Hospital Without Walls: Changing Community Partnership to Meet The Needs of Community

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Hospital Without Walls

- Since the inauguration of Hospital Authority in 1990 there is increasing emphasis on community care
- Hospital without wall has been mentioned in various HA initiatives and hospitals
The Foundation of Hospital Without Walls in United Christian Hospital

- Historical Developments in United Christian Hospital
The Development of the concept of a Hospital in Kwun Tong

- In 1962 a number of Christian Churches together proposed the development of a United Christian Hospital
- It was until 1968 that the Hong Kong Government identified a site in Kwun Tong for the building of the hospital
Why Hospital Without Walls

- The group wish to set up a community oriented hospital
- A hospital only serves at most 5% of population
- Hospital viewed as ivory towers where highly trained specialists satisfied their own interests in diagnosing and treating diseases, with no concern for health problem outside the walls of their hospitals
New Direction of development in 1968

- A hospital organised in such a way that it promotes and encourages primary health care in the community around it, and in turn was felt by the community to be its own hospital.

- Dr Paterson and other pioneers of the United Christian Hospital summarised their hopes and plans in one single phrase, by talking about ‘Hospital without Walls’.
The initial elements of Hospital Without Walls in United Christian Hospital

- Community Nursing
- Community Health Programme
- Volunteer
The Development of Community Nursing

- Together with Yang Memorial Service, UCH is one of the pioneer in setting up Community Nursing Service in Hong Kong.
- The first community nursing service in Kwun Tong was set up on 1st October 1972.
Kwun Tong Community Health Project

- Health Care in Community centre
- Health Care for Children
- Health Care in Industry
- Mental Health Care
- Health Education
Volunteer

UCH has pioneered the hospital based volunteer service since the establishment of the hospital in 1974
Initial Target Population

- Post-natal women
- Children
- Industrial worker
- Aged
Changing Dimensions since 1980s

- Changing Population Profile – Changes in Family Structure, Rapid population ageing after mid 1980s
- Changing Health Care Delivery System – establishment of Hospital Authority and the changeover of management in hospitals
Challenges and Opportunities

- Increasing reliance of Public Hospitals since the establishment of Hospital Authority
- Shortage of beds in most hospitals resulting in rapid turnover
- Rapid growth in private aged homes causing undue demand in hospital admissions
Hospital and Community
The concepts of ‘Hospital Without Wall’ and ‘Community Partnership’ are co-existed and cannot be separated.
Traditional Concept of ‘Hospital Without Walls’

• To invite general public from the community to join the hospital volunteer service;

• To maintain good relationship with the community and collect service feedback for service improvement;

• To implement community health promotional activities periodically to arouse the health awareness of the general public.
Contemporary Concept of ‘Hospital Without Walls’

It has to:

- Inject pro-active elements into cooperation with the community;

- Arouse the awareness in the hospital that it is an integral part of the community;

- Establish shared platform with the community to identify common concerns over various healthy living issues;
Contemporary Concept of ‘Hospital Without Walls’ (cont’d)

- Invite the community to take part in issues which are the concerns of both the hospital and the community;

- Set priority to issues and motivate involvement through community partnership to collaborate for achievements over common goals of mutual concerns;

- Provide professional inputs, support and trainings to streamline process and strengthen the basis of cooperation.
Recent Community Partnership Projects for fulfillment of the Ideal of 'Hospital without Walls'

Three community partnership projects that have enhanced and oriented the service towards the ideal of ‘Hospital without Walls’:

- Post-discharge Patients Care Project for Kowloon East Community;

- Community CRP Training for A Thousand; and,

- Networking Neighborhood: 「愛里有你」- 健康和諧愛心邨計劃
Experience gained from the Three Projects

- Community participation was indispensable for achieving success;

- The hospital, service providers and receivers worked together as stakeholders;

- The presence of the hospital in the community was clear and obvious;

- Action plans were worked out together. The mission of the hospital and its constraints were shared. Support of the community was forthcoming.
Core Values Derived from the Three Community Partnership Projects

The process created a paradigm shift from community involvement to community partnership. The following core values have thus come into the picture:

- Creation of Ownership
- Sharing of Common Vision and Language
- Establishment of Platform and Methodology for Effective Collaboration
- Opportunity of Co-mapping for Future Cooperation
Achievements gained from Project Implementation

- Outreaching Post Discharge Patient Care Project helped to reduced unplanned readmission rate.

- The Community volunteered for organizing health promotion activities: Rotary Club Kwun Tong proposed to donate $360,000 to continue an earlier initiative for community health promotion program
Achievements gained from Project Implementation (cont’d)

- Building up staff volunteers and achieve active relationship with community/corporate volunteers. The first program of ‘Networking Neighborhood - Warmth Giving for KE Discharged Patients’ was implemented on 16.1.2010.

- NGOs, government departments, residents associations, professional bodies, corporate volunteers are prepared to voice out their expectations and contribute ideas in enhancing and orienting the service towards the ideal of ‘Hospital without Wall’.
Serving Different Target Groups

☐ Children
☐ Aged
Promoting the well being of children and family

☐ Child Psychiatry

☐ Early detection and management of child abuse

☐ Promotion of Breast Feeding

☐ Outreaching service to Special Schools in the district
Services for Elderly People

- Enhancement of Geriatrics Services for high risk patients
Range of Services

- Hospital Care
- Ambulatory Care
- Community Care
Hospital Care

Acute Geriatric Ward
Acute Stroke Services
Stroke rehabilitation and Geriatric Rehabilitation
Admission ward for Private Homes
Geriatric Orthopaedic Services
Discharge Planning Services
Ambulatory Care

- Geriatrics SOPD
- Continence Clinic
- Memory Clinic
- Fall Clinic
- Urodynamic Study
Community Services

- Yung Fung Shee Geriatric Day Hospital
- Kwun Tong Community Geriatric Assessment Services
- Ambulatory Geriatrics Services
- Integrated Discharge Support Programme
- Community Rehabilitation Services
How Hospital Without Walls to enhance the services in hospitals

- It promotes the relationship of hospital with the community facilitating communication between the local leaders so as to enhance collaboration especially during crisis – e.g. SARS, H1N1

- Targeting services in the community helps to reduce demands of in-patient services and improve quality of care for patients and their family
Thank you