

MEMBERSHIP GUIDE



Your profession . . .
Your voice . . .
Your AMA.

AUSTRALIAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION
(SOUTH AUSTRALIA) INC.



The Australian Medical Association (AMA) is the peak representative body for the medical profession, representing students and doctors-in-training, specialists and general practitioners, in public and private practice, in both rural and urban settings.

The AMA is also the principal medico-political lobbying group in the nation, as the advocate for professional independence and ethical standards.

In addition, the AMA also advocates for the community on public health issues regarding access to health care, and the affordability and standards of health care in Australia.

The strength of the AMA lies in its breadth of representation, and in its ability to use this influence as the independent voice of the medical profession and the community on health issues.

We work to ensure that the Government and other agencies are aware of - and respond to - the issues facing the medical profession and the community as a whole, and that they use our available health resources effectively and efficiently. In addition, the AMA seeks to improve these health resources through continued efforts in working with these parties.

AMA

YOUR

Our voice is strong, but we need your support! In order for the AMA to continue its valuable work in representing our members interests, we need the support of a loyal membership base. With this underlying strength, we can continue to represent the medical profession with a powerful, independent voice.

We hope you find the following information interesting, encouraging you to become a part of the association that represents you.

Historically Speaking

South Australian doctors have been pioneers in the creation of a strong and united association representing the nation's medical profession.

The Australian Medical Association (South Australia) Inc. is the oldest association in Australia, having been formed in 1879, initially as a branch of the British Medical Association. Through its continued efforts, the South Australian branch urged the establishment of a national organisation, eventuating in the inauguration of the Australian Medical Association in Adelaide in May 1962.

As a national organisation, the AMA functions in a representative, democratic manner. When members join the AMA(SA), they automatically become members of the Federal Body, and subscription fees are inclusive of this dual representation. Although state branches are run independently of the federal body, their constitutions are interlocking – for the protected interests of AMA members at both the state and federal level.

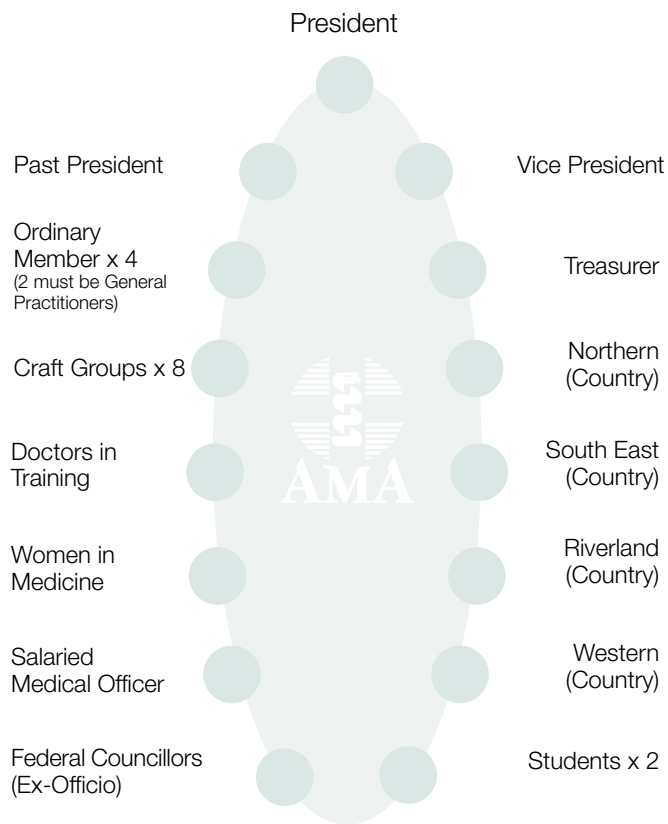
The AMA(SA) has also followed its Federal counterpart's lead in establishing craft groups, negotiating with State Government on issues of interest to its members.

YOUR PROFESSION



AMA

South Australian Council



The AMA(SA) Executive comprises: The President, Vice President, Past President, Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Medical Secretary, plus members elected by Council.

