



## Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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### **The Impact of Community Psychogeriatric Outreach Service to Private Old Aged Homes on Psychogeriatric admission rate**

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#### **Introduction**

The Community Psychogeriatric Outreach Service to Private Old Aged Home (COMPASS) was first implemented in July 2008 in Kowloon West Cluster (KWC). The project was fully implemented since April 2011 in Kowloon West Cluster which covers 25 private old aged homes (POAHs) in the region of Tsuen Wan, Kwai Tsing, Shamshuipo and Mongkok. The objectives of the program are (1) to increase service capacity in high priority areas (2) to implement high admission risk reduction program, and (3) to prevent unnecessary hospitalization. COMPASS provides on-site multidisciplinary consultations to psychogeriatric patients in their usual abode, and facilitates close and direct communication with formal and informal carers. Community partnership, knowledge and skills transfer, as well as early screening and intervention are important elements of the program. In the year 2011/12, COMPASS has served a total of 958 patients, with the number of outreach attendance reaching 6,678.

#### **Objectives**

The current study evaluated whether there was any change in Psychogeriatric admission rate after the implementation of the programme.

#### **Methodology**

The study included 20 POAHs under the COMPASS service which did not have any structural change during the evaluation period. The elderly patients who had psychiatric problems before the COMPASS service were under the care of the Psychogeriatric outpatient clinic of the same department. The admission rate was calculated by counting the total number of psychogeriatric admission from these POAHs each month over the total number of patients under the Psychogeriatric care from these POAHs. Comparison was done for 1 year before July 2008 (before the commencement of COMPASS) and seven months after April 2011 (after full implementation of COMPASS).

#### **Result**

Comparing the admission rate of the pre-COMPASS period ( $M=5.32$ ,  $SD=3.74$ )

(admission per thousand cases) with that of the post-COMPASS period ( $M=1.25$ ,  $SD=1.76$ ), there was statistically significant reduction in admission rate ( $t=3.007$ ,  $p=0.007$ ). The implementation of COMPASS service was successful in decreasing admissions in POAH in KWC.