DEMENTIA CARE MODEL IN HONG KONG

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Hong Kong – a Super-Aging City

65 years or above - Now - 1 in 6, In 25 years – 1 in 3

Census and Statistics Department, HKSAR
Hong Kong – a Super-Aging City

Super-Aging – Increasing proportion of the oldest olds
Increasing number of people living with dementia
What do persons with dementia need?

- Mild
- Moderate
- Severe

Dementia

- Cognitive decline
- Psychosocial
- Neuropsychiatric disturbances
- Function
- Physical
- Carer support
Severity of Dementia - Goals of Dementia Care

**Mild**
- Optimize cognition and functional independence
- Minimize neuropsychiatric disturbances

**Moderate**
- Stabilize remaining function
- Guided and supervised activity schedule
- Minimize neuropsychiatric disturbances

**Severe**
- Stabilize physical and physiological function
- Maintain social contacts
- Maintain mental state
Goals of Dementia Care – Ageing in Place

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Community Care
Goals of Dementia Care – Ageing in Place

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Aging in Place versus Long Term Care
WHO 7-Stage Model for Dementia Services Planning

- Pre-diagnosis
- Diagnosis
- Post-diagnostic support
- Coordination and Care Management
- Community Services
- Continuing Care
- End-of-Life Palliative Care
Community Care Model

Medical – Social Collaboration
Dementia Community Support Scheme – DCSS, Launched in 2017

A medico-social collaborative primary care model for mild dementia
Dementia Community Support Scheme - DCSS

1. Community dwelling people with Mild to Moderate dementia
2. Training provided by health professionals at community centres
3. Hospital Authority provides support for referral and logistics-
4. Time-limited and structured training modules
Timeline of the DCSS development

Preparation 2015-16

Pilot project in 4 out of 7 clusters in Hong Kong 2017

Extension to all regions in Hong Kong from 2019

Evaluation study in 2017-18

What’s next in community care?
Extension of DCSS - feasibility evaluation in 2019?

1. After time limited training at DCSS, elders will be referred to neighborhood elderly centres for continued maintenance program
2. Additional social workers allocated to each elderly centre for dementia care
3. Health professionals at social service centres
4. Medical input minimal
A Road Map of Gaps and Challenges

Pre-diagnosis

Prevalence estimates not updated

Diagnosis

Early diagnoses not sufficiently supported

Post-diagnostic support

Long waiting time for specialist assessment Limited primary care involvement

Coordination and Care Management

Among specialists and health professionals

Community Services

Dementia Community Support Scheme

Continuing Care

Dementia day care, community support and residential care in huge demand

End-of-Life Palliative Care

Budding phase only
A Road Map of Gaps and Challenges

Could we build a dementia friendly community?