老人精神科速治服務 香港醫院管理局





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ESPP-HK

News

編者的話

聖誕節快到了,本來是一個普天同慶的節日,但受到 新型冠狀病毒的影響,大家的生活模式都起了很大的變 化,例如學生們在家中視像上課,長者不能到老人中心活 動。有些家人陪同長者到門診覆診時,他們觀察到長者的 情緒和記憶力都變差了,尤其是住在院舍的長者,因為在 疫情底下,家人不可以到院舍探訪。

歐陽穎賢醫生和黃慧蓮資深護師的文章都是有關新型冠狀病毒帶來的影響。

另外,楊志鴻資深護師分享了「智友醫社同行」計劃 的一些資訊。

希望疫情快些受控,大家可以回復正常的生活模式。

祝大家聖誕和新年快樂!

黃德舜醫生

威爾斯親王醫院精神科醫生





Dec 2020 News

COVID-19

Au Yeung, Wing Yin Renee Senior resident trainee Old age psychiatry Castle Peak Hospitál

'Doctor, I haven't been able to pay my rent for 4 months already and my landlord forced me out of my flat yesterday. I don't have a job, have no place to stay, and coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) only made matters worse. What am I to do?'

Miss C was an out-patient that was referred to ESPP clinic in early 2020 for depressed mood, related to unemployment and financial difficulties for more than 6 months. As an elderly single lady who had no family to depend on, she was only able to rely on her own resources to support herself all these years. With the social unrest in the latter half of 2019, finding a long-lasting job was already difficult, but with the outbreak of COVID-19, this was almost impossible. Not only were there fewer job vacancies due to worsened economy, many institutions and services were suspended to stem the spread of COVID-19 in Hong Kong initially. Miss C's application process for social welfare, including housing and vocational training matters, were also halted as a result. It was indeed a very dire situation for Miss C, and this predicament was not only limited to her alone.

COVID-19 outbreak had changed the world, in more ways than one. From government policies, business economies, healthcare system to how we plan our travels, go about our daily routines and how we interact with each other, all aspects of our life had taken a drastic turn, most of them not for the better. In these trying times, apart from the immediate fear of contracting COVID-19, people also have to worry about the longer lasting consequences of COVID-19, such as worsening economy, losing jobs, stigma related to COVID-19 and social distancing effects on interpersonal relationship. The abrupt change, the element of uncertainty and pessimism in the community, as well as social isolation has caused much stress in many people, which in turn easily led to anxiety and depression. According to a study conducted by the Hong Kong University, Depression and Anxiety in Hong Kong during COVID -19 [1], on people aged 18 or above, up to 25% of respondents reported deteriorated mental health, 19% had depression while 14% had anxiety.



Dec 2020 News

COVID-19

Au Yeung, Wing Yin Renee Senior resident trainee Old age psychiatry Castle Peak Hospitál

For our elderly patients, the impact of COVID-19 is even more profound. Social distancing for elderlies meant being unable to attend the elderly community center, unable to participate in religious activities, reduced social gatherings with family and friends, suspended family visits to elderly homes, limited visits by volunteers and healthcare workers, and generally less outdoor or exercise time. As we all know, social isolation increases the risk of physical, cognitive, and mental health problems of elderlies. As such, it is imperative for their family and healthcare workers to be more alert to the elderlies' needs in these grim times, to try and find ways to circumvent the limitations and strive to provide continued support and care to them, without compromising efforts to prevent COVID-19.

Fortunately, over the past few months, people were finding more and more alternatives to help overcome the situation, many of which were helped by technology. Visits were replaced by phone calls or video calls. Gatherings were being made 'online'. If possible, elderlies were encouraged to stay active at home with regular home exercises. These methods by no means help solve all the problems caused by social isolation, but they were a start.

To many elderlies, being shown that they were not alone and were being cared for by people surrounding them were already a blessing. In Miss C's case, she was fortunately arranged financial support and emergency temporary placement with the medical social worker's help soon after that consultation. Her mood improved gradually over weeks with continued support, which was a good sign. Amidst the depressing situation caused by COVID-19, good things happen as well as the bad—another elderly out-patient once commented that she felt more connected to her family since the COVID-19 outbreak, as they contacted her more frequently to talk to her, showing their concern about her wellbeing, which she was very grateful, for they made her felt loved again.

