




Head's Message

After a stimulating and exciting year of research and scholarly activities in Boston at Harvard and The University of Pennsylvania, I have returned to The University of Hong Kong to an atmosphere of vibrant change and exhilarating developments. The University is already preparing for its centenary in 2011 and several far sighted initiatives are being planned to mark this significant anniversary. The major initiative is the plan to construct the Centennial Campus to the west of the main campus. This new campus will provide a 21st Century academic environment in a strategic location. It will have state of the art facilities situated in an environment designed to enable harmony and balance between academic and recreational activities.

Another strategic and important advance is that of the Centenary Recruitment Plan which affects the Medical Faculty and the Department of Nursing Studies more directly. By means of funding that has become available from a number of sources, the Faculty is embarking on an ambitious ten year recruitment plan. This is part of the strategic development plan aimed at strengthening the Faculty's infrastructure and its workforce and thus its education and research capabilities. The focus of the strategy is to raise research capacity significantly in a number of areas. The key point is that further

research development will have the breadth and depth to enable Faculty wide cohesiveness in research initiatives. The Dean Professor SK Lam said recently: "I envision and strongly believe that the joining of new talents will be a catalyst to fuel the future development of every department and unit in the Faculty."

The Department of Nursing Studies is in an excellent position to contribute actively to the vibrant growth planned for in these schemes. The new initiatives flowing from the Centenary Recruitment Plan will have important implications for both established and new researchers in the Department and will also provide opportunity for the appointment of new staff to join our talented team. The Department is, therefore, setting in place its own research development and enhancement plan. Following the model established in the Centenary Recruitment Plan, the Department will allocate resources to support staff in their research. We will do this in a number of ways: through directly providing funds to support projects, through matching the funds provided by other sources, and through developing infrastructure to support the research endeavours of our staff. We have an exciting plan to foster and reward research excellence. This is an exhilarating time to be part of initiatives that will support our goal to be a more research intensive Department and contribute in this way to the health of the community. 



Department of
Nursing Studies
The University of
Hong Kong





Intimate Partner Violence



HKU Domestic Harmony Research Group

Research into intimate partner violence (IPV) in Hong Kong has been challenged by a number of factors. First, there is a lack of population-based studies on the prevalence of IPV in Hong Kong and the official figures only reflect the more severe cases. Second, there is a need for validated screening instruments and evidence-based interventions for Chinese abused women. Finally, Chinese women are thought to be reluctant to disclose their history of IPV as the latter is considered a family shame which should not be shared with outsiders.

Notwithstanding the challenges, a team of researchers in the Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine, The University of Hong Kong has been working steadily toward advancing knowledge in IPV among Chinese women since 1998. In the beginning, the team consisted of Professor Pak-chung Ho, Dr. Wing-cheong Leung and Dr. Tsin-wah Leung of the Department of Obstetrics & Gynaecology and myself. We have since grown into a fully fledged multidisciplinary team and members include a mental health nurse, statistician, sociologist, psychologist, Chinese Medicine practitioner, lawyer, doctors from seven departments of Obstetrics & Gynaecology, staff of abused women shelters and social workers of a large community centre. We are also well supported by a team of dedicated research staff including seven research nurses. We also collaborate with Dr. Janice Humphreys of the University of California, San Francisco (on the health of abused women), Dr. Barbara Parker of the University of Virginia (on empowering abused women), and Dr Linda Bullock of the University of Missouri (on social support for abused women).

As information regarding IPV in clinical samples of women in Hong Kong was scarce when we started, an exploratory study was conducted in 1998 to investigate the prevalence of IPV in a group of pregnant women attending antenatal clinics in a public hospital. Of the 631 women interviewed, 99 (15.7%) reported a history of IPV in the preceding 12 months and the majority of the abuse was of a psychological nature. Interestingly, we found that IPV did not have any adverse effect on pregnancy and neonatal outcomes. Since the abuse reported was predominantly psychological, we hypothesised that the impact of IPV, if any, would be on the women's mental health. In a subsequent study involving 838 pregnant women in 1999, 143 (17.1%)

