



Cottesloe Beach, Perth, Western Australia

A Medical Adventure Down Under

SMA and the Australian Medical Association (Western Australia) [AMA (WA)] have agreed on a collaboration to facilitate medical exchanges between Singapore and Australia. Through this initiative, doctors from each country will have the opportunity to embark on a six-month work experience in the other one.

General practitioners (GPs) in Singapore with qualifications recognised by the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners (RACGP), or the Master in Family Medicine [MMed (FM)] or its equivalent, can apply for a placement in a regional centre or rural locations in Western Australia.

Dr Wong Tien Hua, Chairperson of SMA's Membership Committee and a GP in private practice, commented, "Offering this avenue for Singapore doctors to have an overseas stint will certainly be a rare opportunity that should not be missed. This six-month attachment will widen the doctor's views and offer exposure into a different professional environment that would otherwise be unavailable in Singapore. We think that this experience will be an invaluable opportunity for our members."

"Singapore doctors will have first hand exposure on how general practice in Australia operates and in the process, enrich their medical experiences and enjoy the wonderful environment, cool weather and unique culture. They can also take the opportunity to see a little more of Western Australia in their spare time," said Ms Noelle Jones, Director of Health & Community Services at AMA (WA).

Ms Jones added that doctors who have completed the MMed (FM) will be able to work in Australia as a GP. The application process includes several procedures, and AMA (WA) will provide guidance to doctors throughout, including sponsorship and placement. Doctors with the

MMed (FM) will not be required to take a pre-qualifying exam. This is good for those going to Australia on a short term basis, as AMA (WA) will arrange for the interview via videoconferencing with the Medical Board of Australia.

Ms Jones further advised that Singapore doctors will be paid in Australian dollars for their locum work by the private practices who engage them.

She then continued, "Singapore and Western Australia are already close in many ways, both professionally and culturally. The collaboration between our associations will bring us even closer.

"The tyranny of distance matters little when it comes to Medicine. Both nations are facing similar challenges in the area of health and well-being, and we can tackle them together through tools such as work exchanges.

"The AMA (WA) views this as an exciting start to a new relationship. We can learn so much from each other."

For those who are interested to embark on this medical adventure, please contact SMA or send in your CVs to: Australia Exchange, Singapore Medical Association, 2 College Road, Alumni Medical Centre Level 2, Singapore 169850, or email australia@sma.org.sg. **SMA**



Ms Noelle Jones (left) and Dr Wong Tien Hua

Medical adventure

Opportunities in Australia

SMA in collaboration with AMA(WA) invites Singapore GPs who aspire to enrich their medical career to apply for a 6-12 month medical experience in Australia.



To embark on this adventure, contact:



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