

Advance Care Planning



"Advance care planning (ACP) is an overarching process of proactive communication regarding end-of- life care. Through this process of communication, a patient with advanced progressive disease, his/her health care providers, and his/her family members and caregivers can consider ahead of time what kind of care is appropriate when the patient can no longer make a decision. "

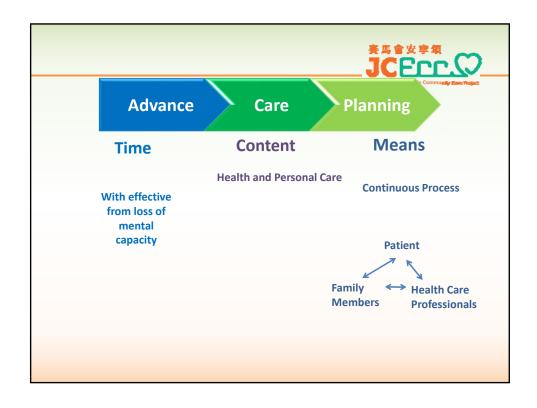
(HA, 2019, p. 3)

Advance Care Planning



 "ACP is an overarching and preceding process for expressing preferences for medical and personal care, which in turn will shape the care for the patients thereafter and at the end- of-life."

(HA, 2019, p. 4)



Optimal Timing of Initiating ACP is Inconclusive



Triggers for initiating or reviewing ACP discussions: (Mullick et al., 2013, p.3)

- Patient initiates the conversation
- Diagnosis of a progressive life limiting illness
- The diagnosis of a condition with a predictable trajectory, which is likely to result in a loss of capacity, such as dementia or motor neuron disease
- A change or deterioration in condition
- Change in a patient's personal circumstances, such as moving into a care home or loss of a family member
- Routine clinical review of the patient, such as clinic appointments or home visits
- When the previously agreed review interval elapses

Optimal Timing of Initiating ACP is Inconclusive



- It's always too early, until it's too late (IOM, 2015, p.125)
- Knowing when NOT to proceed discussion is important: when doing so might cause disproportionate levels of distress (Mullick et al., 2013, p.3)

Palliative Care should be Holistic



Lancet Commission Report (Knaul et al., 2018)

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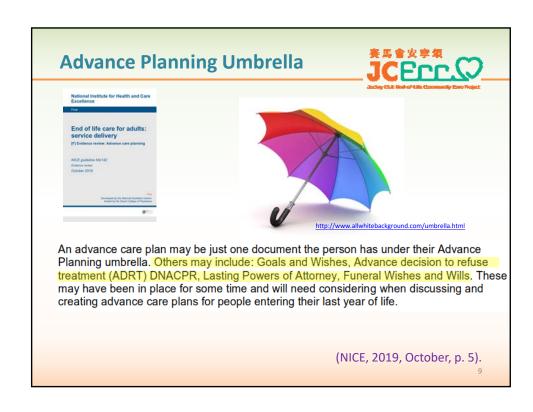
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 Highlights the needs in psycho-social-spiritual care

Palliative care should be responsive to suffering of any kind and should seek to prevent and relieve not only physical and psychological suffering but also social and spiritual suffering of patients and their families.⁶⁷

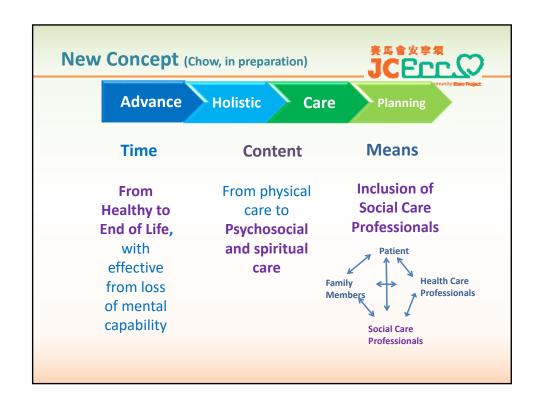
(Knaul et al., 2018, p.1401)



Components of ACP



- Medical care only?
- Other care
 - Financial and assets arrangement
 - Responsibility transfer
 - Psychosocial care
 - completion of unfinished businesses
 - reconciliation
 - life review
 - · transfer of life wisdom and skills
 - Spiritual care
- Know how to "titrate" information over time (Mullick et al., 2013, p.3)