reported IPV, which was entirely psychological abuse. Furthermore, the abused women also had significantly higher postnatal depression scores as measured by the Edinburgh Postnatal Depression Scale compared with those who were not abused. Informed by the finding that the impact of IPV was more noticeable on the mental health aspect, we were then able to develop interventions for our Chinese abused pregnant women. Subsequently, an empowerment intervention, based on and modified from McFarlane & Parker's abuse prevention protocol, was instituted and evaluated in a group of 110 Chinese abused pregnant between April 2002 and September 2003 using a randomised controlled trial. The trial results showed that those in the experimental group reported significant reduction in violence scores and postnatal depression scores, and improvement in health-related quality of life scores. Since then, we have further developed the intervention to include a longer period of administration and culturally sensitive components (e.g. dietary education based on concepts of Chinese Medicine). We have also instituted variants of the refined intervention in different groups of Chinese women across clinical, community and shelter settings. Preliminary evaluative findings are very encouraging. We are about to commence on our latest study which is a randomised controlled trial of a telephone social support and empowerment intervention involving 200 community dwelling women.

From our experience of researching into IPV among Chinese women, we have learned that although there are differences between the women in our studies and those in international studies (e.g. a predominance of psychological abuse among our Chinese respondents), there are much similarities too (e.g. in risk factors and the moderating effect of social support on the impact of IPV on abused women's mental health). Furthermore, we have found that a multidisciplinary team is beneficial to advancing our understanding of the complex needs and responses of abused women. Finally, we have been fortunate to have mentors such as Janice Humphreys, Barbara Parker and Linda Bullock. Building on their experiences in IPV research, we have been able to pinpoint salient issues and deliver individual-based, culturally sensitive interventions.

With the determination expressed by the Chief Executive, Mr Donald Tsang, in his recent Policy Address of Hong Kong that domestic violence will no longer be tolerated, much needs to be done to make his statement come true. To this end, our research team will continue to work towards a better future for Chinese abused women. **n**



(Right) Dr Janice Humphreys of the University of California, San Francisco and Dr Tiwari



Improving the Quality of Multiple-choice Questions used in Nursing Assessments at The University of Hong Kong

Health science disciplines, including nursing, rely heavily on multiple-choice questions (MCQs) as a method of student assessment. The trend toward discipline-based higher education in nursing means that fewer nurse academics today have had any formal preparation in educational methods such as assessment and item construction. High-quality MCQs are time consuming to construct and it is estimated that a good MCQ takes about one hour to write. Poorly constructed MCQs also frequently contain cues that allow students to guess the correct answer without the prerequisite knowledge. One of the most common problems affecting MCQs is the presence of item-writing flaws. Item-writing flaws are violations of accepted item-writing guidelines which can affect student performance on MCQs, making the question either easier or more difficult to answer. Some common item-writing flaws are making the longest option the correct answer, repeating words in the question and in the correct option, thereby cueing the student to the correct answer, using negatively worded questions (i.e., except or not), using "all of the above" or "none of the above" as an option, and using absolute terms (i.e., never, always) in the question options. Nursing students write many MCQ tests during their educational programs and as a result may become very test wise. If students don't know the answer to a question, they are usually aware that the longest option or an option containing "all of the above" is frequently the correct answer. Also students can easily rule out options containing absolute terms as they are often taught that there are few absolutes in nursing. Furthermore, the use of negatively worded questions, especially those that contain double negatives, can unnecessarily confuse students and make question more difficult to answer.

Another issue affecting the quality of MCQs is that many are written at low cognitive levels and test only basic recall of isolated facts. In health-science disciplines, we expect professionals to process a large amount of complex information which is used to make decisions about patient care. If student assessments do not test these complex cognitive functions, however, we cannot have any confidence that students will be able to perform at higher cognitive levels when required.

So far, very little research has been conducted that has evaluated the quality of MCQs used in nursing assessments. In a related study, Masters et al. (2001) examined the quality of MCQs in testbanks accompanying nursing textbooks and found 2233 item-writing flaws in 2913 nursing testbank questions. Furthermore, 72.1% of the questions were written at lowest cognitive levels of knowledge and comprehension. In medicine, Downing (2005) assessed the quality of four examinations given to medical students in a US medical school and found that 46% of these MCQs contained item-writing flaws. Jozefowicz et al. (2002) evaluated the quality of in-house developed examinations at three US medical schools and found that the

overall quality of the questions used was low. Questions written by faculty trained in MCQ construction were of significantly higher quality than those written by untrained faculty. Poor quality MCQs is a problem that not only affects nursing and health science disciplines. In an analysis of the quality of MCQs found in accounting testbanks, Hansen (1997) found that 75% of questions violated at least one item-writing guideline. Ellsworth et al. (1990) found that approximately 60% of MCQs in instructor guides accompanying introductory psychology textbooks contained item-writing flaws.

