



# SPCONNECT

The e-newsletter from the Singapore Pharmacy Council

Issue 2, April 2009

## HIGHLIGHTS:

**The SPC Pharmacist's Pledge Ceremony 2009**

**Preceptor Training Workshop 2009**

**SPC Competency Examinations**

**CPE Update**

**Public Health Lectures**

**Please bookmark our website address:**  
[www.spc.gov.sg](http://www.spc.gov.sg)

**If you would like to attend the SPC Pharmacist's Pledge Affirmation Ceremony on Wednesday 13 May 2009.**

Please e-mail us at [enquiries@spc.gov.sg](mailto:enquiries@spc.gov.sg)

**We encourage you to come with your classmates and to take this opportunity to renew your vows to our profession and to renew your ties with fellow pharmacists.** Acceptance is on a "first-come-first-served basis".

## The SPC Pharmacist's Pledge Ceremony 2009

The Singapore Pharmacy Council will hold its Pharmacist's Pledge Affirmation Ceremony on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at 6:30pm at the College of Medicine Building.

The Guest-of-Honour is Minister for Health, Mr. Khaw Boon Wan. About 90 NUS & foreign trained pharmacy graduates who have recently completed their pre-registration training are expected to take the pledge.

The pledge was developed in 2008 by a workgroup appointed by the Singapore Pharmacy Board with input from Board members, fellow pharmacists and lay persons. The members of the workgroup were Assoc. Prof. Chui Wai Keung (Pharmacy Department, NUS), Ms Geraldine Koh (AH Pharmacy), Mr. Lee Jet Tong (Merck Sharp and Dohme), Mr. Benjamin Ong (HSA), Ms See Yen Theng (HSA), Ms Shyamala Nara (SGH Pharmacy) and Ms Yow Kah Lai (IMH).

**The Pharmacist's Pledge** is made up of ten statements which are formulated around the acronym "PHARMACIST" and describes the values, ethics, vision and professionalism which should be embraced by all pharmacists. The pledge serves to remind pharmacists of their duties and responsibilities toward their patients, colleagues and the society. Pharmacists solemnly pledged to:

- P**ractise my profession with honesty, integrity and compassion;
- H**onour traditions and embrace advances in my profession;
- A**bide to the governing laws and Code of Ethics;
- R**espect and keep in confidence patient information;
- M**aintain a high standard of professional competence through life long learning;
- A**lways place patient's interests first and treat them equally;
- C**ollaborate with other healthcare colleagues to achieve the desired treatment outcomes;
- I**mpart my knowledge, experience and skills to nurture future pharmacists;
- S**trive to provide high quality and cost-effective health services and products;
- T**ranslate scientific advances into better healthcare.



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## Singapore Pharmacy Council 2008-2011

**1. President**  
**Mr. Wu Tuck Seng**

**2. Registrar**  
**Ms. Ang Hui Gek**

**3. Members:**

**A/P Chan Sui Yung**

**Ms. Chan Soo Chung**

**Mrs. Chan Yiam Moi**

**Ms. Lita Chew**

**Mr. Koe Khoon Poh**

**Dr. Christina Lim**

**Ms. Linda Seah**

**Mr. Sia Chong Hock**

**Dr. Ellick Wong**

## Preceptor Training Workshop 2009

Three preceptor training workshops were conducted in February and March 2009 to equip preceptors with interpersonal, leadership and mentoring skills so that they can effectively lead, motivate and precept their pre-registration pharmacists and to be role models in professional practice and service excellence.

A total of 62 pharmacists from the community and hospital pharmacies attended the 1-day workshop. Half of the pharmacists who attended the workshop had 3 or more years of relevant work experience. The feedback for the workshop was very good. The pharmacists found the workshop interesting and interactive with real-life scenarios and interesting role plays which were relevant to their work. They felt that the interpersonal skills they picked up from the workshop were very useful in helping them become good preceptors and mentors.

The workshop included an inspirational and entertaining talk by Mr. Ng Boon Tat, Principal Clinical Pharmacist from IMH, who shared about his personal experiences as a preceptor and mentor with the workshop participants.

A total of 5 sessions were conducted during the period 2004 to 2009. No sessions were held in 2006. The total number of preceptors trained so far is 424.



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Fax: (65) 6478 5069

Our operating hours are from Mondays to Fridays, 9:00am to 5:00pm.

Closed on Saturdays, Sundays and public holidays.

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Singapore Pharmacy Council  
College of Medicine Building  
16 College Road  
Singapore 169854

Office Address  
81 Kim Keat Road #09-00  
NKF Centre,  
Singapore 328836

Visit the [Singapore Pharmacy Council Website](http://www.spc.gov.sg) (<http://www.spc.gov.sg>)

## SPC Competency Examinations

The Singapore Pharmacy Council administers a Competency Exam as part of the requirements for all new pre-registration pharmacists' entry requirement into the pharmacy profession. This is to ensure competency and fitness to practise.

In 2008, the competency exams were held twice a year, in February and August. The first 2009 exam was conducted in February and the next is scheduled for 30 April with two more planned for August and November.

The competency exams are set and managed by a Board of Examiners.

It is a closed book examination and each paper comprises 100 multiple choice questions. The time allowed is 1 hour and 45 minutes with the passing mark set at 60%. 80% of the questions are on Clinical Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Practice, 10% on Pharmacy Ethics and 10% on Pharmacy System and Procedures. The examination fee is \$300 per candidate. All de-registered pharmacists (both local & foreign) who have not held a practising certificate for more than 5 years and who wish to restore their names to the Register will be required to pass the Competency exam.

Candidates who do not pass the first attempt are permitted to have 2 re-sit attempts.

For the information on competency standards and the guide to the competency exams please go to the following links:

[Competency Standards for Singapore Pharmacists V1.0 \(pdf\)](#)

[SPC Guide to Competency Examination](#)

De-registered pharmacists are also required to sit for the forensic examination.



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## CPE Update 73% have logged in as at 30 March 2009

As at 30 March 2009, 73% of the total 1,605 registered pharmacists have logged in CPE points into the CPDS and 53 pharmacists (3.3%) have achieved their required 50 CPE points.

All pharmacists who had accumulated 50 or more CPE points (after capping) during the period of 1 September 2006 to 31 August 2008 have their total CPE points requirement reduced to 40. A 10-point once-only incentive has been given to them for the effort they had put into achieving their CPE requirements during this period. The minimum patient care points requirement for them is reduced to 12 points for the Qualifying Period of 1 September 2008 to 31 August 2010. Pharmacists who received this incentive will notice this change in their CPE Records.

If you have any problems using the CPDS to submit claims, please contact the SPC office staff for assistance.

## Ministry of Health Public Health Lectures in April 2009

Date:	23 April 2009	30 April 2009
Time:	1 pm – 2 pm	
Venue:	Lecture Room, College of Medicine Building	
Speaker:	Annelis Wilder – Smith	Lim Meng Kin
Topic:	Yellow Fever: Risk Assessments, Vaccine Requirements and Recommendations	The Health of Palestinians Following the Second Intifada