

College of Emergency Physicians

About...



The Chapter of Emergency Physicians (originally formed on 13 November 2007) had been transformed into the College of Emergency Physicians on 20 November 2014 under the Academy of Medicine, Singapore (AMS). The College seeks to organise

continuing education programmes for members and to undertake projects for the further advancement of professional development of emergency physicians in Singapore so as to enhance the care given to emergency patients.

President's Message

Dr V Anantharaman



The year 2014 was a very eventful one for the Chapter of Emergency Physicians. Our membership grew to 90 (71.4% of eligible persons). In addition to organising the first-ever structured Examiners Course for emergency physicians, we also organised the preparatory course for the Master of Medicine (Emergency Medicine), the SRS programme in emergency medicine, and worked closely with the Society for Emergency Medicine in Singapore (SEMS) to draw up the first report on the 'State Of Emergency Medicine in Singapore' (SOEMS). The year concluded with the official inauguration of the College of Emergency Physicians – a truly historical and landmark event in the development of emergency medical care in Singapore.

The Chapter and the Council have tried to push the idea of membership of the College

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having its privileges and have demonstrated this clearly in

the programmes that had been organised. More workgroups have also been formed, especially in injury prevention, disaster medicine and sepsis. A Section of Clinical Toxicologists has also been formed under the College. The benefits of membership will be even more apparent with our members taking the initiative in the various projects that we have embarked on. SOEMS is evidence of this.

We should work together in creating the opportunities for our emergency physicians in Singapore to actively influence the development of our clinical practice. On behalf of the members of the Council, I wish all members of the College the very best for 2015. We look forward to working closely with our membership and to more good things for the future.

The 2014-2015 Interim Council

President:	Dr V Anantharaman
Vice President:	Dr Goh Siang Hiong
Secretary:	Dr Lim Swee Han
Treasurer:	Dr Lee Wee Yee
Council Members:	Dr Peng Li Lee
	Dr Eillyne Seow
	Dr Mohan Tiruchittampalam



Seated (from the left): Dr Goh Siang Hiong (Vice President), Dr V Anantharaman (President), Dr Lee Wee Yee (Treasurer)

Standing (from the left): Dr Eillyne Seow, Dr Mohan Tiruchittampalam, Dr Peng Li Lee (Council Members)

Not in photo: Dr Lim Swee Han (Secretary)

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the then-Chapter of Emergency Medicine was held on 25 July 2014 at the Singapore General Hospital.

Committee Meetings

Most of the then-Chapter of Emergency Medicine's committee meetings had been conducted through email discussions.

Membership

A total of 12 emergency physicians had joined the College in 2014 bringing the total membership to 90 as of 31 December 2014, consisting of 80 Local, 9 Overseas Fellows and 1 Associate Member.

The following were admitted to the Academy of Medicine, Singapore as Fellows of the College in 2014: Dr Chan Kim Poh, Dr Chan Wui Ling, Dr Chiu Li Qi, Dr Haji Jumat Linawati, Dr Heng Jiun Yi, Dr Ho Weng Hoe Keith, Dr Lee Mui Hua Jean, Dr Mong Ru Peng, Dr Ong Pei Yuen, Dr Ong Yeok Kein Victor, Dr Rahman Norazlina Suryani and Dr Sajeed Shanaz Matthew.

Continuing Medical Education

• Issues in Geriatric Trauma

Date: 18 February 2014

Speaker: Prof TV Ramakrishnan, Head, Department of Emergency Medicine, Sri Ramachandra Medical College, Chennai, India

• Sepsis – Fact or Fiction?

Date: 8 August 2014

Speaker: Prof Peter Cameron, Immediate Past President, International Federation for Emergency Medicine

M Med (Emergency Medicine) Parts B & C Preparatory Course

The M Med (Emergency Medicine) Parts B & C Preparatory Course took place from 14 to 19 April 2014 at Singapore General Hospital, National University Health System, KK Women's & Children's Hospital, Tan Tock Seng Hospital and Changi General Hospital.

A total of 26 candidates had registered for the course: 21 specialist trainees/residents, 1 non-trainee/resident and 4 overseas participants. The faculty comprised of 11 lecturers and 41 Practical Assessment of Clinical Examination Skills (PACES) facilitators and examiners. The external visiting lecturer was Dr Lisa Edna Munro-Davies (Consultant in Emergency Medicine, University Hospitals Bristol NHS Trust Foundation, UK). She had delivered the following lectures:

- How to Handle the Communications Station
- Update and Revision on Resuscitation Guidelines
- Therapeutic and Diagnostic ED Procedures
- Common Mistakes Made by Candidates

An Appreciation Dinner was held on 17 April 2014 at Margarita's Restaurant.

Participation at the 48th Malaysia-Singapore Congress of Medicine

The then-Chapter of Emergency Physicians had taken part at the 48th Malaysia-Singapore Congress of Medicine (MSCM) from 26 to 28 August 2014 at Shangri-La Hotel, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia by organising two symposia. The theme had been 'Personalised Diagnostics: From Bench to Bedside'.