In order to contribute to the body of knowledge on this topic and to ensure valid assessments are used in the Department of Nursing Studies, an ongoing research and teaching development project is currently reviewing the MCQs used in all student assessments over the past five years. One of the goals of this project is to improve the validity of the assessment process by retaining high quality, good performing MCQs and eliminating poorly performing items. Simultaneously, workshops have been conducted with teaching staff to improve the quality of MCQs and to reduce common errors and flaws in the questions used in assessments. Tests are a key component of assessing students' knowledge. Since test grades affect students' educational outcomes and subsequent career paths, test items should be well constructed. If tests are not well constructed, assessments of student performance may be invalid. Good item construction is critical to accurate assessment. In professional programs, such as nursing, teachers are accountable to many stakeholders, including licensing bodies and the public. There is therefore, an ethical and legal responsibility to ensure that assessments are of high quality and are valid. [n](#)

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Experience @ University of Jönköping, Sweden

Tack så mycket, is "thank you very much" in Swedish and this is what we would like to say to express our gratitude to the Department of Nursing Studies, The University of Hong Kong and the School of Health Sciences, Jönköping University of Sweden. The two Departments organized a 4-week exchange programme for us in Sweden during which we had great experiences. We participated in seminars, study visits and a hospital placement and had an excellent opportunity to learn about the Swedish health care system.

Lectures, seminars and study visits are common ways of teaching in Jönköping University and the course in which we participated was conducted through these means. Following reading and discussion, we visited various facilities including a dental clinic and hospital to consolidate our knowledge.

The Swedish government has developed a comprehensive and extensive health care system. Good health and equal access to health services for everyone are the goals of the Swedish health care system. Low entry cost for health services and high-cost ceiling limit personal expense on medical care. Children and young people under 20 receive all medical treatments free of charge. Additionally, benefits are paid to expectant mothers during pregnancy and labour.

Care for elderly people is also comprehensive. For example, those who have mobility problems are provided with walking frames. In old age homes, every resident is provided with a spacious single or double room which is all-inclusive with cooking area and a large bathroom. Families can help in furnishing the room with familiar items and residents can even move in with their own pets.

During our placement in the psychiatric unit of Ryhov Hospital, we observed the capacious bedrooms, either single or double, and the dining area and living area where patients can sit together, dine and play games. Additionally a music room, laundry, reading corner and a pantry are available for patients where they can listen and play music, do their own laundry and even cook together.



First meal in dormitory...we cooked it ourselves! From left: Stella, Jackson, Peggy and Cady



Happy reunion with Rebecca and Daniel, the former exchange students from Jönköping University



International Party

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Under supervision of our clinical supervisors in our placement, we also observed the nurses attitude and care for psychiatric patients. Nurses are as polite, patient and professional as the nurses in Hong Kong. They knock on the door whenever they enter patients' rooms, explain clearly and obtain consent before implementing treatments. They also care for the patients professionally. They try their best to help the patients with their professional knowledge and skills. Furthermore, they are only responsible for 3 to 5 patients in every shift, so they have more time spent with the patients which could facilitate the caring of patients.

Beside the psychiatric ward, we have visited other parts of the hospital. The medical ward is particularly spacious, clean and well organized. Patients are grouped and treated in different cubicles for better management and provision of care. Planning of care and administrative work are well organized and demonstrate splendid proficiency in fulfilling the goals of the health care system.

During our stay in Sweden, we met numerous international students and engaged in many experiences which broadened our horizons. In reflective nursing practice seminars, we met many international nursing students and through discussions, we learnt about the health care systems and nursing practices in other parts of the world. In addition, we learnt about and experienced the Swedish culture which is valuable and memorable.

To conclude, we would once again show our appreciation to the two Departments and Universities, as well as other people who made the programme such a success. We hope and look forward to participating in other exchange programs to be organized in the future. 



Old age home

Reflections of Students

Students and Graduates of the Bachelor of Nursing (Part-time) programme sharing their learning experience.....

Connie Kan Wan Mui Kwan (Class 2006 Graduate)

The SARS outbreak in 2003 led to tremendous turmoil in public health in Hong Kong and this sudden upheaval gave me the incentive to seek advanced knowledge and skill in nursing.

