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Organizing Chairperson

8th MSO Annual Scientific Meeting 2017

1. How big is the committee team and how were they selected?

It comprises the MSO committee which is elected every 2 years during the annual general meeting (AGM).

2. Why did you decide to open the event to non-ophthalmologist?

We decided to open it to non-ophthalmologists after we received enquiries from medical doctors in other fields. They felt this year's programme would be beneficial to them as well.

3. Could you explain further, what the theme 'Navigating Medicolegal Minefields' is about?

There are many aspects of medicolegal

practice that doctors are not aware of. We all noticed a rise in litigation and clearly everyone dreads this so we need to understand why it happens and in the unfortunate event that we are involved, we need to know what to do and how to tackle it.

There are things that we can do to ameliorate the circumstance or even avoid it like mediation. But clearly, the best is to avoid it at all costs and this involves us managing our practices well, like taking consent appropriately, risk management etc.

4. Why is there a need to discuss medicolegal?

Medical practice and indeed patient expectations continually change over time. The advances in medical care have come at a cost - which has to be borne by the patient in some form or other. This, coupled with the fact that patients are becoming more well-informed of their own conditions creates an environment of greater expectation and anger or disappointment if things do not go as they expect it to.

As a result, complaints and litigation are undoubtedly on the rise so we as doctors must understand it and the processes involved so that we can continue providing the high level of care we wish without practising in fear. After all, as a profession, we have always had the best interest of the patient at heart. This will never change.



5. How were the speakers selected? Did they volunteer?

They were identified by the MSO committee for their experience in medicolegal work and involvement in specialized areas like mediation. We also have a couple of judges to give us their invaluable feedback on some of these cases and their perspective on the issues.

6. Compared to last year's annual meeting, what's new this year?

We are having a full-day workshop on medicolegal. The second day has 'grand rounds' which is a presentation of interesting cases from various subspecialties from both government and private doctors.

7. What do you aim to achieve from this year's meeting?

We want increase the awareness of medicolegal aspects of practice and how to cope with these situations. Not just that, we want to improve how we approach and prepare medicolegal reports which are sometimes asked of us for certain cases, for example when a patient has had an accident.

8. What do you aim to also achieve out of the in-depth discussions of managing interesting cases from all subspecialties?

This is a forum where all ophthalmologists can discuss interesting cases and the ideal management options. Individually, we may not all encounter patients who have rare or

complex cases so it is important to share this with other clinicians as it is not just a learning experience but can also improve the management of patient – as it goes, 2 heads are better than 1.

9. How many attendees are you expecting?

We're hoping for about 200 attendees with a mix of trainees, consultants and also general medical doctors.

10. Tell us more about the Charity Eye Ball and what are the highlights?

Registration includes a charity dinner with proceeds going to The Temple of Fine Arts' charity clinic arm and the highlight of the evening will be some entertainment by the world's funniest person, Harith Iskandar!

11. What is the main objective of the charity ball?

This is the inaugural Eye Ball organized by the MSO with the aim of not only improving the social interaction in our fraternity but also to help raise money for worthy causes, which the committee will evaluate and nominate every year. We will also be honouring and recognizing the good work done by our senior colleagues at the ball.

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