Statement of Values

The AMA(SA) exists to:

- promote and advance ethical behaviour by the medical profession;
- protect the integrity and independence of the doctor/patient relationship;
- promote and advance the public health and welfare of patients;
- promote the academic, professional and economic independence and the health and well-being of medical practitioners; and
- preserve and protect the political, legal and industrial interests of medical practitioners.

The AMA(SA) will achieve these aims by:

- fostering and sustaining consultation, cooperation and communication within the medical profession;
- acting as the principal coordinating and lobbying body for the medical profession;
- fostering unity amongst medical practitioners by providing a forum for their opinions;
- promoting the achievement and maintenance of high clinical and ethical standards in medical practice; and
- fostering communication between the medical profession and the community.



YOUR VOICE



Committees and Craft Group Representation

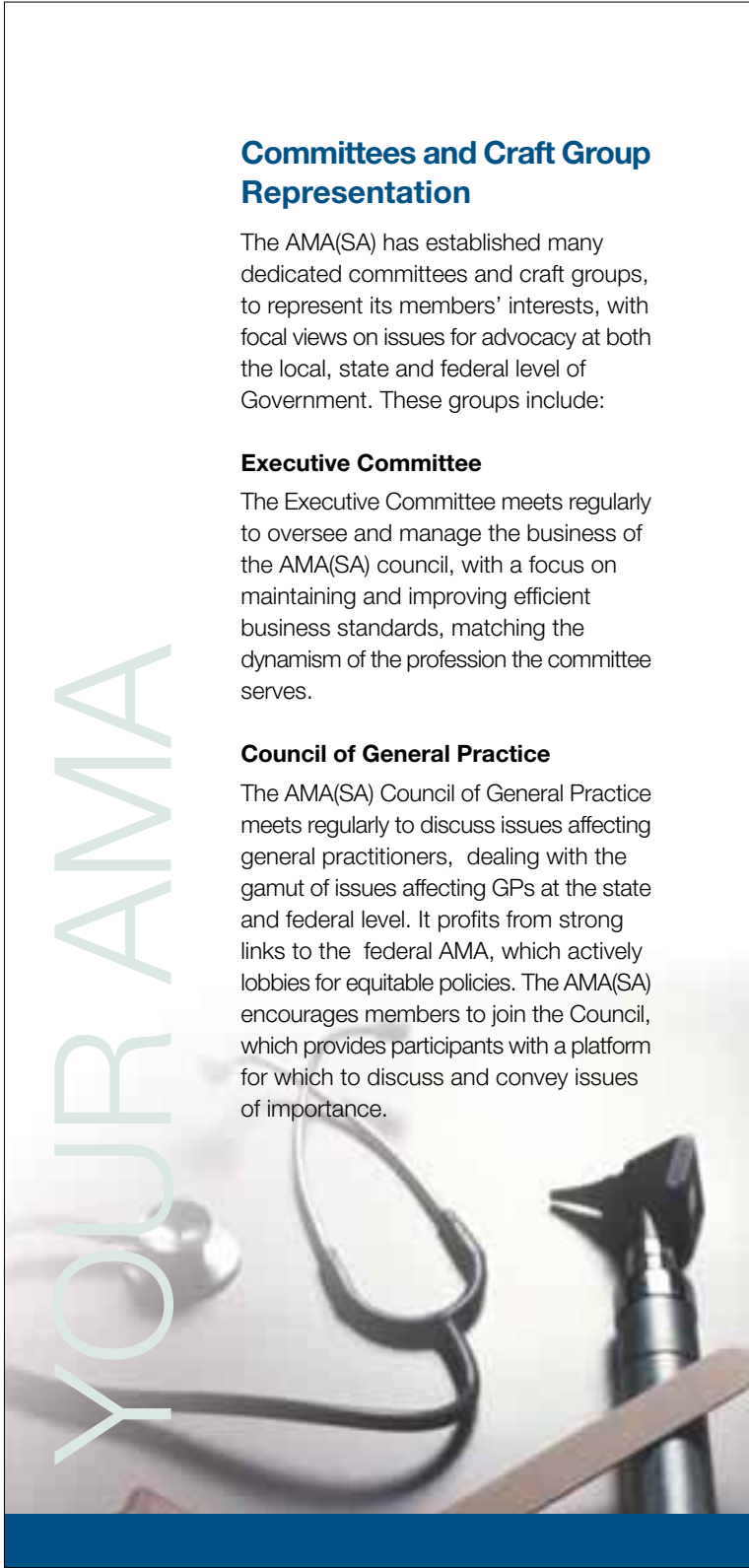
The AMA(SA) has established many dedicated committees and craft groups, to represent its members' interests, with focal views on issues for advocacy at both the local, state and federal level of Government. These groups include:

