

Supporting family members to provide care to EoL patients at home

Nowadays, Hong Kong rapid ageing population implies a growing demand for end-of-life care in the community. According to the Hong Kong Census and Statistics Department and Hospital Authority Statistics in 2019, over 90% of people died in hospital. The number of deceased included terminal cancer and various advanced disease. Although palliative care service facilitates patient to pass away at home as needed, Hong Kong people usually still have barriers of dying at home because of social taboo, lack of death education and community support. However, change is in the air recently. There is an increasing trend of patients with advanced disease expressing their wish to choose the arrangement of dying at home instead of hospitalisation during their late stage of life. They wish to stay with familiar face or their family members at their final stage of life, without any restriction for accompanying the patients. They eventually could pass away in dignity and comfort.

In this workshop, the experience of care, support, community resources and further interventions to facilitate family members to take care of patients who wishes to die at home will be shared. Furthermore, participants can acquire knowledge to implement support in their own service through role play and scenario discussion.