



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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School Health Ambassador Program to increase awareness on organ donation

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Introduction

Quality end of life care is an integral part of HA's service provision. Organ donation is a meaningful decision in the end of life stage. Families' consent and deceased's wishes on donation are crucial to successful organ donations. Raising community awareness on organ donation is vital to promote in the young generation. A one-year school health ambassador program on organ donation is co-organized by PWH Transplant Coordination Service and Health Resource Centre with three secondary schools in Shatin participated.

Objectives

1. To educate students about the concept of organ donation
2. To encourage student-led program to raise organ donation awareness in schools
3. To encourage the ambassadors as advocates to share the meaning of organ donation among their families and friends

Methodology

Three schools were recruited.

Health professionals provided training sessions on organ and tissues donation, brain death, life education and organ transplant operation.

Donor family and recipients were invited for sharing. The recipients also operated an organ donation promotion counter with students. This enhanced their further interactions and shared more life stories.

A visit to tissue bank was organized to enhance students' knowledge and understanding on organ donation.

The students organized organ donation programs in their schools and then presented their experience and works in the commendation ceremony.

After the program ended, students completed questionnaires to evaluate the program effectiveness.

Result

From October 2015 – July 2016, 36 students participated in this program. They organised a debate competition on donation policy, slogan competitions, poster design campaigns, and game booths to raise awareness on organ donation and encourage registration.

Among 31 questionnaires received, 100% respondents evaluated this program was meaningful and informative. 97% respondents committed continuous promotion of organ donation to their family and friends. 8 students joined as PWH ambassadors to participate in future organ donation programs in hospital.

Conclusions

The School Health Ambassador Program on organ donation has been launched successfully. Both feedbacks are positive from teachers and students.

In 2016-2017, 80 students from six secondary schools participate in this program. It is expected with close partnership with patients (recipients) and community (schools) on organ donation promotion, more patients will be benefited.