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee meets regularly to oversee and manage the business of the AMA(SA) council, with a focus on maintaining and improving efficient business standards, matching the dynamism of the profession the committee serves.

Council of General Practice

The AMA(SA) Council of General Practice meets regularly to discuss issues affecting general practitioners, dealing with the gamut of issues affecting GPs at the state and federal level. It profits from strong links to the federal AMA, which actively lobbies for equitable policies. The AMA(SA) encourages members to join the Council, which provides participants with a platform for which to discuss and convey issues of importance.



Doctors in Training Committee

The Doctors-in-Training (DiT) Committee focuses on highlighting and investigating the interests of emerging medical professionals. Comprised of doctors in training, medical students and senior doctors, the Committee understands and identifies the key issues relevant to this particular segment and works hard to protect their interests.

- "I joined the AMA because as I moved through medical school it became increasingly apparent that many decisions that should be made by doctors are instead made by bureaucrats. The AMA (SA) is the only organisation that represents all doctors, and as such is the one with the most influential voice." -

Andrew Perry

Doctors in Training Committee, Chairperson 2005

Road Safety Committee

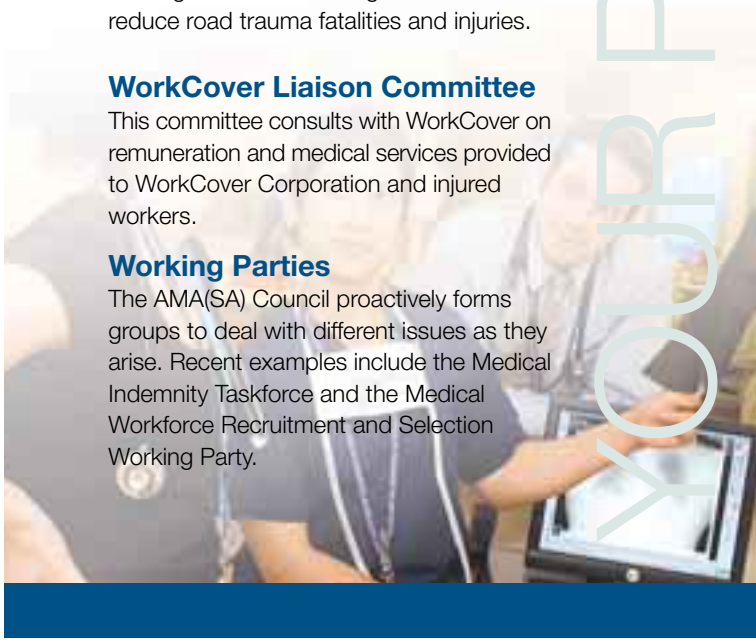
Road safety is a significant public health issue, and the Road Safety Committee is a public health initiative of the AMA(SA). It investigates and encourages initiatives to reduce road trauma fatalities and injuries.

WorkCover Liaison Committee

This committee consults with WorkCover on remuneration and medical services provided to WorkCover Corporation and injured workers.

Working Parties

The AMA(SA) Council proactively forms groups to deal with different issues as they arise. Recent examples include the Medical Indemnity Taskforce and the Medical Workforce Recruitment and Selection Working Party.





Federal Political Representation

The Federal AMA is Australia's foremost medical and public health lobby group, representing members and their patients to Government and influencing policy formulation and decision-making.

Federal Council is the core policy-making body of the Federal AMA, and comprises craft group, branch and area representatives from the state branches. Members can nominate, register and vote for area, craft and presidential positions.

The AMA(SA) has state-specific committees and groups which provide a local perspective and focus on issues and has members on federal as well as South Australian Committees.

