A Collaboration Model of Psychogeriatric Team and Enhanced Home and Community Care Service

GMY Chung(1), WS Lam(2), Lau KK(1)

(1) Psychogeriatric Team, Kwai Chung Hospital, (2) Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Lady MacLehose Centre Enhanced Home and Community Care Services

Keywords:
collaboration
Psychogeriatric Team
EHCCS

Introduction
Psychogeriatric Team of Kwai Chung Hospital (PG Team) has provided psychogeriatric support to the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Lady MacLehose Centre Enhanced Home and Community Care Services (EHCCS) since 2002. The social workers identify elderly presenting with psychogeriatric problems and refer the elderly to the psychogeriatric nurse (PG nurse) for nursing assessment and management.

Objectives
To review the service collaboration of PG support to EHCCS

Methodology
To review the service statistics To interview EHCCS staff on their feedback of the service Case illustrations

Result
EHCCS has cared for 1,383 clients with 269 clients (19.5%) referred for PG nursing assessment and interventions. The utilization of PG services of the 269 clients is tabulated: Out-patient PG Day-care PG In-patient 193 (71.7%) 43 (16%) 39 (14.5%) No. of Educational Talk: 11 Attendance: 600 The program enables EHCCS users to receive early screening and prompt referrals to different PG services according to their problems. Comprehensive home-based intervention allows the users to maintain in community with optimal level of functioning. The primary health care is promoted. EHCCS staff is empowered with better understanding on mental illness through on-site advice, case discussions and educational talks. They are more confident in managing clients with mood and mental problems. The increased competence in communicating, identifying and handling of psychogeriatric clients enhances their
medical treatment, minimizing unplanned admission. PG nurse works together with the EHCCS on clients with complex conditions and prevents occurrence of tragedy. The quality of care is enhanced. Clients with chronically ill spouse received prompt out-patient treatment, close monitoring and joint counselling from PG nurse and EHCCS staff as they presented with depressive symptoms and suicidal ideation. They went through smooth bereavement and enjoyed life in community after the death of their spouse. Clients presenting with dementia signs and symptoms received prompt out-patient treatment and cognitive training in PG day care(PGDH). Clients became mentally more stable. The respite in PGDH together with psycho-education and medication advice from PG nurse relieved carer stress. A client with persecutory ideas and planned to chop his 2nd wife in China, received immediate PG in-patient service once identified by EHCCS staff. Client was discharged to residential care home for better support and supervision. The provision of psychogeriatric support to EHCCS is a win-win collaborative model to PG Team, EHCCS staff, clients and caregivers.