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Dr Wallace Chan is the Associate Professor of Department of Social Work at the Chinese University of Hong Kong. He is the Fellow in Thanatology, the Association for Death Education and Counseling, and also the Diplomat of Logotherapy (Clinician), the Viktor Frankl Institute of Logotherapy. His teaching and research interests are related to social work in health care, meaning and sufferings, end-of-life care, and death and bereavement. In recent years, his research studies have focused on self-competence in death work, which highlights the importance of helping professionals in coping with the emotional and existential challenges in doing death work (e.g. coping with aroused personal grief, and queries on life meaningfulness). A scale, the “Self-competence in Death Work Scale”, was also developed and validated to help assess helping professionals’ competence in facing the above-mentioned personal challenges in death work.