The first symposium on 26 August 2014 (co-chaired by A/Prof Lim Swee Han and A/Prof Mohd Idzwan Zakaria) had focused on 'Update on Biomarkers in the Management of Common Cardiac Emergencies' with the following highlights:

- **BNP in Diagnosing Heart Failure. An Experience in an Emergency Department in Malaysia**
Speaker: A/Prof Mohd Idzwan Zakaria, President, College of Emergency Physicians, AMM, Malaysia
- **Role of BNP in the Management of Acute and Chronic Heart Failure**
Speaker: Prof Mark Richards, Director, Cardiovascular Research Institute, National University of Singapore, Singapore
- **Cardiac Biomarkers in ED Chest Pain**
Speaker: A/Prof Lim Swee Han, Senior Consultant, Department of Emergency Medicine, Singapore General Hospital, Singapore
- **High-Sensitivity Troponins – Lessons from the Laboratory**
Speaker: Prof Aw Tar Choon, Senior Consultant, Division of Laboratory Medicine, Changi General Hospital, Singapore

The second symposium on 28 August 2014 (co-chaired by A/Prof Eillyne Seow and Dr Shah Jahan Mohd Yusof) had focused on 'Sepsis/Emerging Infectious Diseases' with the following highlights:

- **From SARS to Pandemic Flu – The Singapore Experience**
Speaker: A/Prof Eillyne Seow, Senior Consultant, Emergency Department, Tan Tock Seng Hospital, Singapore
- **Challenges in Laboratory Diagnosis during Outbreak of Emerging Infectious Disease in the Developing World**
Speaker: Dr Jamal I-Ching Sam, Professor, Department of Medical Microbiology, Faculty of Medicine, University of Malaya, Malaysia

- **Value of Shock Index in Prognosticating the Short Term Outcome of Death for Patients Presenting with Severe Sepsis and Septic Shock in the Emergency Department**

Speaker: Dr Shah Jahan Mohd Yusof, Emergency Physician, Emergency & Trauma Department, Hospital Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Inauguration Ceremony and Dinner

The College held its Inauguration Ceremony and Dinner on 20 November 2014 at Suntec International Convention and Exhibition Centre, Singapore. Some 47 Fellows and 41 guests had gathered to mark the establishment of the College of Emergency Physicians. Master of the Academy, Prof Lim Shih Hui, had graced the occasion that evening. Another highlight of the event had been a much-appreciated donation of S\$8000 from the Society for Emergency Medicine in Singapore to the College.



The College President, Prof V Anantharaman (left) accepting the cheque on behalf of the College from Dr Toh Hong Chuen from the Society for Emergency Medicine in Singapore.



Master of the Academy, Prof Lim Shih Hui (fourth from the right) poses with the appointed College Council members. The College's crest (in the background) had been unveiled at the event.

Diploma in Emergency Medicine Course-Staff Registrar Scheme

An entry interview for the 2014 8th intake was held on 5 March 2014 at the Academy of Medicine, Singapore. The panel of interviewers were: Dr Steven

HC Lim (Programme Director), Prof V Anantharaman (Chapter Chairman), Dr Lee Chun Yue Francis (Head, Department of Acute & Emergency Care, Khoo Teck Puat Hospital, Singapore) and Dr Evelyn Wong (Head, Department of Emergency Medicine, Singapore General Hospital, Singapore). A total of 9 candidates were interviewed and 8 were eligible for enrolment. From the 2012 6th intake, 10 candidates had graduated.

American Board of Emergency Medicine In-Training Examination

The Academy of Medicine, Singapore had conducted the American Board of Emergency Medicine In-Training Examination (ABEM-ITE) for 78 registered emergency medicine residents in Singapore on 26 February 2014 at the East Asia Institute of Management (Balestier Campus).

First Examiners' Course in Emergency Medicine

The then-Chapter of Emergency Physicians and the Medical Education Unit, National University of Singapore (NUS) had organised the First Examiners' Course in Emergency Medicine from January to November 2014. A total of 21 participants (19 Fellows and 2 Non-Fellow emergency physicians) had completed the course.

Position Paper – The State of Emergency Medical Care in Singapore

A workgroup on 'The State of Emergency Medical Care in Singapore' published the White Position Paper in November 2014. A half-day symposium on the publication had been scheduled to be held in April 2015.

Workgroup in Injury Prevention and Control

A workgroup had convened a meeting in 2014 to discuss the objectives and terms of reference on 'Injury Prevention and Control in Singapore'. A study on 'First Aid by Bystander for Injured Patients Presenting to the Hospital' had been planned. Funding for the conduct of the study was being sought from grant agencies.

Formation of Section of Clinical Toxicologists

A letter of application dated 31 October 2014 had been submitted by the then-Chapter of Emergency Physicians to the Academy for the formation of a Section of Clinical Toxicologists under the soon-to-be College. The Section was subsequently approved by the Academy of Medicine Council in early January 2015.

Independent Medical Expert Opinion

The then-Chapter of Emergency Physicians had received one request for an independent medical expert opinion in emergency medicine from the Singapore Police Force.

Ministry of Health Request

The then-Chapter of Emergency Physicians had also provided an opinion through the Academy to the Ministry of Health on the topic, 'Review of the Regulatory Framework for Specialised Services under the PHMC Act'.