Other Theoretical Framework



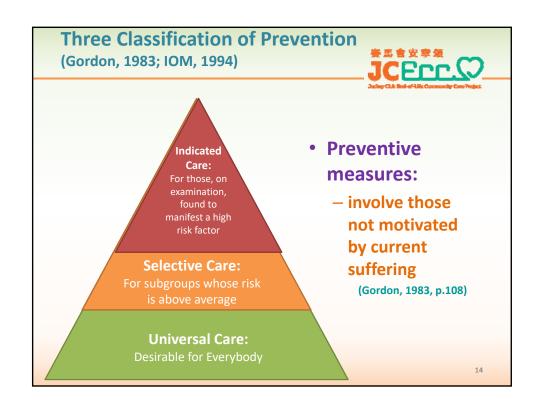
Individualised Choice:

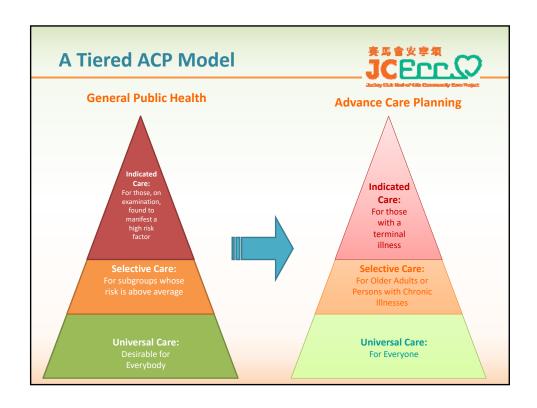
- Three Classification of Prevention (Gordon, 1983; IOM, 1994)

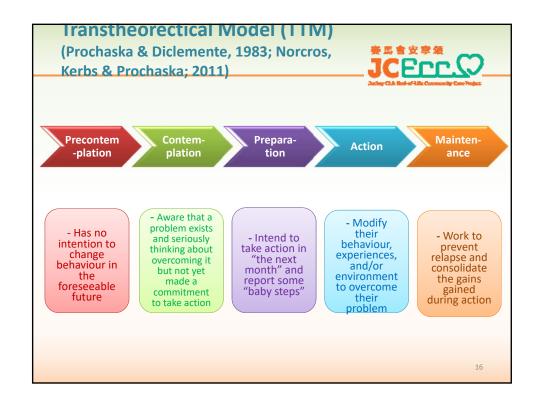
Time Factor: Readiness

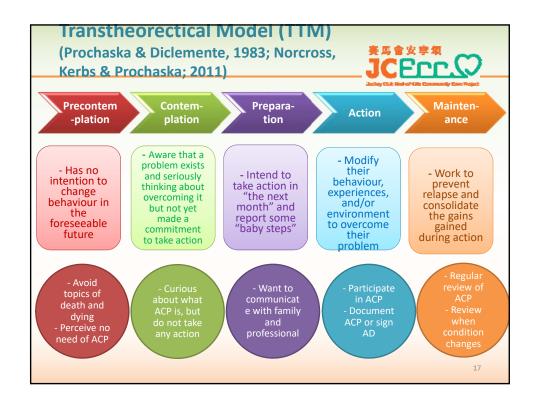
- Transtheorectical Model (TTM) (Prochaska & Diclemente, 1983; Norcros, Kerbs & Prochaska; 2011)

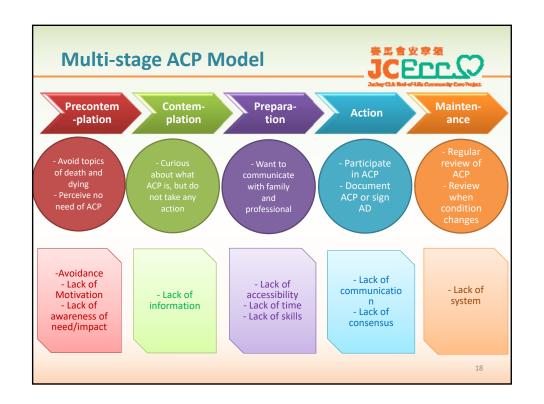
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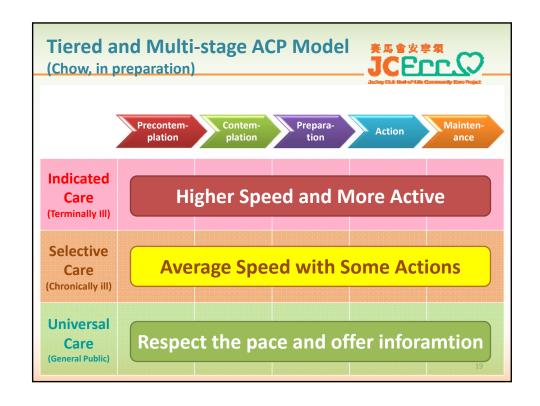


