Symposiums

S12.2 Inter-professional Collaboration

14:30 Convention Hall A

Inter-professional Collaboration in the Community

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In the past, healthcare services are mainly provided by the hospitals and outpatient clinics led by the medical team. Over the years, community care services, including community nursing service, community geriatric assessment service, outreach psycho-geriatric service, palliative care service, and domiciliary allied health services have been set up. The ultimate goal is to provide an integrated, holistic, patient-centred and multi-disciplinary care for older patients with chronic diseases to stay in the community, supported by healthcare professionals, family members as well as the social and welfare sector.

In this symposium, various inter-professional collaboration models will be presented. Integrated care model and patient support call centre are two programmes targeted at high risk elders to provide continuing comprehensive support upon their discharge from hospital. Community volunteer service is a medical-social collaboration with different community partners to provide support and care in the form of a neighbourhood network. End-of-life care programme is an inter-specialty programme in partnership with palliative care specialists for older adults with advanced diseases and limited life expectancy, promoting advance care planning and quality care in residential care homes for the elderly. Dementia community support scheme and carers' training programmes are designed to provide support for older persons with mild to moderate dementia in district elderly community centres operated by non-government organisations. A recently rolled out pilot programme, aiming at improving drug adherence and minimising drug wastage for patients with asthma and chronic obstructive airway disease, is an inter-professional collaboration, involving pharmacists, respiratory physicians, social workers, community nurses and volunteers.

At the end of the presentation, key factors for successful implementation of inter-professional collaboration will be discussed.