Mental Health Review

Areas under Review
1. Mental Health Promotion
2. Mental Health Services for Children and Adolescents
3. Mental Health Services for Adults
4. Dementia Support Services for the Elderly
5. Applicability and Practicability of Introducing Community Treatment Order in Hong Kong

Highlights
- Additional funding to the Hospital Authority (HA), with mental health budget increased by almost 40% from about $3.4 billion in 2011-12 to about $4.7 billion in 2016-17
- Mental health budget accounts for more than 8.5% of HA’s total health budget.
- Increased recurrent provision for the Integrated Community Centres for Mental Wellness (ICCMWs) by over 120% from $135 million in 2010 to over $303 million in 2016-17
- Additional recurrent provision of about $32 million to be allocated to ICCMWs from 2017-18 for the enhancement of community support services for ex-mentally ill persons.
- About $99 million allocated from the Community Care Fund for the implementation of the pilot scheme named “Dementia Community Support Scheme”.
- Additional recurrent provision of $73 million to be allocated to ICCMWs from 2017-18 for the enhancement of mental health services.
- Increase in manpower for psychiatric services by almost 15% in the past 5 years.
- 40 recommendations made for further service enhancement.
- Implemented two pilot schemes and a territory-wide mental health promotion campaign, introduced new initiatives and enhanced existing services.
- To set up a standing advisory committee on mental health to follow up on the recommendations of the review and to monitor the development of the mental health services.

Recommendations
40 recommendations on 20 areas by the Review Committee on Mental Health:

Promotion and Education
1. To develop a long-term strategy for mental health promotion.

Research and Studies
2. To conduct regular studies and encourage development of evidence-based intervention programmes.

Capacity Building
3. To enhance the capacity of multi-disciplinary and primary care professionals in handling mental health cases.

Support to Children and Adolescents and their Families
4. To strengthen services and manpower and provide more targeted support.
5. To enhance cross-sectoral and multi-disciplinary coordination.
6. To adopt multi-disciplinary intervention approach to strengthen support at school.
7. To provide smooth service transition at different stages.

Mental Health Services for Adults
8. To enhance “Case Management Programme” for severe mental illness (SMI) cases and “Early Assessment Service for Young People with Early Psychosis” (EASY) programme.
9. To enhance common mental disorder (CMD) services and explore feasibility of public-private partnership (PPP).
10. To strengthen manpower of Siu Lam Hospital with a view to clearing up the waitlist.

Dementia Support Services for the Elderly
11. To develop a common reference for primary care professionals and explore the feasibility of PPP.
12. To develop dementia-friendly neighbourhood and strengthen social care infrastructure.
13. To enhance medical-social collaboration and community support.
14. To promote end-of-life palliative care in the community setting.
15. To enhance support to carers.

Alternatives to CTO
16. To review existing “conditional discharge” mechanism under the Mental Health Ordinance.
17. To strengthen community support for patients with SMI.
18. To re-visit the applicability of CTO when needs arise.

Application of Innovative Technology
19. To promote the use of innovative technology to facilitate the delivery of mental health services.

Establishment of a Standing Advisory Committee
20. To set up a standing advisory committee.

Mental Health Review Report
To download the full report, please visit the website of the Healthcare Planning and Development Office of the Food and Health Bureau below.

Food and Health Bureau
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government

www.hpdo.gov.hk
Mental Health Promotion

Joyful@HK Campaign
- A three-year territory-wide campaign on mental health promotion launched in January 2016
- Promotion through mass media including the broadcast of theme song “Through the Hurdles” and TV programmes (大腦不走” and “情約2016), etc.

Objectives
- To increase public engagement in promoting mental well-being
- To increase public knowledge and understanding about mental health

Core Components
- Mass media advertising and publicity activities
- Engagement of stakeholders
- Community partnership programmes
- Research and evaluation

Way Forward
- To develop a long-term strategy for mental health promotion

Applicability and Practicability of Community Treatment Order (CTO) in Hong Kong

The Review Committee recommends that:
- “Conditional discharge” mechanism under the Mental Health Ordinance should be reviewed
- Support to patients with SMI should be strengthened through enhancement of the Case Management Programme
- Applicability of CTO should be re-visited when needs arise by the standing advisory committee

Mental Health Services for Children and Adolescents

Enhanced Services
- Launched the pilot scheme named “Student Mental Health Support Scheme”
- The “Learning Support Grant” provided to schools to cover students with mental illness from the 2017/18 school year
- Increased use of new drugs for attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder
- Strengthened health and developmental surveillance for high-risk preschoolers
- Developed an Assessment Framework of Parenting Capacity for frontline professionals to assess the parenting capacity of high-risk families

On-going Work
- To promote mental well-being and build up a conducive environment for growth and development
- To provide child-centred and integrated services
- To enhance parenting skills and knowledge
- To facilitate early detection and intervention
- To strengthen cross-sectoral coordination and collaboration
- To enhance the capacity of multi-disciplinary and primary care professionals
- To encourage help-seeking
- To facilitate smooth service transition
- To assist return to normal developmental pathway

Mental Health Services for Adults

Enhanced Services
- Patients with severe mental illness (SMI)
  - Early intervention under EASY programme
  - Expanded “Case Management Programme” to all 18 districts and introduced peer support element
  - Increased use of new anti-psychotics
  - Established a three-tier medical-social collaboration platform
  - Developed the “Service Framework on Personalised Care for Adults with Severe Mental Illness in Hong Kong”

Patients with common mental disorder (CMD)
- Strengthened multi-disciplinary support for service delivery of CMD clinics
- Patients with learning disability
  - Provided additional beds in Siu Lam Hospital for infants
  - Increased use of new drugs for attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder

On-going Work
- To enhance “Case Management Programme” and improve case manager to patient ratio
- To explore the feasibility of PPP for CMD service
- To enhance the capacity of multi-disciplinary and primary care professionals
- To further strengthen the medical-social collaboration
- To enhance community support services for ex-mentally ill persons

Dementia Support Services for the Elderly

Enhanced Services
- Launched the pilot scheme named “Dementia Community Support Scheme”
- Increased use of new drugs for dementia
- Enhanced public knowledge through publication such as “認知障礙100問” and exhibitions/talks
- Launched the “Improvement Programme of Elderly Centres” and “Pilot Scheme on Community Care Service Voucher for the Elderly”, covering subsidies for dementia-related furniture & equipment/services
- Allocated dementia supplement to long-term care service units and additional recurrent provision to District Elderly Community Centres to strengthen support for elderly persons with dementia and carers
- Launched the “Pilot Scheme on Living Allowance for Carers of Elderly Persons from Low-income Families”

On-going Work
- To build up a dementia-friendly community
- To enhance the capacity of multi-disciplinary and primary care professionals
- To facilitate early detection and intervention
- To alleviate burden of carers
- To further strengthen medical-social collaboration
- To explore the feasibility of PPP
- To facilitate ageing in place