

### **Revalidation of Sri Lankan Doctors**

The Sri Lanka Medical Association (SLMA) has given leadership to the proposed scheme of revalidation of Sri Lankan doctors by rallying medical Professional Colleges and Associations to form a Revalidation Committee (1). The primary objective of the committee has been declared as establishing a mechanism for island-wide Continuing Professional Development (CPD) for doctors.

The implementation of revalidation will be delayed until relevant issues such as, the mechanism for CPD, legal amendment to the medical ordinance proposed by the Sri Lanka Medical Council to make revalidation a legal requirement and required funding to organize and conduct revalidation activities are sorted out.

The Revalidation Committee has received support of the Director General of Health Service of Sri Lanka. Proposed district level Revalidation Committees have been identified to serve as accreditation bodies with the mandate to play an active role in organizing CPD activities.

Revalidation is already a legal requirement in developed countries such as the USA, Australia, Canada and UK (1). From January this year Singapore Has made CME compulsory requirement for renewal of license to practice.

Several factors contribute to a changing scenario related to the health status, health problems technologies as well as need and expectation of the people. In a fast changing field such as medicine, with the changing expectations of the

public and doctors, revalidation has to be viewed as something feasible, worthwhile and necessary. Page 46 in this issue provides answers to questions that would naturally come to one's mind on this issue (2).

This issue of the journal also carries an article providing an opportunity for members to experience an approach that can be used to collect points for revalidation and for Continuous Professional Development (CPD).

1. Seneviratne Epa S. Revalidation of Sri Lanka doctors. Establishing a mechanism for island wide CPD. The Ceylon Medical Journal 2003; 48(3): 65-67.

2. Revalidation of Sri Lankan doctors- Question and Answers. Annex to the minutes of 6 June 2003, of the Revalidation Committee meeting of Professorial Colleges and Association of Sri Lanka

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