Reference:

[1] - Choi EPH, Hui BPH, Wan EYF. Depression and Anxiety in Hong Kong during COVID-19. Int J Environ Res Public Health. 2020;17(10):3740.





「智友醫社同行」計劃

楊志鴻 精神科資深護師 威爾斯親王醫院精神科

由食物及衛生局聯同醫院管理局及社會福利署推出的「智友醫社同行計劃」,是以「醫社合作」模式,以加強社區層面上的護理服務為目標,為患有輕度或中度認知障礙症的長者及其護老者在社區內提供適切的支援服務。 這項計劃在 2019 年 2 月(即「先導計劃」完結後)常規化,服務推展至七個醫管局聯網及全港 41 間長者地區中心。

計劃的服務對象為年滿60歲或以上的長者,並:

經醫院管理局老人科或老人精神科團隊轉介確診患有輕度或中度 認知障礙症的病人;或懷疑出現早期認知障礙徵狀的長者地區中心會 員

醫管局聯網在轉介合適的長者參與計劃後,會與長者地區中心共同 為長者訂定護理方案,並由長者地區中心,因應相關長者及其護老者 在不同節疇下的需要,安排有關活動和服務。

每間地區長者中心都有專責團隊負責這個計劃,成員包括社工、職業治療師及護士。團隊會設計及安排適切訓練活動,以小組形式進行,並會根據長者及照顧者的需要,提供 5-7 個月以至 7-9 個月左右的訓練活動。活動內容包括:提升/改善長者的認知能力,提高家居安全知識,改善身體機能,增強自理能力等等。

此外,也有一些活動是為照顧者而設的,例如壓力管理訓練、輔導服務,教授護理知識及組織照顧者支援小組等等。完成訓練後,中心會積極鼓勵及安排長者及照顧者繼續參與中心的其他活動或延伸服務。





「智友醫社同行」計劃

楊志鴻 精神科資深護師 威爾斯親王醫院精神科

除了提供訓練改善認知功能外,長者們的情緒健康也是十分關注的。從過往接觸到的個案中, 有不少長者因為認知功能下降或者其他原因, 例如身體狀況轉差,又或者經歷喪偶等等,而表現出不同程度的情緒低落以至抑鬱徵狀甚至在腦海中曾閃現過輕生的意念。但可以看到他們自從參加了長者中心活動後, 除了認知能力有改善外,情緒上也因為得到了適切的活動和支援而有了明顯的改善,且再加上中心職員的關顧及長者們的互相分享及扶持,可以給予他們很大的安慰和鼓勵,從低沉的情緒中回復過來,注入了正面思維,從而對生活更積極和抱有希望。

「智友醫社同行」計劃的目的是希望長者們即使患有認知障礙,也可以藉著長者地區中心所提供的這些訓練和支援,使他們的身心及社交狀況得以改善,家屬們也可以更有技巧地護理長者和管理好照顧壓力。 在這樣各方面的改善下,長者們便更加有信心及能力在他們熟悉的社區中生活,以達至「居家安老」的目標。



