



Service Priorities and Programmes Electronic Presentations

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Taiwan' s experience can be used as a very good reference to promote palliative care in Hong Kong

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Promote Palliative Care

Introduction

Taiwan was ranked first in Asia and sixth overall in an index measuring the quality of palliative care in 80 countries, according to a report released in October 2015 by The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU). Taiwan moved up eight spots to sixth from the previous report in 2010. The success of Taiwanese and their experience can be used as a very good reference to promote palliative care in Hong Kong.

Objectives

The world is aging; the demand for care at the end-of-life is expected to surge. Hong Kong government and other care providers are racing against time to meet the need. It is worth for the government to put more resource for the promotion of palliative care in community. Palliative care needs investment but offers saving in health care cost.

Methodology

N/A

Result

The overseas corporate scholarship program for clinical leaders 2015 (Palliative care) broaden my view in the promotion of palliative care in the Chinese community. My reflections on the clinical attachment in Taiwan palliative services:

- Government policies are absolute vital for extending access to palliative care.
- Government should raise public awareness concerning the importance of advance care planning in community.
- Use of social media is very powerful to facilitate public to break down traditional taboos on discussing death.
- Palliative training for health care personnel in non-specialist area is very important.
- Nurses should play a great role to promote and support patients and their significant others to complete Advance Care Planning.
- Strengthen community engagement such as facilitate the volunteer services in the promotion care at end of life.
- Lectures with the topic on life and death should be encouraged to be held by private and religious organizations.
- Complementary therapies can further strengthen the holistic care to patients with terminal illness.
- Comfort high touch care is important and time consuming, so that sufficient manpower in palliative ward is a must.
- Valuing caregivers in palliative care service: In Taiwan hospital, caregivers are allowed to stay at bedside nearly 24 hours, a lot of facilities are provided to support caregivers over there.
- Seek for

more nurses who are having interest and passionate in palliative care. They stay there with their good will and get satisfaction and achievement from the job.