

THE COLLEGE MILESTONES – FROM 1971 TO 2001

1971, March 18

The First Council of the College was formed and presided by the late Dr B. R. Sreenivasan. The College was housed at the old Alumni Medical Centre at 4-A College Road.

1971, June 30

The College of General Practitioners Singapore was officially inaugurated.

1972, November 5

The first examination for diplomate membership, the M.C.G.P., was held. This was the first post-graduate examination for family medicine to be conducted in Singapore.

1973, March 1

The first issue of 'The G.P.' was published. This was the journal of the College. The name of the publication was changed to 'The Singapore Family Physician' in 1975.

1974, July 1

Dr Benjamin A. Sheares, the late President of Singapore became the Patron of the College. The M.C.G.P. was recognised by the Singapore Medical Council as a registrable post-graduate medical qualification.

1978

The Sreenivasan Oration was established to perpetuate the memory of the founder President and his contribution to the College.

1983, May 20

The College hosted the Tenth Wonca World Conference on family medicine in Singapore.

1985, December 9

A memorandum was submitted by the College to the Ministry of Health proposing a vocational training programme for doctors intending to pursue a career in family medicine.

1987, February 13

Family medicine was recognised as a distinct academic discipline in medicine after much persistence and hard work by College members. The Department of Community, Occupational and Family Medicine was formed in the National University of Singapore. The Undergraduate Teaching Committee of the College would work closely with the Department in the teaching of family medicine in the University.

1987, August 15

The College premise was moved to the College of Medicine Building. It was officially opened by the former Minister of Health, Mr Howe Yoon Chong.

1987, October 19

The Post-graduate Medical Library which was jointly set up with the Academy of Medicine was officially opened.

1988, November 12

The First Annual Scientific Conference and Meditech Exhibition was organised by the College.

1988

The Steering Committee on Family Medicine Training was formed. This was a tripartite body comprising the College, the Ministry of Health and the Department of Community, Occupational and Family Medicine.

1991, February

A Memorandum proposing the institution of a masters degree in family medicine was submitted to the School of Postgraduate Medical Studies by the Steering Committee on Family Medicine Training.

1992, November 26

A memorandum proposing an advanced training programme for family medicine was submitted to the Singapore Medical Council and the School of Postgraduate Medical Studies.

1992

The 15th and final M.C.G.P. examination and conferment was held.

1993

The College was appointed by the Singapore Medical Council to administer the Singapore Medical Council-Continuing Medical Education Programme.

1993, July 12

The first Master of Medicine (Family Medicine) examination was held.

1993, November 17

The name of the College of General Practitioners Singapore was officially changed to 'College of Family Physicians Singapore'.

1995

A 2-year Private Practitioner Stream (PPS) leading to the Masters of Medicine (Family Medicine) was inaugurated.

1998

The First batch of College Fellowship by Assessment was started. There were eight participants. All completed the programme in 2000.

1998

A postgraduate FM training centre was officially open – The Graduate Family Medicine Centre which was used for the PPS training since 1995.

1999

The College Internet Project was launched.

2000

The first intake of 48 doctors in the Graduate Diploma in Family Medicine commenced in July 2000.

2001

The world and Asian-pacific office of Wonca is sited in the College. The College also won the bid to host the World Congress in 2007.

2001, June 23

The First Launch of the Family Medicine Year for the Diploma, Masters and Fellowship programmes were held. The ceremony also included the inception of two new programmes – the FM Fellowship Programme in Aged Care and the Structured Modular CME.