「通關」、「封關」

黃慧蓮 資深護師 葵涌醫院老齡精神科

2019年12月31日,內地公佈武漢市出現肺炎病例群組,香港特區政府宣佈會在出入境口岸加強健康監察

2020年1月30日起,高鐵西九龍、紅磡、文錦渡、沙頭角、中國客運碼 頭和屯門客運碼頭暫停客運通關服務

2020年2月4日起,羅湖、落馬洲支線、落馬洲和港澳客輪碼頭暫停客運 通關服務

2020年2月5日下午起, 啓德郵輪碼頭暫停客運通關服務

2020年2月7日,規定所有在到港當日之前的14日期間,曾在內地逗留的人士,不分國籍和旅遊文件,必須接受14日的強制檢疫

x伯伯,八十歲獨居,性格開朗社交活躍。每月都有一兩次往扳香港及 深圳探望太太。去年十一月他在街頭意外跌倒引致髖骨骨折。他的女兒 從內地來港照顧伯伯。因應日趨嚴重的疫情及封關消息。女兒在十二月 中旬匆匆返回國內。伯伯就交由他第二任前妻代為照顧,但前妻的住所 舆伯伯居住的地方相距不近, 所以都只能每天探訪伯伯一次, 替他預備 食物及協助清潔。伯伯康復進展不錯,他可以以拐扙輔助穩定步行。他不 耐悶在家中,又記掛內地妻子。於是在二零二零年一月下旬的某日他乘坐 的十到關口準備返回內地但卻遭關員勸喻,未能前往而折返。伯伯回家 後深感難受, 以致坐立不安。於是有一個晚上他輾轉反側在未能入睡的 情況下,他按下平安鐘並透露他萌起了自殺念頭,於是伯伯被送往急症 室。經精神科會診後轉介速治診所。經過藥物治療及接受社區支援服務, 伯伯迅速地康復。在四月初伯伯又獨自一人又再衝關。今次他成功出境, 但因伯伯未能支付十四天強制隔離檢疫費用,內地公安給伯伯安排一晚 免費住宿,並於次日早上護送伯伯到關口協助他順利過關回港。返港後 他要履行家居隔離,幸好得前妻提供日常物資。疫情稍為回穩伯伯的太 太在六月下旬到港,在港逗留了三個月後便與伯伯一同回鄉。





「通關」、「封關」

黃慧蓮 資深護師 葵涌醫院老齡精神科

Y 婆婆七十五歲, 自從丈夫兩年前過身後獨居於公屋單位。因為婆婆 說話帶著很重的俚語口音,與鄰居溝通上有困難,所以婆婆大多數時間 留在內地, 待有需要時才同港短暫停留。疫情爆發時, 在最初期婆婆被 困在內地以致未能回港依約到專科門診覆診。幾經折騰她終於在四月初 單獨回港,並接受十四天強制隔離檢疫。完成檢疫後她暫住女兒家。女 兒發覺婆婆變得非常焦慮及嚴重失眠。於是陪同婆婆往見醫生尋求協助, 醫生處方了一些抗焦慮藥及安眠藥給婆婆回家服用。 服藥頭一兩天, 婆 婆情況並沒有改善。及至第三天,孫兒發覺婆婆午餐時分還仍在夢鄉,嘗 試弄醒婆婆但不果,並在床邊發覺數個清空藥袋,心知不妙於是召喚救 護車把婆婆送院搶救。 婆婆醒來後透露心情抑鬱, 擔心健康情況,對未 來失去希望,預知短期內也不能回國所以萌起輕生念頭。及後婆婆被轉介 至竦治診所,接受藥物治療後情況緩緩好轉。經家人商討後決定安排婆 婆回鄉。聽說婆婆由家人陪同下在內地完成了十四天強制隔離檢疫,在 內地繼續定時服食抗抑鬱藥,情绪迅速轉好。十月初婆婆女兒致電個案經 理告知婆婆將回港到各專科覆診。 個案經理特安排家訪, 首次見面察覺 婆婆心情愉快、健談(雖然需要她的女兒充當臨時翻譯官)。個案經理叮 囑婆婆遵從醫牛處方繼續藥物治療。







「通關」、「封關」

黃慧蓮 資深護師 葵涌醫院老齡精神科

Z伯伯,六十六歲與太太及成人女兒同住。在內地確診焦慮症多年,一向都在內地覆診及取藥回港服用。疫情影響未能往返內地繼續治病。情緒漸漸轉差,以致坐立不安,嚴重失眠並影響工作表現。因為被發覺工作期間吸煙,最終被公司開除。一時想不通向太太透露自殺計劃。被太太帶往急症室,經精神科會診後被轉介速冶診所。醫生處方了抗焦慮藥抗抑鬱藥及安眠藥給伯伯。服藥約一個月後情況漸漸好轉,睡眠亦有改善。暫未有計劃再往內地。

幾則與「封關」、「通關」有關的小品,只可以反映一小撮受影響的 長者。相信還有很多未為人知的故事。只希望疫情快過,一切回復過往。

謹記時刻保持良好個人和環境衞生,勤洗手。常佩戴口罩,保持社交 距離

參考資料:

https://www.info.gov.hk/

香港特別行政區政府新聞資料庫新聞資料庫新聞資料新







編輯委員會

本刊由老人精神科速治服務快訊編輯委員製作。
委員會成員來自醫院管理局各聯網屬下的老人/老齡精神科服務:

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