

Sharing of experience on the Nursing Care of the Elderly Clients during their Last 3 weeks of the Imminent Death in a Nursing Home of Hong Kong



Haven of Hope Nursing Home Role extension of nursing staff in Nursing Home 1999 - 2013

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The Journey

- A plan for "Dying in Nursing Home" was planned before 1999 and 1st case was served in 2000
- Advocacy for a peaceful death can be achieved for selected person who requires minimal medical interventions and whose life will end predictably (Chan KS 2006)
- 12.5% (90/722 total death) was served in the "Dying in Nursing Home" service (HOHNH 2013)



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Management of Death in Hong Kong

•All imminent deaths to send to hospital

•Medical practitioner to pronounce and certify death Management of Death in

UK 1, NSW (Australia) 2 & Ontario (Canada) 3

•RN to pronounce death when death is expected

•Medical practitioner to certify death legally

Applies to hospital and nursing home

(1.UK ,2002) (2.NSW HD, 1999) (3. College of Nursing, Ontario 2000)



Legal status (Hong Kong)

 It is lawful for deaths to occur in Nursing Homes in Hong Kong (which is registered under the Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Maternity Homes Registration Ordinance Cap 165), provided that the attending medical staff is satisfied with the cause of death. Attending physician has to view the body and to sign the certificate of death (form 18)



Dying in Nursing Home - Pioneer





尊重生命•改變生命





Profile of the deaths (43) 2007- 2013



Age distributions







Weissman 2005











Nursing care of the imminent 43 deaths (2007 - 2013)

Patent airway				
Chest physio-	Suction	O2		
therapy	(Q2H to Q4H)	(2 to 5 lit)		
16	34	36		
(37%)	(79%)	(83%)		



Nursing care of the imminent 43 deaths (2007 - 2013)

Hydration & related observation			
Subcutaneously / via naso- gastric feeding	Vital signs		
4 /27	• fever 17 (39%)		
(10% / 62%)	• Vomits 4 (10%)		



Nursing care of the imminent 43 deaths (2007 - 2013)

	ol & Comfort are	Wound care	Death time (Shift)
Narcotics (oral/subc- utaneouly)	Bed side nursing care	Wound care (chronic wound)	A / P / N shift
9 /4 (21% / 9%)	•Turning •Care of fever •Care of vomits •Skin care •Oral hygiene •Continence care	11 (26%)	A: 22 P: 6 N: 15



Outcome

- 1. A good death with dignity and care by familiar faces & family
- 2. Choice of care by residents and family
- 3. Better utilisation of the health care resources

Gains

- **1.** Pioneering service in "Dying in Nursing Home" in Hong Kong
- 2. Extension of nurses' role in the community
- 3. A committed professional team for care of the dying
- 4. Motivated by the trusting relationship with the family





Facts:

- Ageing population
- Health & social integration (Policy address HK 2009)
- Shifting of care to the community for the elderly (Policy address HK 2008)









Thank you