

Plenary 1

Enhancing Primary Care in Hong Kong through the Provision of Integrated People-Centred Primary Care in District Health Centres



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Dr. Donald Li is a specialist in Family Medicine in private practice in Hong Kong. He is the President of the World Organization of Family Doctors (WONCA). He is the Censor of the Hong Kong College of Family Physicians. He is the Past President of the Hong Kong Academy of Medicine and Chairman of the Governing Board of Hong Kong Jockey Club Disaster Preparedness and Response Institute. Dr Li is appointed as the member of the 13th National Committee of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC).

Dr. Li is also an active member of many Hong Kong governmental and public health bodies. He is a member of the Steering Committee on Primary Healthcare Development of Food & Health Bureau, member of the Chief Executive's Council of Advisers on Innovation and Strategic Development, Director of the Hong Kong St. John Ambulance Association, Chairman of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council, Director of Bauhinia Foundation Research Centre and Honorary Steward of Hong Kong Jockey Club.

People-centred care is needed for everyone, everywhere to access the quality health services they need, when and where they need them. The care needs to be safe, effective and timely that responds to people's comprehensive needs and are of the highest possible standards.

This will be a presentation on how the comprehensive needs of people and communities in Hong Kong can be fulfilled respecting their preferences through provision of Integrated people-centred health services at the newly established District Health Centres in Hong Kong. Focus will be on a network of Family Doctors trained to provide holistic, comprehensive and continuous care, leading and assisted by a multi-disciplinary primary healthcare team. Emphasis will also be on educating and empowering people to have a more active role in their own health and modifying their health-seeking behaviour.

The enhanced primary healthcare will offload patients who are relying on services provided at the hospitals and can avoid unnecessary hospitalisation and overtreatment whilst maintaining quality and rendering the healthcare system of Hong Kong more sustainable. The author will share the concept and the challenges in setting up the District Health Centres.