

## Conferences

The **2<sup>nd</sup> Asia Pacific Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care** is scheduled on **September 11-13, 2002** at the **Raffles City Convention Centre, Singapore**. The BMJ Publishing Group (London, UK) and the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (Boston, USA) with the support of the Ministry of Health (Singapore), the National Healthcare Group (Singapore) and Singapore Health Services, will present the forum. The Forum aims to provide both the inspiration and the practical skills needed for those charged with improving health care. It has 7 themes, namely: improving patient safety, leadership for improvement, measuring quality and benchmarking for change, education and training for improvement, improving health systems, doing better with the care of patients with chronic disease and the evidence for quality improvement. Contact [quality@bma.org.uk](mailto:quality@bma.org.uk) for details or visit their website at [http:// www.quality.bmjpg.com](http://www.quality.bmjpg.com)

The **5<sup>th</sup> Annual International Conference on the Scientific Basis of Health Services** will be co-hosted by the Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality and will be held in **Washington, DC** from **September 20-23, 2003**. The theme for the conference is *"Global Evidence for Local Decisions"*. The conference aims to provide a forum for international dialogue and sharing of ideas and information on the use of health services research to improve access to and the quality of health care systems. For details, contact: Patricia Pittman, *Senior Manager, International Exchange for Health Services Research and Policy, Academy for Health Services Research and Health Policy, 1801 K St. NW Suite 701-L, Washington, DC 20006*, e-mail: [international@ahsrhp.org](mailto:international@ahsrhp.org)

The **6<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Social Science and Medicine Conference (APSSAM 2002)** will be held in **Kunming City, China** on **October 14-18, 2002**. With the theme *"Emerging health issues in the Asia-Pacific Region: New challenges for Health Social Science"*, the conference aims to serve as venue for sharing research results and experiences related to the social aspects of health; assess best practices in relation to the application of the social sciences in health; disseminate new theories and innovative approaches in understanding emerging health issues in the region; and strengthen regional networks of social scientists, health professionals, health activists and policy makers. This year's conference is co-hosted by the Asia-Pacific Network (APNET) of the International Forum of Social Scientists in Health and the Institute for Health Sciences, Kunming Medical College. For more information, please contact the APSSAM Secretariat at phone number +86 871 5364693, fax number +86 871 5311542 or at the following email addresses: [apssam@netbig.com](mailto:apssam@netbig.com), [apssam@etang.com](mailto:apssam@etang.com)