely on the skill or ability or professional services rendered by other pharmacists.
- 3 No pharmacist should give any statement or testimonial upon any medicinal product or appliance, to any proprietor, manufacturer, distributor or vendor, for publication with the name and image of such pharmacist attached, other than way of an acknowledgement in an article published in a scientific journal. Pharmacists may, however, contribute articles of general interest to lay magazines or other non-scientific publications. They should take care not to endorse or promote any particular medicine or product. Only their names and qualifications may be stated in the article.
- 4 No pharmacist should exhibit, or cause to be exhibited, any sign plate, placard, painting, sculpture, replica design or representation visible to members of the public generally, which in the opinion of the Board is unethical, or which is calculated to be an advertisement of his practice as a pharmacist. Examples include advertising signs which are not physically attached to the pharmacy premises to which they refer such as signs in bus shelters, MRT stations and other buildings.

D LIABILITY OF PHARMACIST FOR CERTAIN ADVERTISEMENTS

- 1 Every advertisement published by or in the name of a person, firm or incorporated company, which in any manner implies or suggests that such advertisement is justified by or based on the practice of

a pharmacist, would be deemed to be an advertisement by such pharmacist in the same manner as if it had been inserted by him personally.

E OTHER RESTRICTIONS

- 1 Every identifying sign in a pharmacy department of a hospital should be restricted to 'pharmacy', 'pharmacy department' or 'department of pharmacy' and could include the name of the hospital.
- 2 A pharmacist should exercise great care and do everything reasonably possible when speaking to the press or television, to ensure that he does not directly or indirectly contravene the Code of Ethics.

REQUISITES FOR PRE-REGISTRATION TRAINING

- 1 Premises suitable for pre-registration training include
 - ◆ Hospital/Institutional Pharmacies
 - ◆ Retail Pharmacies
 - ◆ Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plants
 - ◆ Centre for Drug Administration, Health Sciences Authority

- 2 The institutions providing pre-registration training shall comply with the following requirements :
 - ◆ The premises for training are approved by the Singapore Pharmacy Board.
 - ◆ A comprehensive programme of training by the institution has been approved by the Singapore Pharmacy Board.
 - ◆ Registered pharmacists with at least three years of service are available as preceptors who will be directly responsible for the supervision and training of pre-registration pharmacists.
 - ◆ Each preceptor shall not accept more than two pre-registration students.

APPROVED INSTITUTIONS FOR PRE-REGISTRATION TRAINING

Department of Pharmacy
Alexandra Hospital
378 Alexandra Road
Singapore 159964
Tel : 63793320
Fax : 63793902

Department of Pharmacy
National University Hospital
5 Lower Kent Ridge Road
Singapore 119074
Tel : 67725008
Fax : 68737121

Department of Pharmacy
Changi General Hospital
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Department of Pharmacy
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11 Jalan Tan Tock Seng
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National Healthcare Group Pharmacy
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Tel : 68918000
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#08-08
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Tel : 68461128
Fax : 68469313

Watson's Personal Care Stores
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Tel : 64305285
Fax : 63371914

Parkway Group Healthcare
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111 Somerset Road
#11-03 Singapore Power Building
Singapore 238164
Tel : 63172305
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SCHEDULE OF FEES

Registration Fee	\$200
Pre-registration Training Fee	\$ 80
Annual Certificate Fee	\$200
Late Payment Fee	\$ 75
Restoration Fee	\$250
Forensic Examination Fee	\$300
Certified True Copy of Certificate Fee	\$ 50