Federal AMA committees and groups include:

- Constitution and Policy Review Committee
- Ethics and Medico-Legal Committee
- Council of Doctors-in-Training
- Council of General Practice
- Advisory Committee on Complementary Medicine
- Youth Health Working Party
- Expert Group on Information Technology
- Economics and WorkForce
- Public Health and Aged Care
- TaskForce on Indigenous Health
- TaskForce on Medical Professional Indemnity

YOUR VOICE



Media and Lobbying

The AMA enjoys a high public profile and respect in the wider community, and consolidates its position as the strongest, clearest voice for Australian medicine by generating newspaper, radio and television publicity to promote the medical profession to the Australian public and present the view of the profession to the wider community.

We work actively with local, state and national media, commenting on topical health issues, setting health agendas, advocating for public health and highlighting issues that conflict with principles of best practice in the medical profession.

In addition to our media activities, we undertake specific public relations campaigns to represent AMA members views and needs to various stakeholders, including other medical associations and consumers. One example is Family Doctor Week, our annual campaign to promote the pivotal role of the general practitioner in the health care system and wider community.

The AMA's own federal and state publications complement the Association's public relations and media activities by providing comprehensive information for members on relevant issues. AMA publications are widely read by health correspondents and reporters from the local, state and national media, and often generate or fuel public debate on health-related issues.



YOUR PROFESSION

Public Health Advocacy

The AMA performs a key role in raising community awareness and lobbying for legislative change on public health issues. Our role reflects the promotion of public health undertaken by individual practitioners with their patients, and the AMA(SA) works to ensure that the medical profession is promoted in a positive light.

The improvement of community health and well being is a high priority, with the AMA(SA) focusing, in particular, on issues such as immunisation, indigenous health, rural health, smoking, nutrition and exercise.

Campaigns and Initiatives

The AMA(SA) continually strives to achieve positive results in its campaigns and initiatives. Some of the most recent activities include:

- Engaging Government departments and Statutory Authorities for improved fees for the profession
- Quarantined time for teaching and research in teaching hospitals
- Providing better conditions to attract and retain doctors in SA
- Better support for general practice and primary healthcare
- Better funding for mental health
- Better arrangements for public hospital infrastructure and bio-medical equipment



Workplace Representation and Advice

Whether you are an employer or employee, workplace issues can be very difficult to address on your own. The AMA(SA) advises and represents members, individually and collectively, in these areas.

As an AMA(SA) member, you can access expert representation, advice and support in the areas of:

- Workplace negotiations
- Conflict resolution
- Grievance procedures
- Awards
- Remuneration
- Terms and conditions of employment
- Workers' compensation
- Superannuation
- Contract review and renegotiation
- Patient records
- Medico-legal issues
- Salary sacrifice

The AMA(SA) also collaborates with the Federal AMA Workplace Policy Department on national campaigns such as those concerning safe working hours and provider numbers. For more information contact the AMA(SA) on (08) 8267 4355.



YOUR VOICE



YOUR AMA

Seminars

The many enquiries we receive from members each day regarding the issues they are facing as medical practitioners in all areas of practice and at varying stages of their careers, as well as our knowledge of changes and developments in medical practice, medico-legal and medico-political issues mean that we are uniquely positioned to respond to the needs of the profession with expert – and timely – advice and support.

- "You don't practise medicine in ignorance: it is just as essential that you understand your business obligations. Knowledge we obtained from an AMA seminar has been a wise investment in the management of our business. Reduce your vulnerability, don't be the last to know!" -

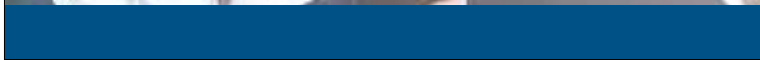
Dr Mary-Ann Fox and Mr James Aspinall

For further information on seminars offered by the AMA(SA), contact the AMA(SA) on (08) 8267 4355.

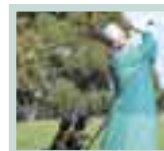
Member Services

As the primary representative association for the medical profession, the AMA(SA) recognises that practitioners' needs vary, and our member services are tailored accordingly.

