

News from the SASOM national office

The most recent Executive Committee meeting of the South African Society of Occupational Medicine (SASOM) was held on 31 August 2021. Executive Committee members agreed to hold the SASOM annual general meeting and conference on Saturday 27 November 2021, as fully virtual events; these will be organised by the SASOM Western Cape Chapter.

The SASOM Western Cape Chapter hosted a continuous professional development (CPD)-accredited webinar on 14 September 2021. Four speakers contributed presentations under the theme of *Occupational medicine case studies and lessons learnt from the Stellenbosch University Medical School*:

- Dr Jack Meintjes – occupational medicine specialist and head of department: Tygerberg Hospital – Infection Prevention and Control
- Drs Geoffrey Tafaune, Martin Muller, and Fredrick Weinand – occupational medicine registrars

During the month of September 2021, SASOM offered its members a series of free CPD-accredited training webinars on the management of occupational health information under the Protection of Personal

Information Act, 2013 (POPIA) and the Promotion of Access to Information Act, 2000 (PAIA). The webinars were facilitated by Dr Jan Lapere (occupational health, safety and medicine consultant; OSH law consultant; SASOM Executive Committee member), and covered the following topics:

- 16 September 2021 – The overall requirements of POPIA and the resulting action plan for occupational health
- 21 September 2021 – The impact of POPIA on the 'medical record' requirements of occupational and health legislation and the Health Professions Council of South Africa (HPCSA) rules
- 28 September 2021 – The action plan for implementation of POPIA in occupational health practices and the changes that need to be made to the occupational medicine practitioner's PAIA Section 51 Manual.

The SASOM webinar recordings are available on the SASOM website under the 'Members Only' category. Only those members who attended the webinars will be awarded CPD points (CEUnits).
