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Welcome to 2012

Dear Colleagues

The College Council and Secretariat has had a busy start to the year, organising the indemnity cover and putting into place membership structures and procedures to bring the College in line with the Fiji Medical and Dental Practitioners Bill 2010 as well as the General Practice Regulations.

Read on for more updates on current projects.

INDEMNITY

The Indemnity Insurance Group Cover has been renewed with Lumley for the period January 2012—January 2013.

The limit of cover has been confirmed at one (1) million Fiji dollars. Lumley had initially quoted individual premiums at \$2,000 but negotiations by our broker, Marsh, on our behalf has brought that down to \$1,400 VEP.

Individual cover is still available to doctors who wish not to come under the College Scheme, these doctors would just need to approach Marsh themselves and should expect to pay about \$5,000 in premiums.

All doctors who have confirmed cover will receive their electronic invoice through email within the week and these charges must be paid up by April 30th at the latest.

Failure to pay the premiums by this date will result in a loss of your Indemnity Cover.

WEBSITE

The new website is coming along nicely and will be ready for launch on February 25th, 2012.

The new website can be found at <http://www.fijigp.org/> but please be aware that the website is still under construction and is not fully functional.

Members are invited to suggest extra content for the website, send photos to feature on the website or make general comments about the content or layout. These comments may be emailed to the Secretariat at fccgsec@gmail.com.

REVISIONS OF RULES AND REGULATIONS

A revision of our current Constitution has been undertaken to produce our new Rules and Regulations document which would bring our current procedures in line with the Fiji Medical and Dental Decree and General Practitioners Regulations.

A first draft has been produced by Dr Devika Kumar which has been circulated amongst the Executive Council for input and comments.

Work on the Rules and Regulations will continue with the view of having the final draft ready by the Annual General Meeting.

"Together it is possible"

Each year on 4 February, World Cancer Day, WHO and the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) support the International Union Against Cancer (UICC) to promote ways to ease the global burden of cancer.

"Together it is possible" is the 2012 theme for World Cancer Day, reinforcing that it is only by every person, organization, and government individually doing their part that the world will be able to reduce premature deaths from cancer and other noncommunicable diseases.

Preventing cancer, improving treatment and raising quality of life for cancer patients are recurring themes. This year, WHO and IARC will focus on screening and vaccination.

For more information visit the WHO website

<http://www.who.int/en/>

Upcoming World Health Days

22 March 2012
World Water Day

24 March 2012
World TB Day

7 April 2012
World Health Day

25 April 2012
World Malaria Day

31 May 2012
World No Tobacco Day

CONFERENCE UPDATES

WONCA 2012 ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL CONFERENCE

Theme:

Evidence Based Approach to Primary Care

When:

May 24-27, 2012

Where:

Jeju, Korea

Invitations to attend this conference have been sent out by email.

All applications or enquiries should be directed towards Dr Abdul Wahid Khan by email at awkhan55@gmail.com.

GOODFELLOW SYMPOSIUM 2012

Theme:

Integrated Care: What does it mean for you?

When:

March 23-25, 2012

Where:

Auckland, NZ

There is one free registration available for this conference.

Interested members may email the secretariat for more details.

FCGP ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2012

Theme:

The Tenth Pillar—Medico—Legal and Other Aspects of General Practice

When:

June 9-11, 2012

Where:

Novotel Lami Bay, Suva, Fiji

The Flyer and Registration forms have been sent out through the post and over email.

Members are encouraged to register early to take advantage of the lower registration fee.

Please note that registration requires a passport photo for your identification card.

Contact us:

Fiji College of General Practitioners

83 Princes Road, Tamavua, Suva, Fiji

PO Box 14012, Suva, Fiji

T: (679) 3371007 E: fcpsec@gmail.com

PATHWAYS INTO PRIVATE GENERAL PRACTICE

The introduction of the General Practice Regulations has created some confusion as to the process of entering private general practice and the pre-conditions that must be met by the individual doctor.

Also arising from this was the issue of whose responsibility it became to ensure that the guidelines were followed and the pre-requisites met.

After lengthy discussions in person and over email between College representatives and the Fiji Medical Council and their Secretariat, the College is now closer to a final definition of these processes and how they are going to be put into practice.

Also tied into this is the development of the General Practice Postgraduate programs to be offered by the College, or a third party, if feasible.

Once the College formulates a final system, this will be presented to the Fiji Medical Council for approval and once approved, becomes formalized as a College modus operandi.

These procedures will then be outlined and incorporated into the "Introducing the College" booklet which will be made available on our website and also in printed form from our Secretariat and distributed to relevant stakeholders, such as the Fiji School of Medicine.

It is hoped that this will be completed before the Annual General Meeting, 2012.

FCGP CHILDREN'S HEART FOUNDATION

Excerpt from The Fiji Times Online <http://www.fijitimes.com>

Children for heart operation

Tevita Tuiwavu

Monday, February 13, 2012

TIMOCI Tagiciverata is one of the four children that left for India on Saturday for a heart operation at the Frontier Lifeline Hospital.

Timoci was born in 2005 with a heart defect which requires surgery.

The six-year-old and his father Kali Masibalavu were presented airline tickets by Vodafone last Friday for their second trip to Chennai.

The other children that were part of the trip were one-year old Noor Nazmun Ali, four-year old Josateki Qionibaravi and Caroline Fisher, 10.

A statement from the Vodafone ATH Fiji Foundation stated this brought to 53 the number of children who have received medical treatment in India.

It stated that this would be the thirteenth group that left Fiji for Chennai since 2007 with funding from the foundation.

The foundation gave more than \$1 million to the Fiji College of General Practitioners' Children's Heart Foundation so that children with congenital heart problems like Timoci can be treated.

COOPERATION IN THE TREATMENT OF TUBERCULOSIS

The signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the National Tuberculosis Programme, FCGP and the Fiji Pharmacy Society was held at the Daulako Laboratory at the PJ Twomey Hospital, Tamavua on the 8th of February, 2012.

Dr Rosemary Mitchell signed the MOU on behalf of the Fiji College of General Practitioners.

The MOU outlines complimentary treatment strategies for tuberculosis in both the private and public health sectors, primarily the Directly Observed Treatment Short-Course (DOTS) program.