I had left nursing school almost 20 years previously and re-entry into such an academic and disciplined environment made me feel slightly uncomfortable but mostly excited. I had been chiefly devoted to my family obligations and had been less concerned about developing my career. Therefore to take up further education and balance the scales between family, study and career was challenging. As I learned throughout the course with new philosophy of health assessment, dynamic nursing research skills, sophisticated epidemiology and much more...I was overwhelmed and flooded with advanced knowledge!

These two years spent studying at HKU had me submerged in an activity of "treasure hunting" or digging through a "gold mine" and assembling treasures. My academic studies have added great value to my nursing practice, especially in decision making. They have also broadened my analytical thinking and I have become quite skeptical, especially when reading research articles. Above all I now serve my patients more efficiently and effectively.

My family was supportive and shared my positive learning attitude too. My twin boys were greatly impressed with my determination, at times, during discussion we even shared our opinions in common. Thanks to all the wonderful tutors and guest speakers. They brought great fun to our lectures through sharing their wisdom and vivid life experiences.



Joyce Yetman Yun Moi (Current Year 2 Student)

Having had 12 years experience in the NICU in Canada, I have realized that the scope of nursing responsibilities has changed over the years. Technical competence and experience acquired over the years are valued, but nursing is much more than being task-oriented. Nursing has moved to a profession that includes critical thinking, problem solving, evidence-based practice and research. It requires the nurse to have a broader scope of knowledge, broader educational preparation and to become a life-long learner. The part-time BNurs program has allowed me to continue to learn, while striking a balance between family life and working full-time. The benefits are endless, and have already impacted my way of thinking in my role as a nurse today. For example, the BNurs program has taught me to access, interpret and apply research in my work. It has enabled me not just to address health problems but has highlighted the importance of primary care and public health. As health care advances, I too must continue to learn in order to be better prepared, more knowledgeable and accountable for the care I deliver. I have had the advantage of experience and continual learning over the years, but having a baccalaureate degree in nursing will also allow me to pursue other roles in my career such as advanced practice, education or research in the future, and to enhance my professionalism.



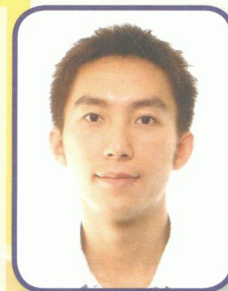
Kelvin Cheng Hai Kiu (Class 2006 Graduate)

Completing all the requirements of the 2 year part-time programme was not an easy task. It needed a strong spirit on our part together with the availability of excellent teaching to ensure our success. However, it has given me the confidence to meet the demands of the future. I graduated from the Hospital in-service training as a Registered Nurse more than seven years ago and I am now looking forward to graduating with my Bachelor degree from The University of Hong Kong.

Over the 2 years of hard work, my method of making clinical decisions has changed considerably. There is much difference between 'traditional decision-making' and 'evidence-based practice'. I can feel that 'evidence-based' practice gives me much more confidence and provides a better quality of care to the patient. It is now essential for the modern nursing care system.

I enjoyed working with my classmates who came from different areas of the Hong Kong health care system. My network of personal relationships has been widened and my views have been broadened. My experiences have enhanced my working spirit in my daily working environment.

The evolution of the Hong Kong healthcare system is still in progress and the road is long and difficult. We are faced with shortages of resources and funding, lack of manpower and for many morale is low. We need to be patient and keep upgrading ourselves to maintain our value in seeking opportunities that arise in the future.



Department Highlights

Master's Students Presented at International Conferences

The Department was delighted to know that the research effort of the masters students was duly recognized as a few Year 2 students were selected to give poster or podium presentations at various international conferences.

Together with Assistant Professor Ms Winnie KW So, student Ms Liza YY Lui gave a podium presentation on "The Knowledge and Attitudes Regarding Pain Management among the Medical Nursing Staff in Hong Kong" at the Hospital Authority Convention 2006, 8-9 May 2006. Also under Ms Winnie So's supervision, student Ms Kar Yee Tse gave a poster presentation in the same conference on "Hong Kong Nurses' Perception and Values on Preparative Teaching for Ambulatory Surgical Patients".

Another final year MN student Ms Joyce Hu Lan Fong, under the supervision of Assistant Professor Dr Daniel YT Fong, gave a poster presentation at the Conference on Quality of Life Research in Asia, 19-21 May 2006. The abstract of her poster entitled "Linguistic Validation of the Hong Kong Chinese Diabetic Foot Ulcer Scale – Short Form" also won her a scholarship from the conference.

