

Masterclasses

M14.1**Geriatric Pearl****13:15 Room 423 & Room 424**

Person-centred Care for the Older Persons through Medical-social Collaboration

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According to the Census and Statistics Department of the HKSAR Government, life expectancy for men and women in Hong Kong is now ranking top in the world. Currently, 15% of Hong Kong's population are aged 65 or above, and this is expected to rise to 26% by 2031 and 30% by 2041. Moreover, 75% of older persons aged 65 or above are reported to have at least one chronic illness, and after the age of 65, the prevalence of disability increases about 1.5 times every five years. As one becomes older, multiple diseases and pathology will sooner or later set in. With increasing disability, the elders will become more dependent on medical, nursing, rehabilitation and personal care services as well as psycho-social-spiritual support.

To meet the multi-faceted needs of elders and to promote the policy of "ageing in place" of the Hong Kong government, various collaborative projects between the medical and social sectors have been rolled out, leveraging and maximising the use of resources by pooling talents and expertise, improving accessibility, reaching out to target population, and generating more holistic and patient-centred care for elders to stay healthy in the community, and to avoid unnecessary hospitalisation. Effective collaboration between clinical team, welfare sector, and empowered patients could offer a "triple win" situation, and successful programmes could be launched as long term partnerships.

In this presentation, key milestones in the development of patient-centred care through medical-social collaboration for the elders will be discussed, including Community Geriatric Assessment Service, Community Health Call Centre, Patient Empowerment Programme, Integrated Care Model, Dementia Community Support Scheme, End-of-life Care Programme in residential care homes for the elderly, Community Volunteer Service engaging local non-government organisations and chaplaincy services.