



FCGP

Newsletter

Fiji College of General Practitioners | February 2021



Dear members

Welcome to the new year, Covid 19 era !

Hopefully you are in good spirits and in good health despite the crisis facing everyone here in Fiji and abroad.

I would like to highlight several issues of concern and of interest to the College members.



As I had mentioned earlier Fiji Care will require all the members to sign up the SLA (service level agreement).

As you know the College had collectively signed the agreement as providers in the past on behalf of all the members.

With one or two clauses to be amended, we are feeling comfortable with the draft agreement for members to sign up similar to the BSP Health document.

The College will no longer be responsible for complaints, negligence etc henceforth. Some of our members were not complying with best practices despite timely warnings and advise.



As I had mentioned in the past, negotiations will continue soon on capitation and bulk billing charges to be reviewed to be on par with Fiji Care fees

Seminar on MSAF and LTA

The first seminar organized by the Western Faculty this year includes extensive discussions on medical standards for MSAF and LTA. CEO's of these two statutory organizations will be present in Nadi on 14th February details of which you are already aware of.

Many members were interested to be on the panel of examiners for MSAF. This is an opportunity for you to be on the panel if you attend this seminar which is the first step.

LTA medicals for drivers is also being reviewed. Again it's imperative for you to attend to conduct medicals for drivers.

The second seminar or workshop will be held similarly in Suva for the Central Faculty members on Sat 6th March. Northern Faculty members are welcome to join us in Nadi or Suva.

We'll collaborate with both MSAF and LTA upon successful completion of the workshop/seminar and visiting a ship or a large boat to understand the working environment of seafarers, a certificate or accreditation will be issued to conduct their medicals.

The MSAF and LTA medical requirements/standards and guidelines will be issued to everyone prior to the first seminar on 14th February.

We'll also establish an appropriate fee schedule that will apply uniformly throughout Fiji.



Other updates

Code of Ethics and Advertisements

Please refer to my earlier newsletter on codes of conduct on advertising. Ms Misau Whippy, CEO of FMDC, will be attending our seminar in Nadi on 14th. More discussions will be held before the Codes of Ethics and Conduct gets implemented.

June Annual conference

Bit early to give you more details, suffice to add that early bird registrations has started. Take advantage. More news from the Central Faculty to follow soon.

Two new members have applied and once approved will let you all know.

ECM

Our first ECM for this year will be held on Sat 13th Feb in Nadi. The Westin Resort, Valentine's Day. You are most welcome to join us later for socials and dinner from 7pm.

Westin has given special room rates as well as a special dinner menu. Sanjeeta can provide details but be quick to register as the week-end in Nadi gets pretty good turnouts from the locals, specially from Suva.

Enjoy the discounted rates and the seminar the following day. If you have an issue for us to consider at the ECM, do let us know asap.

Self-Prescribing

It was a timely warning from the MOH and I attach herewith my press release on this matter.

Let's crack down hard on the pharmacists who are dispensing drugs illegally.

Alternative Medical Practitioners

Some members have reported illegal practitioners working as Herbalists, Rehabilitation, Acupuncturists, Naturopaths, and Traditional Medicine etc.

The college can only report the matter to the police but we need some evidence and patients complaining about it. We can certainly crack down hard on these alternative practitioners.

I'll get a list of those legally registered with FMDC for our knowledge and those not registered and freely practicing can be taken to task.

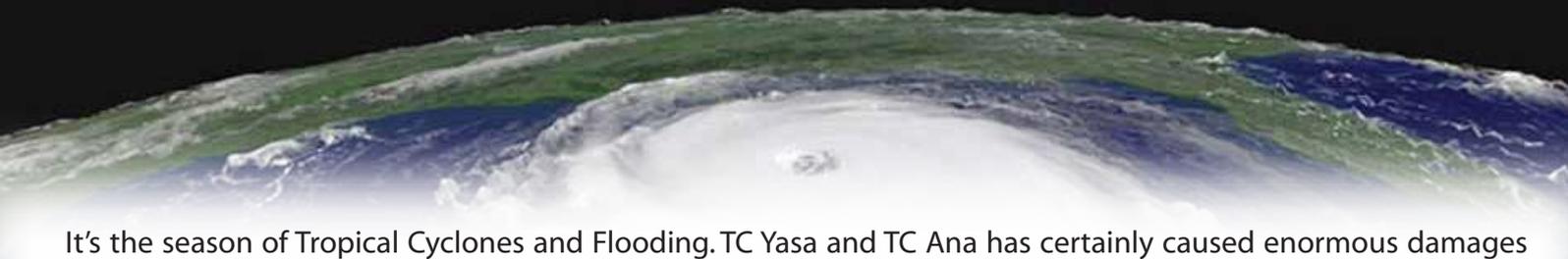
FCGP Membership, Updating Database

College Membership renewal is now due as well as your APC (FMDC registration/renewal).

We would appreciate sending us a copy of your renewal registration with FMDC for us to update the Database.

Your cooperation will be valuable to have the database updated.

FIJI TROPICAL CYCLONE SEASON November - April



It's the season of Tropical Cyclones and Flooding. TC Yasa and TC Ana has certainly caused enormous damages that may take months or even years to recover.

Many of our members have been affected particularly in Ba, Raki Raki and Labasa. For some a familiar scene, a learning curve.

One has to take stock, pause and perhaps look at a safer place to relocate.....

Whilst on the TC's, we are extremely proud of the team that toured Vanua Levu, led by Dr Krish Naidu of Nadi on a mission known as *Help, Heal* and *Hope*. The 7 minute video just released on viber (hope you have all seen it) is a testament of their successful accomplished mission. It's also seen on YouTube "GP's outreach TC Yasa."

Congratulations to all who took their time out for a worthy cause.



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