The 34th CMAAO General Assembly & 55th Council Meeting

Taiwan Medical Association
Country Report

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September 5th 2019
Distribution of Practitioners by Categories of Healthcare Facilities, 2018

- Number of practicing physicians: 47,654
- Total population of Taiwan: 23,588,730
- Physician to population ratio: 1:495
1. “Non-discounted Quality of Medical Care, Protected Rights of Physicians, and Smooth Operation of Healthcare Institutions” as Three Major Principles.

- **Residents**—September 1, 2019,

  “The Labor Standards Act” applied to residents hired for the healthcare service sector (excluding those at public hospitals applicable under the regulatory system for civil servants).”

- **Attending physicians**—March 14, 2019

  The Ministry of Health and Welfare prepared the draft amendment to some articles of the Medical Care Act.
Important Activities

2. National Judges Interpretation for the Right of Physician to Dispense Drugs under Separation of Prescription and Dispensing Policy to Protect People’s Right to Their Health

• According to the Pharmaceutical Affairs Act and the interpretation in related correspondence, physicians may only dispense drugs on their own in areas without pharmacists and under medically urgent circumstances and the said medically urgent circumstances are limited to those where immediate dosing is required.

• Under the joint efforts of physicians, related parties, and TMA, the National Judges offered the No. 778 interpretation on June 14, 2019 where it is declared that Article 50 of the Pharmaceutical Affairs Act Enforcement Rules and the interpretation in related correspondence over the definition of medically urgent circumstances are unconstitutional.

• TMA later formed the Task Force for National Judges Interpretation No. 778 and continued working for the best of the nation in terms of protecting the right over health in order to provide complete medical care service.
3. Unchanged Demand for Prudence and Thoroughness in Draft Regulations for Regenerative Medicine Products in Order to Protect People’s Rights to Life and Property without Undermining Professional Autonomy of Physicians.

- Regenerative medicine products shall not be classified as drugs.
- A representative review committee with substantial authority shall be set up.
- An outcome-based pricing shall be deliberated in order to protect patients from undertaking excessive risks and bearing unnecessary loss.
- It is no longer appropriate to hold physicians back from using regenerative medicine products applying the dispensing requirements of the Pharmaceutical Affairs Act as it will only give rise to unnecessary issues and does not help with advancement in medicine and development of the industry.
Important Activities

4. **Training Courses for Doctors on Board and Healthcare Professionals on Board in a Aircraft**

- WMA Resolution ON Medical Assistance in Air Travel
  
  Adopted by the 57th WMA GA October 2006 and revised by the 68th WMA GA October 2017

- From 2018 to 2019—Six training courses for “Doctors on Board in a Aircraft” in Taipei, Taichung, and Kaohsiung. A total of 634 physicians took the training courses.

- March 30, 2019—One training course for “Healthcare Professionals on Board in a Aircraft” video conference. Participants included physicians and nurses; a total of 675 healthcare professionals participated in the course.
5. Integrated Care and Bi-directional Transferral

- Referral information exchange platform
- Home care information sharing platform
- Joint care provided by clinics and hospitals
- Reinforced hospital discharge preparation and follow-up service
- Investment of NT$100 million to encourage cross-level support among physicians

Note: The dotted line shows the estimated values.
TMA has been rated “Outstanding” by the Ministry of Health and Welfare for two years in a row (2017 and 2018)

• Overall satisfaction with western medicine-based clinics up to 98.7% in 2018
• Constantly increasing referrals between clinics and hospitals; the referral network among hospitals and clinics is gradually taking shape.
• Outstanding performance among western medicine-based clinics after years of hard work in terms of the integrated care program among primary care physicians and the medical care coverage improvement proposals, among others.
• Taiwan Medical Journal

Statistics on Practicing Physicians and Healthcare Facilities in Taiwan 2017
International Relationship

TMA convened the International Symposium on Universal Health Coverage
December 1st 2018, Taipei, Taiwan
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TMA held the Asia-Pacific Region on Advance Care Planning Consensus Taipei Forum

April 19th-20th 2019
International Relationship

TMA convened the International Symposium on Primary Health Coverage in collaboration with WMA
May 21st 2019, InterContinental Hotel, Geneva, Switzerland
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International Relationship

TMA Annual National Doctors’ Day Celebration
November 12th 2018
International Relationship

Participation in international conferences and events

The 33rd CMAAO General Assembly in Penang, Malaysia
September 12th-14th 2018
International Relationship
Participation in international conferences and events

International conclave on zero tolerance on violence on doctors and hospitals
February 8th 2019, Mumbai, India
International Relationship

Participation in international conferences and events

The 2019 WMA Council Session in Santiago, Chile
April 25\textsuperscript{th}-27\textsuperscript{th} 2019
International Relationship

Participation in international conferences and events

The 72nd WHA in Geneva, followed by a meeting with WMA President Dr. Leonid Eidelman and Secretary-general Dr. Otmar Kloiber

May 20th-25th 2019, Geneva, Switzerland
International Relationship

Participation in international conferences and events

The 2019 American Medical Association Annual Meeting
June 8th-12th 2019, Chicago, USA
International Relationship

Participation in international conferences and events

Health professional Meeting H20 2019-Road to UHC
June 13th-14th 2019, Tokyo, Japan
International Relationship

International Exchanges

Israeli Medical Association Secretary-general Ms. Leah Wapner participated in the 2018 Global Health Forum in Taipei October 22nd-23rd 2018
International Relationship
Donation of USD 10,000 to the WMA Travel Fund
International Relationship

Future Plans

2020 CMAAO General Assembly Taipei
35th CMAAO General Assembly and 56th Council Meeting
September 10th-12th 2020
Taipei, Taiwan