Under the supervision of the Head Dr Sophia SC Chan, student Ms Fiona YY Ng gave a poster presentation entitled "Measurement of the Health-related Quality of Life in Adults Recovering from Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome" at the 51st International Respiratory Congress in Texas, U.S.A. on 3-6 December 2005. Student Ms Gladys Kwok, who was also under Dr Sophia Chan's supervision, delivered a presentation entitled "The Effectiveness of Chemotherapy Educational Programme (CEP) for Leukaemia and Lymphoma Patients" at the International Nursing Conference, Beijing, on 15-17 October 2005.



(from right) Kar Yee, Liza and Ms Winnie So



Joyce (right) and Dr Daniel Fong



Gladys, under Dr. Sophia Chan's supervision, presented at the International Nursing Conference, Beijing.

Academic Visitors

Academics from around the world have paid visits to the Department over the past few months. The undergraduate and postgraduate programmes were introduced and tours of the Department were conducted.

During 23-27 June 2006, Professor Lorraine Wright, Professor Emeritus of Nursing, University of Calgary, visited the Department and conducted a course on "Family Nursing" for the students of Bachelor of Nursing (Part-time) Programme and the Master of Nursing Programme.



The Second Military Medical University, 17 May 2006



Chulalongkorn University, 14 August 2006



International Nurses' Day "Walk For Unity"

Under the theme of "Together, We can make a difference", International Nurses' Day (IND) 2006 was celebrated with two major events aimed at uniting nurses and producing an innovative vision to meet the challenges ahead.

The first event was "Walk for Unity". Nurses from various institutions gathered together and walked at the Peak on 7 May 2006. Dr York Chow, Secretary for Health, Welfare and Food, Mr Anthony Woo, the Chairman of the Hospital Authority, Prof Pan Yong Hua, Director General of Education, Science and Technology Department, Liaison Office of The Central People's Government in the HKSAR, Mr Shane Solomon, Chief Executive of the Hospital Authority, Dr Susie Lum, the Senior Executive Manager (Nursing) and Dr Joseph the Hon. Lee, Legislative Counselor were invited to join this event. More than 40 people including teaching staff and their family members, and students in our Department participated.

The second event was the celebration dinner held at a Chinese restaurant on 12 May 2006. More than 800 nurses from the universities and the public and private health sectors joined this event. It was an excellent occasion to meet old friends and make new ones. Both events were very enjoyable and memorable. The organizing committee has done a great job to make these events so successful.



Honorary Professor's Visit

Professor Judith Parker, Emeritus Professor of the School of Nursing at The University of Melbourne and the Honorary Professor of the Department, visited the Department from 15 to 25 May 2006 to conduct an intensive course on the social contexts of health and illness for students of the Bachelor of Nursing part-time programme. During her visit, Professor Parker held a number of consultative meetings with staff and conducted a forum for academic staff on appointment and promotion criteria and staff development within the new Human Resources framework of The University of Hong Kong.



UPenn students in Hong Kong

The Department was delighted to have Prof Sarah Kagan, Professor of Gerontological Nursing – Clinician Educator, University of Pennsylvania, and her ten nursing students, stayed with the Department for 2 weeks from 23 April – 3 May 2006 for the course "Comparative Health Systems: Hong Kong". During their time here, the visiting students participated actively in all course seminars. The group also paid visits to various clinical units, hospitals and community service centers in Hong Kong to apply, evaluate and integrate knowledge gained during the course.

Aumni Activities

Chui Sing Kwan
External Affairs Officer
Nursing Alumni Association

On 27 May 2006 the Alumni Association launched the first exchange visit to Macau. We visited the School of Health Science, Instituto Politécnico de Macau (澳門理工學院高等衛生學校) and Conde S. Januario Hospital (仁伯爵綜合醫院) and 22 alumni participated in this exciting activity.

Macau and Hong Kong residents share similar cultural backgrounds and our communities have many commonalities. However, we were surprised to learn that neither the Government hospital nor the health centers charge citizens for medical treatment. This may possibly be due to the financial stability and small population of Macau compared to Hong Kong. Thanks to the arrangement of the Nursing Director Miss Estela Ma, we visited the Pediatric Unit, Infection Control Unit & Coronary Care Unit of the hospital. During this interesting and stimulating visit, we shared our practices and experiences with our Macau nursing colleagues.