The comprehensive array of services we provide is supported and complemented by services available from a network of preferred providers who offer preferential rates and packages to AMA(SA) members.



This network consists of service providers in areas encompassing legal, financial and lifestyle services, and is regularly reviewed to ensure that it meets the current and changing needs of our membership.



Recently the AMA(SA) has introduced a variety of value added benefits to membership, including leisure and lifestyle arrangements that offer members discounted rates on the use of a range of services.

To find out more about specific offers, please contact AMA(SA) on (08) 8267 4355 or visit the website at www.amasa.org.au.

Events

Throughout the year, the AMA(SA) holds a number of 'members only' functions. As well as providing fun and entertainment, these events also provide members with an opportunity to network with colleagues.

Recent events have included:

- Wine and cheese nights
- The AMA(SA) Golf Challenge
- 'Members only' movie screenings
- The AMA(SA) Annual Dinner
- AMA(SA) team participation in the City-Bay Fun Run



YOUR AMA



Publications

As an additional benefit of your AMA(SA) membership, you can “keep your finger on the pulse” of the latest issues affecting the medical profession, by your subscription to the following publications at no extra cost!

- **medicSA** - The AMA(SA)'s regular magazine, featuring the latest state-based political, industrial, and membership news.
- **Australian Medicine** - The Federal AMA's fortnightly news publication, which explores the latest national medico-political news.
- **Medical Journal of Australia (MJA)** - Australia's leading fortnightly scientific and academic medical journal, reporting on research undertaken in Australia and overseas.
- **Federal AMA List of Medical Services and Fees** - A widely-respected publication for setting fair and reasonable fees for medical practitioners. No practice should be without it!
- **Federal AMA Handbook of Resolutions** - This vital handbook lists the policies and position statements of the AMA.



Why Join the AMA(SA)?



Through the AMA, your peers represent your interests to lobby Government, raise public awareness and explore and develop policies to deal with ethical issues. As a member, you are empowered by dual representation on a state and federal level, via access to both federal and state Associations. Members benefit from both the strength of a national lobby organisation and the personalised attention and support that can only be offered by a local branch.

Our strength lies in the unified force of our membership base and the independent political, industrial and financial representation we provide. As an AMA(SA) member, you can play an active role, through your AMA(SA) representation, in the future direction and viability of the medical profession you have chosen to be a part of.

Whether you are a young doctor commencing your career, a practising or retiring practitioner, or working in the public or private sector, the AMA(SA) will support you throughout your career with access to a range of services and benefits for your professional development.

Can you afford not to be a member?

Join today! Simply complete the application form attached, and mail with your payment details to:

Australian Medical Association (SA)
P O Box 134
North Adelaide SA 5006

YOUR AMA





AMA Membership Application

1. PERSONAL DETAILS

Surname:

Given names:

Date of Birth:male/female

Contact Details:

Business/Practice Name:

Address:.....

Ph:Fax:.....

Home Address:

Ph:Fax:.....

Mobile:

Email

Preferred Mailing Address: Home Practice/Business

Joint Membership is available for spouses (25% off correct fee for each member), if choosing this option please specify

Partner's Name:

Member No.

Correspondence to be sent to: yourself partner

PRIVACY

The Privacy Act 1988 and the National Privacy Principles apply to the AMA(SA). AMA(SA) collects personal information for the purposes of processing applications for membership, maintaining membership records and contacting members. If you wish to make a complaint or inquiry regarding your personal information you can do so by sending an email to admin@amasa.org.au or by writing or faxing to the Privacy Officer at AMA(SA).

2. SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Please select a Special Interest Group from below
(Doctors in Training please mark that box not training speciality)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> General Practitioners | <input type="checkbox"/> Physicians |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Surgeons & Ophthalmologists | <input type="checkbox"/> Psychiatrists |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Obstetricians & Gynaecologists | <input type="checkbox"/> Pathologists |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Full-Timed Salaried | <input type="checkbox"/> Anaesthetists |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Doctors in Training | <input type="checkbox"/> Radiologists |

3. TYPE OF PRACTICE

Please tick one

Private Practice

- General Practitioner
- Specialist (Specialty)

Salaried Medical Officer

- Specialist (Specialty)
- With Private Practice Rights
- RMO
- Registrar (Field)

Other

- Part-time in Practice (number of sessions worked.....)
- Permanently Retired
- Over 70 in practice
- Academic/Post Graduate/Not Practicing
- Other (Please specify)

Other Details

Languages other than English which you speak proficiently:

.....

