

LAUNCHING THE SINGAPORE MEDICAL JOURNAL CME PROGRAMME

On behalf of the Singapore Medical Association, the Singapore Medical Journal (SMJ) is pleased to announce the launch of the SMJ continuing medical education (CME) programme.

The Singapore Medical Council has, on 22 May 2004, approved the SMJ's application for accreditation as a Category 3B CME provider. Category 3B programmes are distance-learning programmes with verifiable self-assessment. The SMJ programme will be accredited for non-core CME points for a period of two years.

Starting in June 2004, two articles of general educational value to the medical profession will be identified in each issue of the journal. Five 4-stem multiple choice questions (giving a total of 20 possible responses) will be placed at the end of each of these selected articles. Readers will be given a fixed time period (up to 7 weeks from availability of the online version of the SMJ and up to 5 weeks from availability of the print version) to complete and submit their answers to these questions. The inaugural sets of multiple choice questions can be found on pages 266 and 294 of the current issue of SMJ.

Answers may be submitted by post, fax or online at the SMJ CME website (URL <http://www.sma.org.sg/cme/smj>). Detailed instructions are printed on the answer forms. After the deadline for submissions, the answers will be published in the next issue of the journal, typically two months later (e.g. answers for the June 2004 CME questions will appear in the SMJ August 2004 issue). Successful candidates will be notified of their results by email. The SMJ editorial office will submit the list of successful candidates to the Singapore Medical Council for award of CME points.

At present, the Singapore Medical Council has yet to decide on the exact number of CME points to be awarded for successful completion of the verifiable self-assessment test for each designated article. The SMJ will make another announcement when a decision has been made.

The SMJ is committed to provide a minimum of 18 hours of learning activity per year through this CME programme. On behalf of the editorial board, I encourage all readers to participate in this new CME programme. Your comments and feedback for this new educational activity are welcome.

Professor Wilfred C G Peh
Editor
Singapore Medical Journal