In the evening our Alumni Association collaborated with the Macao Polytechnic Nursing Alumni Association in organizing a nursing seminar at the Hotel Beverly Plaza. We were pleased to invite Mr. Philip Chan, the Associate Professor of the School of Health Science, Instituto Politécnico de Macau to speak on the topic of Occupational Safety in Health Care Settings. The second topic was delivered by myself on the topic of Depression & Suicide. Over 200 nursing colleagues from Macau were enrolled in this seminar. In short, the exchange visit and seminar not only achieved the purpose of promoting knowledge advancement but also fostered professional development among nursing colleagues.

In the near future we plan to recruit more graduates from bachelor and master degree programmes as well as past graduates of these programmes. Simultaneously, we will continue to offer introductory briefings to newly graduated students of the Department. Most importantly, our Alumni Association needs the support of all graduates. We are looking forward to seeing many in the coming events organized by the Alumni Association.

For information, please visit our website on www.hkunaa.org or contact us via e-mail at contact@hkunaa.org



Visit to Conde S. Januario Hospital (仁伯爵綜合醫院)



Joint seminar organized by Macao Polytechnic Nursing Alumni Association and HKU Nursing Alumni Association at Hotel Beverly Plaza.



Visit to School of Health Science, Instituto Politécnico de Macau (澳門理工學院高等衛生學校)

From left: Mr. SK Chui (External Affairs, HKUNAA), Miss Olivia Po, Miss Lidia Jeong (Chairlady, Macao Polytechnic Nursing Alumni Association), Miss SK Shum (Vice-Chairlady, HKUNAA) and Miss Kitty Tang (Treasurer, HKUNAA)

Messsage from Nursing Society

Lee Cheuk Yin, Vivian
Chairperson
Nursing Society, MS, HKUSU Session 2006



Committee Members and Guests of Honors at Inauguration Ceremony

The executive committee of the Nursing Society of The University of Hong Kong, Achilles, was formed some months ago for the 2006 session and we have held a number of successful functions for our members.

First, there was an inauguration ceremony where we proudly invited Dr. Joseph Lee from the Legislative Council and Dr. Agnes Tiwari from our Department to be guests of honour. We then held a Super-Pass Lunch to send out our blessings and courage to members on their examinations. Participants had a great time with each other and enjoyed the meal. Thirdly, we invited Mr. David Chan, a lecturer from The Chinese University of Hong Kong, to be our guest speaker for our academic seminar. He discussed "brain death" and shared with us his experience in the Intensive Care


Unit. In addition, we also published a "Nursing Affairs", which included an introduction to the new cabinet and some compositions written by our members. Finally, we successfully requested wireless service in the Pauline Chan Building, which is now up and running for our members to enjoy.



Academic Seminar

Over the past few months, we also held a number of functions, which included...

- Joint-U Interflow Programme with the Nursing Society of The Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Joint-U Caduceus Cup which included contests in volleyball, basketball, and football with the Medical Society, the Chinese Medicine Society, and the Dental Society
- Orientation Programme that allowed freshmen to meet with each other and know more about the campus and societies (special thanks to those members who helped guide the freshmen)

We hope to see you all at the future functions and have a great time! 

ongratulations

Awards of Research Grants

The following staff members are the Chief Investigators on projects recently awarded through various funding bodies:

Dr Vico CL Chiang

Building capacity for life-long learning with freshmen students

(Teaching Development Grants, HKU)

Dr Daniel YT Fong

A web-based statistics tank for teaching and learning of medical statistics

(Teaching Development Grants, HKU)

Dr Marie Tarrant

Impact of breastfeeding on hospitalizations from infectious diseases in Hong Kong Chinese children up to eight years of age

(Research Fund for the Control of Infectious Diseases)

Dr Agnes FY Tiwari

A RCT to test the effectiveness of a telephone intervention to improve the mental health of community dwelling women abused by their intimate partners

(Health and Health Services Research Fund)

Promoting teaching and learning through an enhancement of the clinical problem-based learning tutorial process

(Teaching Development Grants, HKU)

Promotion

Ms Idy CY Fu, who joined the Department as Clinical Instructor in 1999, has recently been promoted to Teaching Consultant.



Student Achievement

The Department was delighted to know that Ms Angela Chan Pui Yan, a Year 3 student, was selected to participate in the Intensified Learning Opportunity Programme (ILOP) of The University of Hong Kong. ILOP is a programme designed for students who aspire and are dedicated to becoming visionary, responsible leaders with strong integrity and commitment to society and life. Overseas internships are part of ILOP, aiming to provide excellent exposure and cross-cultural learning endeavour for students, and we were very glad that the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Vancouver) has kindly accepted Angela as their summer intern.