Initial Qualifications:

Higher Qualifications:

4. PAYMENT DETAILS

Please select from the enclosed schedule:

Membership Category:.....

Subscription Amount:

Please indicate your preferred option of payment:

Payment by Cheque

Please attach a cheque payable to Australian Medical Association (South Australia) for the appropriate subscription fee

Payment by Credit Card

Please charge my: AMEX Diners Visa Mastercard
Card Number:

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Expiry Date: /..... Amount : \$.....

.....
Name of cardholder Signature of cardholder

Payment by Monthly Direct Debit

Selected Bank Account

Please complete the Direct Debit Request and The Schedule overleaf.

Credit Card

Please charge my: AMEX Diners Visa Mastercard
Card Number:

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Expiry Date:/..... Amount : \$.....

.....
Name of cardholder Signature of cardholder



Direct Debit Request

(NOTE: account must be a trading or savings account. Credit card accounts should be nominated on the other side of this form)

By signing this document,

I/We
Surname Given Names

authorise The Australian Medical Association (South Australia) Inc, ABN 91 028 693 268, Debit User Number 007997, the Debit User, to debit my/our account, detailed in the Schedule below, with any amount, through the Direct Debit System. I/we must pay when due under the arrangement between us.

This authority is to remain in force until further notice.

Signature

Date/...../.....

The Schedule

Financial Institution Name:

Address:

.....

Account Title:

BSB Number: -

Account Number

DONATIONS

I would like to make a donation to the:

Medical Benevolent Association of \$.....

Doctor's Health Advisory Service of \$.....

(Please include amount in total cheque or credit card payment)



5. COMMUNICATIONS

Preferred communication method:

How would you like to receive communication from us?

- Email
- Mail - home address
- Mail - business/practice address
- Fax

Publications:

Do you wish to receive our publications?

- medicSA
- Medical Journal of Australia
- Australian Medicine

Media Enquiries:

Are you able to assist with media enquiries?

- Yes
- No

Preferred provider materials

The AMA(SA) has arrangements with preferred providers that require use of the membership mailing list.

- I do not wish to receive preferred provider material

Benefits of Membership:

- Subscription to the following publications:
 - medicSA
 - The Medical Journal of Australia
 - Australian Medicine
 - AMA List of Medical Services & Fees
- Information and advice on legal, financial and medical practice issues, including clerical awards, goodwill practice valuations, mediation and practice structures and agreements
- Industrial representation and advice
- Information seminars and workshops on a wide range of relevant topics
- A network of preferred providers offering preferential service to AMA members

6. DECLARATIONS

Declaration

I agree, if elected, to observe the principles stated in the Declaration of Geneva printed below and to abide by:

- a) The Regulations and By-laws and to uphold the Code of Ethics of the Australian Medical Association for the time being in force.
- b) The Memorandum and Articles of Association and By-laws of the Australian Medical Association (South Australia).
- c) The requirements of any other Division or Branch of the Australian Medical Association to which I may at any time belong.
- d) Paying my annual subscription of the Association.

Declaration Of Geneva

*"I solemnly pledge myself to consecrate my life to the service of humanity,
I will give to my teacher the respect and gratitude which is their due,
I will practise my profession with conscience and dignity,
The health of my patient will be my first consideration,
I will have respect for the secrets which are confided in me,
I will maintain by all means in my power the honour and noble tradition of the medical profession,
My colleagues will be my brothers and sisters,
I will not permit considerations of religion, nationality, race, party politics or social standing to intervene between my duty and my patient,
I will maintain the utmost respect for human life, from its beginning, even under threat, I will not use my medical knowledge contrary to the laws of Humanity,
I make these promises solemnly, freely and upon my honour."*

Signature.....

Date/...../.....

Introduced By:(if relevant)