



FCGP

Newsletter

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From the President's Desk



Bula everyone and once again



It's the beginning of another decade and another era.

Remember the 2010 FMDC decree is now 10 yrs old which gave credence and legitimised FCGP; the body of all the GP's in Fiji.

The vision and mission, aims and objectives that the founding fathers and mothers worked relentlessly hard for was finally sealed by virtue of this decree.

And it was none other than a former President of our College, Dr Neil Sharma as the interim Minister for Health, who gave birth or finally helped deliver

The College's constitution in its infancy or conception was largely based on the Colleges of Australia, NZ and UK. We had representatives from all these three countries for the inauguration that was held on 22nd Feb 1993 at the Sheraton Fiji Resort that was officiated by late Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara who was the President of Republic of Fiji.

We continued to push for our recognition from those early days but never materialised until 2010. Rest is history, suffice to add that indemnity insurance cover was a mandatory clause for all the GP's.

Five years later, in 2015, due to some member's proclamations that the premiums were too high (overseas insurer, since none exists in Fiji) FCGP in house scheme was established.

My previous mail on this issue is quite clear on the pros and cons etc.

I had a joint meeting with Dr Rosemary Mitchell and Mr. Frank Lampert of IH in Suva on Friday 10th Jan to look at how best we could reach an amicable solution.

Frank will look at our in house scheme in detail and give us an opinion based on the terms and conditions and also to study if Chubb can extend any assistance.

We are trying to see if FCGP scheme can be incorporated somehow with an overseas insurer (need not be Chubb). This will not happen anytime soon though.

Many of your indemnity cover is due for renewal anytime soon. We'll continue to look for the best options which need not be the cheapest option but rather look at the terms and conditions. That is most important consideration. Whatever it is, you're entitled to claim it all as your business expenses, like the rent you pay, staff salary, electricity.

BSP, Fiji Care, Capital Insurance

My other meetings were held with BSP Health, Fiji Care and Capital Insurance as a follow up from my last meeting.

BSP Health is yet to formalise an agreement due to delays in their legal department. They cannot as yet give us a time frame for signing a collective agreement. Some of the officials are visiting the west this week to meet all the providers and keep us updated.

Fiji Care has recorded an unprecedented number of claims from some GP's specially on investigations, IV fluids etc.

Some of the investigations appears to be overzealous, unwarranted or routines that Fiji Care is concerned about. Some of the members are not seeking prior approvals which is clearly laid down in their claim forms that includes referrals etc.

Unscrupulous claims can be rejected and such claims will not help sustain any health care provider for long. There are limits on amount claimed per year and some patients may exhaust their benefits in a short time.

If you have any doubts on claims and benefits, do not hesitate to contact them for clarifications.



FCGP Office is moving

We are relocating our office from Epworth House in Waimanu Road to 10 Holland Street that houses FMA as well.

We'll be under the same roof in a better and bigger office that will ultimately bring us closer to the FMA members.

The secretariat will keep you posted



FCGP Annual Conference

Take advantage of the early bird registration which has already been circulated and you are well aware of the venue, theme etc.

Warwick Resort and Spa remains the most popular spot for our annual meetings and conferences.

Australian Bush Fires

We are all very much concerned with the tragedies in Australia. Many GP's are to some extent affected and we have written to the President as well as the Australian High Commission in Suva. Our thoughts and prayers are with all the Australians.



RACGP

Royal Australian College of General Practitioners

Membership RACGP

Under the MOU-RACGP/FCGP agreement, members are welcome to sign up as associate members of RACGP which costs only \$300.00 AUD.

Interested members will be able to join by clicking on the Login/Join icon on the top right hand side of the RACGP website - <https://www.racgp.org.au/>



Wonca Asia Pacific Regional Conference

will be held close to our shores, in Auckland from 23-26th April 2020.

Apply to attend this worthwhile conference. Fiji is expected to have a good representative led by Keshwan Nadan, Neil Sharma, Wahid Khan, Dhirend Lal....

Register ASAP and apply for funds from FCGP.



Late Dr Melissa Payumo

My apologies for this late bereavement. College lost yet another GP (wife of Dr. Frank Payumo) who had started her young practice in Ba. Our thoughts and prayers are with her husband and children.

PRESCRIPTION

Patient Name: _____

Address: _____ Date: _____

R_x

Irrational and Indiscriminate Prescribing. Some of our members have been reported to be prescribing irrationally and indiscriminately. One such prescription from a GP had a total of 10 items namely: Probiotic, Augmentin, Centrum, Panadeine, Gaviscon, Tussin DM, Levocetirizine, Codral Cold Otrivine narist and Panadol.

How can such a prescription be condoned that has 3 items with PCM ?

Member, Professional Standards Committee, a subcommittee of the Fiji Pharmacy & Poisons Board (FP&PB).

We are scouting for a member to be part of the Professional Standards Committee (FP&PB). **Let me know if you are keen to do so on behalf of FCGP.**

MD: _____

Signature: _____

Vinaka

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