Recent Research Publications

Selected referred publications from May to November 2006:

Chan, S. S. C., So, W. K. W., Wong, D. C. N., Lee, A. C. K., & Tiwari, A. F. Y. (In press). Improving the adults' knowledge and practice of preventive measures through a telephone health education intervention during the SARS epidemic in Hong Kong. *International Journal of Nursing Studies*.

Chan, S. S. C., So, W. K. W., Wong, D. C. N. & Lam, T. H. (In press). Building an integrated model of tobacco control education in the nursing curriculum: Findings of a students' survey. *Journal of Nursing Education*.

Chan, S. S. C. & Lam, T. H. (2006). Protecting sick children from exposure to passive smoking through mothers' actions: a randomized controlled trial of a nursing intervention. *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, 54(4), 440-449.

Chan, S. S. C., Thompson, D. & Wong, T. (2006). Nurses as agents of change in quality improvement. In G. M. Leung & J. Bacon-Shone (Eds.), *The future of Hong Kong's health care system* (pp. 291-301). Hong Kong, Hong Kong University Press.

Leung, A. Y. M., Chi, I. & Lui, Y. H. (2006). A cross-cultural study in older adults' learning experience. *Asian Journal of Gerontology and Geriatrics*, 1(2).

Leung, A. Y. M., Chi, I., Chow, N. W. S. & Chan, K. S. (2006). Construction and validation of Chinese Value of Learning Scale (CVLS). *Educational Gerontology*, 32, 1-14.

Mak, Y. W., Loke, A. Y., Lam, T. H. & Abdullah, A. S. M. (2006). The predictors of participation of smoking parents in a proactive telephone-based smoking cessation program. *Addictive Behaviors*, 31, 1731-1743.

Tarrant, M., Knierim, A., Hayes, S. K. & Ware J. (2006) The frequency of item writing flaws in multiple-choice questions used in high stakes nursing assessments. *Nurse Education Today*, 26(8), 662-671.

Tiwari, A. F. Y., Chan, S. S. C., Wong, E. M. Y., Wong, D. C. N., Chui, C. Y. Y., Wong, A. & Patil, N. (2006). The effect of problem based learning on students' approaches to learning in the context of clinical nursing education. *Nurse Education Today*, 26(5), 430-438.

Tiwari, A. F. Y., Lai, P., So, M. & Yuen, F. K. H. (2006). A comparison of the effects of problem-based learning and lecturing on the development of students' critical thinking. *Medical Education*, 40, 547-554.

Tiwari, A. F. Y., Tarrant, M., Yuen, F. K. H., Chan, S. S. C., Kagan, S. H., Ching, P., Wong, A. & Wong, S. S. Y. (2006). Preparedness for influenza pandemic in Hong Kong nursing units. *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*, 38(4), 308-313.

In the Media

In the past few months, some Department's staff members were reported or interviewed by the media on their research, achievements and expertise.

News Front Page
Last Updated: Monday, 8 May 2006, 23:06 GMT 00:06 UK
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Sick children's dads still smoke
Eighty-six per cent of fathers who smoke continue to do so at home even when their child has been in hospital, a study has found.

Just over half smoked in front of their child, the University of Hong Kong research discovered.

Most women knew their husband's habits should alter, but family tensions stopped them pressing for change, the Journal of Advanced Nursing reported.

Forest, the smokers' rights group, said bans would increase smoking at home.

Researchers surveyed the mothers of 1,483 children, with an average age of five, admitted to four major hospitals in Hong Kong.

None of the mothers, who were mainly housewives, smoked, but all of the children's fathers, who worked in factories, crafts, services and shops, did.

“Many of the mothers found it difficult to persuade their husbands to quit smoking”
Dr Sophia Chan, University of Hong Kong

輔導員似死黨 增作戰持久力

朋輩輔導的最大特色，是讓求助者向同儕的人傾訴，因為不會受到輔導員的評語或批評，更能敞開心扉談出苦悶。

戒煙熱線有二十多位輔導員當值，他們均是香港大學醫學院護理系、資料社會科學院社會工作社社會行政學系學生，由專業導師「Admin」負責督導。

Admin表示，戒煙熱線的青少年，有些是純粹好奇，有些有戒煙意願但未下定決心，有些下定決心後卻不知如何戒煙。

亦有家長戒煙失敗，詢問如何幫助子女和學生戒煙。收到求助後，輔導員均向求助者了解戒煙的困難點，然後作出相應協助。

分析抽煙模式 逐枝戒掉
朋輩輔導員心，最不相同的，Admin 對青少年而言，則屬懶惰和逃避態度，由於戒煙時間可長可短，有輔導員則前鋒，能夠增加青少年的「作戰持久力」，戒煙成功率大提高。輔導員亦會分析求助者的抽煙模式，找出解決辦法，幫他們按枝逐枝戒掉，可以由生活習慣開始，逐步戒除。