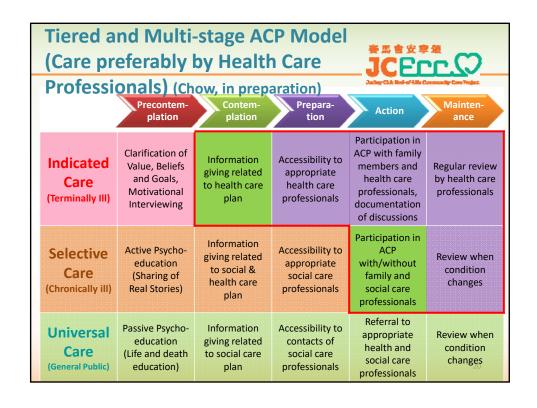












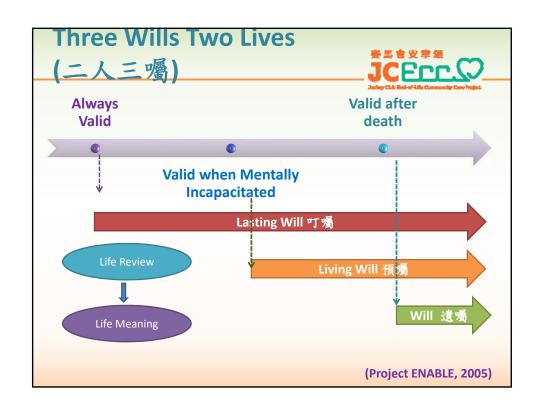


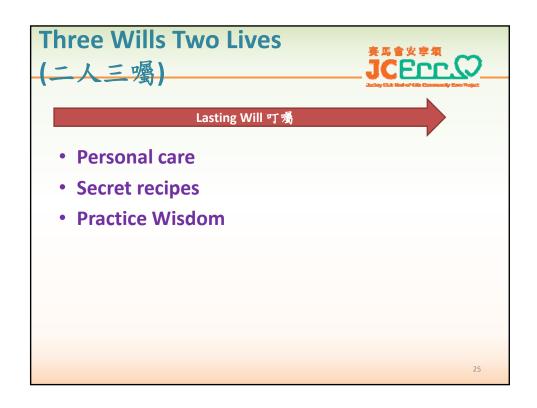


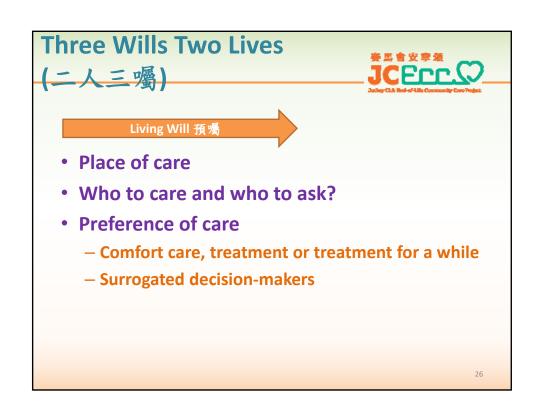
Reflections in Promoting Advance Care Planning among Chinese (Chow, in preparation)



- Assumption #1
- Death is a taboo topic in particular for Chinese: talking means attracting
 - Best utilization of the golden opportunity
 - Two Lives and Three Wills 二人三囑 (Centre on Behavioral Health, 2008)
 - Two Lives: Life review 人生回顧and Life meaning人 生意義
 - Three Wills: Lasting Will 叮囑, Living Will 預囑and Will 遺囑







Three Wills Two Lives





- Organ donations
- Body donations
- Will
- Funeral arrangement
- Burial arrangement
 - Green burial
 - Scattering ashes to memorial garden or to the sea
- Responsibilities

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Reflections in Promoting Advance Care Planning among Chinese (Chow, in preparation)



- Assumption #2
- Dying is a family event
 - Involvement of family as early as possible
 - Individual family members might have very different perspectives
 - Facilitation of family communications and negotiations
 - Facilitation of patients in articulating their values

Reflections in Promoting Advance Care Planning among Chinese (Chow, in preparation)



- Assumption #3
- Trust in health care professional is crucial
 - Suspicion towards saving of resources
 - A trustful relationship with one health care staff will be generalized as a trustful relationship with the health care team

Reflections in Promoting Advance Care Planning among Chinese (Chow, in preparation)



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- Assumption #4
- Advance care planning is a process that accepts changes over time
 - Reduction of push in signing very formal paper unless requested by the patients
 - Use of other means of documentation or substitute decision makers
 - Periodical checking with the preferences and values
 - Reemphasis that validity starts only when the patient is incapable to communicate or make decision. Patients are reminded that they can always indicate new preferences

Reflections in Promoting Advance Care Planning among Chinese (Chow, in preparation)



- Assumption #5
- Advance care planning is a respecting patients' autonomy and choices
 - Role of health and social care professionals as information providers and planners
 - Patients sometimes determine not to make decisions and respect the decision of family members or professionals





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