

Presentation 1:

Interprofessional collaboration for Health Promotion

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Summary:

The Institute of Medicine (IOM) declared, “healthcare professionals should be educated to deliver patient-centred care as members of an interdisciplinary team” (IOM). The IOM also stated that patients receive better and safer care when healthcare professionals work effectively as a team, understanding each other’s roles and communicating effectively. It is important for all health care professionals to understand the value of efficient interdisciplinary teamwork for health promotion. Effective and sustainable patient-centred health promotion takes more than one profession to achieve. It was because of the previously HMRF funded project (Ref: 22080564) on Joint Nursing-Pharmacy Health Promotion Programme for Hidden Elders in the Community, it paved an important milestones for my team to further develop health promotion programmes through research, teaching and community services. There are many competencies for effective collaborative teams include collaborative problem solving, shared decision making, communication, empowerment as well as mentoring and coaching. In the current presentation, 3 major areas will be focused include (1) interprofessional education, (2) translation impact of current interprofessional practice and (3) future direction of interprofessional teamwork in healthcare.

Interprofessional education (IPE) is crucial for the training of future leaders in interprofessional work of healthcare. Specific training and carefully designed curriculum is vital in IPE. It is particularly important to have real-world clinical environment that utilizes interprofessional practice so that students could practice and translate what they learn in school to the real world. The measurement and evaluation of interprofessional practice is equally important to assess the quality and impact of the existing interprofessional teamwork. The evaluation should include clinical, economic, and humanistic outcomes. Finally, the future direction of interprofessional teamwork in healthcare should be carefully discussed and planned. The role of artificial intelligence, machine learning, and robotics will have great impact in healthcare. We should carefully evaluate on how technologies impact on interprofessional teamwork and plan accordingly for IPE and evaluation of its impact.

Presentation 2:

Use Big Data Analytics and Interventions to Promote Early Detection and Enhance Resilience of Family Caregivers at Risk

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Summary:

This presentation describes a research journey that started with a project “Becoming Parents: A hospital-community partnership to enhance transition to parenthood” (HCPF Project No. 03100105). The project focused on a specific group of clients (expectant parents) with a particular life event (transition to parenthood). The findings and impact of the project went beyond what was anticipated as well as provided compelling evidence for the need to study capacity building in the community. Particularly, the role played by family caregivers in the face of adversities raised more questions than it provided answers.

The journey then took the researchers to a large-scale community project funded by the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust with an aim to enhance the resilience of family caregivers in at-risk families. The 2-year project (2017-2019) in a relatively deprived community offered valuable opportunities for working closely with family caregivers experiencing high stress burden. Notwithstanding the positive outcomes of the community project (which was renewed for 3 more years with additional funding), it also became apparent that early detection of high stress burden warranted further study.

Our team of researchers experimented with the use of big data analytics and soon began to unravel the relationship between resilience and stress burden. This opened up a new direction for studying resilience and understanding the impact of interventions on enhancing resilience. Furthermore, the use of big data analytics at a human level inspired the researchers to apply the methodology at a more global level during the COVID-19 pandemic. So far, the results have been encouraging. Examples of using big data analytics for the COVID-19 pandemic include an analysis of cross-country pandemic connectedness in COVID-19, pandemic risk of COVID-19 outbreak in particular countries, and detection of early signals of COVID-19 global pandemic from network density. <https://covid-19-dev.github.io/>