有學生因為不能在學校和家裏戒煙，唯有每五早上上學時在戒煙熱線，戒煙熱線員會與求助者逐枝戒煙，逐枝戒煙後，便戒煙成功。

戒煙熱線員表示，戒煙熱線員在戒煙熱線工作，一方面可以幫助青少年戒煙，另一方面也可以戒煙熱線員自己戒煙。

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錯錯錯！提防煙癮陷阱

吸煙對健康沒有即時影響。
這是一項調查，因為其目的在於探討煙癮的成因，令人覺得吸煙，但吸煙對健康的影響，卻是長遠的。所以，吸煙對健康的影響，是長遠的。

香港特区政府衛生局
吸煙禍及家人

青少年戒煙熱線
電話號碼：2855 9557 對象：12-25歲
服務時間：星期一至五下午4:00-晚上10:00
星期六下午1:00-晚上7:00
公眾假期及國慶節假期除外
網址：www.hku.hk/quit

May 2006
Dr Sophia SC Chan
Sick children's dads still smoke
BBC News

May 2006
Dr Sophia SC Chan
Youth Quitline
Owen's Legs
玻璃之迷

June 2006
Dr Sophia SC Chan
Smoking Causes Erectile Dysfunction

半世煙齡 換來嚴重陽痿

港40萬男士不舉 早戒惡習有得救

陽痿早洩與吸煙有密切關係，吸煙者患陽痿早洩的風險比不吸煙者高。吸煙者患陽痿早洩的風險比不吸煙者高。吸煙者患陽痿早洩的風險比不吸煙者高。

香港大學醫學院社會工作系教授、戒煙熱線負責人、戒煙熱線員 Sophia Chan 表示，吸煙者患陽痿早洩的風險比不吸煙者高。吸煙者患陽痿早洩的風險比不吸煙者高。吸煙者患陽痿早洩的風險比不吸煙者高。

孕婦被虐 後患無窮

孕婦被虐，後患無窮。孕婦被虐，後患無窮。孕婦被虐，後患無窮。

孕婦被虐，後患無窮。孕婦被虐，後患無窮。孕婦被虐，後患無窮。

May 2006
Dr Agnes FY Tiwari
Intimate Partner Violence Against Pregnant Women
Hong Kong Economic Times

August 2006
Ms Ka Huen Yip
Sports and Exercises
Men's UNO


October 2006
Dr Agnes FY Tiwari
Intimate Partner Violence Against Pregnant Women
Metro Daily



The Centre for Health Promotion is home to a number of research projects in the Department of Nursing Studies. Some of the projects are conducted in the Centre with research participants attending the interventions of the various projects. These include a number of smoking cessation research projects currently in progress. In addition, the Centre is also a "virtual centre" for some research projects. A case in point is the study on empowerment intervention for abused women. As the participants are abused women who have just left their abusive partners, it is potentially unsafe for them to leave the shelter for abused women. Instead of bringing the women to the Centre, the researchers institute the intervention in the shelter with supporting materials from the Centre. Looking to the future, there are plans to further expand the role of the Centre in research activities involving faculty members and students. More of these in the future issues of the Newsletter. Watch this space!

Centre Highlights

Dr Marie Tarrant, Assistant Professor conducted an Introductory Workshop and Advanced Workshop on 3 June and 8 July respectively. The workshops were well received by participants.

Dr Agnes FY Tiwari, Associate Professor and Teaching Consultants Dr Felix KH Yuen and Ms Veronica SF Lam, conducted a series of mentoring workshops for the Clinical Mentors of the Department on 4 May – 6 July 2006. 



Goodbye

Dr Hau Yee Kwan, who joined the Department in 2002 as Teaching Consultant, and Ms Ellen Ku, who joined the Department in 2003 as Clinical Instructor, have left the Department to pursue their own endeavors. The Department and all staff members warmly send the best wishes to both of them.

