



**Service Priorities and Programmes**  
**Electronic Presentations**

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**Engagement of New Community Resource for Carers of Chronic patients in HKEC**

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**Introduction**

It is understandable that carers' stress were significant but not addressed in Hospital Authority Service. Thus, Community & Patient Resource Department (CPRD) invited Community Rehabilitation Network (CRN) to start a project in 2011 to care for the carers of Chronic patients with the Department of Medicine of PYNEH as strategic partner. The Project on SMARTCare Movement (SMARTCare 齊喜動~長期病患者照顧者支援計劃) was successfully granted 3 years fund from Community Investment Inclusive Fund.

**Objectives**

1.To advocate clinical and community partners about carers stress 2.To establish communication channel in hospital to support carers 3.To invite community resources to render carers service in hospital & in the community

**Methodology**

CPRD acted an interface to strengthen engagement through: 1.To co-work with CRN in planning & implementation stage by giving advice and evaluating the service progress 2.To mobilize clinical participation by inviting senior clinical management to the Steering Committee, setting up a Professional Advisory Group in PY with 13 clinical partners and developing hospital based referral system 3.To arouse concern to carers in PY by arranging CRN presentations to clinical partners, distribution of SMARTCare resource kits , service promotion to carers in Patient Support Station, SOPD & wards by CRN 4.To identify key community partners in HKEC to SMARTCare including residents' leaders, district councilors, church representatives

**Result**

168 carers were referred from wards, empowerment programs & Patient Support Station in 2012-13. They were mainly referred by 10 specialties, e.g. Neuromedical,

Neurosurgical, Renal, Cardiac, Dementia, Parkinsonism, Diabetes, Arthritis, Cancer & Geriatric. A Carer's Club was established in HKEC and mutual support program was rendered to them with 2 network points (聚腳點). In late 2013, the project was rolled out to TWEH. Carers' support is important in patients' post-discharge care; however, focus and resources were mostly given to patients' care. Thus, the SMARTCare movement, as a pioneer project, successfully mobilizes community resources to establish a care network for carers. As a strategic partner, CPRD played an active role to mobilize clinical engagement and community partnership.