



Case Background and Sharing

Service user, Ms. Yau of JCECC: “Life Rainbow” End-of-Life Care Services of The Hong Kong Society for Rehabilitation is 78 years old and suffering from late-stage Parkinson’s disease. She heard of advance medical directives from newspaper reports, and expressed her desire to sign a directive during her medical follow-up with Dr. Wong back in early 2021.

Dr. Wong referred Ms. Yau to the JCECC Project team to receive community palliative care services. At the same time, Dr. Wong also informed the team they could arrange a session for Ms. Yau to sign the Advance Medical Directive and Advance Care Planning after communication with her.

The social worker and the nurse of the project team paid several home visits to Ms. Yau to clearly explain the concept of Advance Care Planning and Advance Medical Directive before she signed the directive. They talked about various treatments, understood her family members’ opinions and her greatest fears regarding deteriorating health. The team aimed to assist Ms. Yau to have a deeper communication and discussion with Dr. Wong during her next consultation. Ms. Yau explained that she has only one brother, living in Canada. Hence, if she became unconscious or her health condition worsened, there would be no one to help her convey her care preferences. With the help of the project team, Ms. Yau’s brother was supportive and respected her choices for early preparation. He also said he would like his sister to pass away peacefully without suffering.

Ms Yau felt relieved after establishing an Advance Care Plan and Advance Medical Directive. The project team continued to assist her in executing her Advance Care Plan, which includes addressing her personal preferences, educating caregivers on symptom management, and continuing to provide end-of-life care support to Ms. Yau at home to maintain her quality of life.



What is Advance Medical Directive?

An Advance Medical Directive (AMD) generally refers to a written statement in which a person indicates, while mentally capable, what life-sustaining treatment he/she would refuse when he/she is no longer capable of doing so. (Legislative Council, 2023, p.1)

What is Advance Care Planning?

Advance care planning (ACP) refers to the process of communication among a patient with advanced progressive diseases, his/her health care providers, and his/her family members and caregivers regarding the kind of care that will be considered appropriate when the patient can no longer make those decisions. ACP is an overarching and preceding process for such decisions, based on the mentally competent adult patient's preferences and values, and the risks and benefits of individual treatment. (HA, 2020, p.21)



On-going and Upcoming Activities (First half of 2024)

Public Education:

No.	Event	Date
1	Advance Care Planning in End-of-Life Care: Human Library Sharing Session (Episode 5)	January 24, 2024
2	安寧照顧講座 《維持生命治療的預作決定條例草案》知多啲 – 社區講座系列 (第一場)	January 27, 2024
3	安寧照顧講座 《維持生命治療的預作決定條例草案》知多啲 – 社區講座系列 (第二場)	February 26, 2024
4	安寧照顧講座 《維持生命治療的預作決定條例草案》知多啲 – 社區講座系列 (第三場)	March 13, 2024
5	安寧照顧講座 《維持生命治療的預作決定條例草案》知多啲 – 社區講座系列 (第四場)	March 25, 2024
6	安寧照顧講座 《維持生命治療的預作決定條例草案》知多啲 – 社區講座系列 (第五場)	April 13, 2024
7	安寧照顧講座 《維持生命治療的預作決定條例草案》知多啲 – 社區講座系列 (第六場)	April 26, 2024
8	ACP Animation Video Premiere and Celebrities Sharing	April 2024 (TBC)
9	Advance Care Planning in End-of-Life Care: Human Library Sharing Session (Episode 6)	June 2024 (TBC)

Professional Capacity Building:

No.	Event	Date
1	Professional 3-tier Community Psychosocial End-of-Life Care Curriculum (https://www.jcecc.hk/onlinelearning)	On-going
2	The Integrated Community End-of-Life Care Support Teams (ICESTs) Models Training Programme	On-going
3	Symposium on End-of-Life Community Care: Evolution of Advance Care Planning within Chinese Communities	January 22, 2024
4	Professional Seminar on “Policies and Practical Implementation Issues of Advance Care Planning and Advance Directives (Session 1)”	January 22, 2024
5	Professional Seminar on “Policies and Practical Implementation Issues of Advance Care Planning and Advance Directives (Session 2)”	March 2024 (TBC)

Volunteer Capacity Building:

No.	Event	Date
1	End-of-Life Care Volunteer Online Learning Platform (https://volunteer.jcecc.hk/)	On-going
2	End-of-Life Care Volunteer Core Training	May – June 2024
3	End-of-Life Care Volunteer Thematic Training	August – October 2024
4	End-of-Life Care Volunteer Coordinator Training	September 2024
5	End-of-Life Care Volunteer Leaders Training	November 2024