



JUNIOR RESEARCHER MENTORING PROGRAMME 2022

Code:	JRMP2022_24
School / Department:	Department of Health Technology and Informatics
Name of Research Leader:	Dr Marco Tam, Research Assistant Professor
Research Topic:	Investigation on the Psychosocial Needs of Post-radiotherapy Rectal Cancer Survivors and their Direct Caregivers in Hong Kong
Short Description of the Research Project:	<p>Colorectal cancer is one of the commonest cancer types in Hong Kong. Radiotherapy (RT) has been used as a major treatment modality for rectal cancer (RC). Radiation-induced adverse effects (AEs) are common among RC RT patients and could be long-lasting and distracting, including acute and late gastrointestinal and genitourinary AEs. These AEs could affect the quality of life (QoL) and psychosocial health of cancer survivors. Psychosocial needs include information about cancer and treatments, coping with emotional changes, managing disruptions in work, family life and financial situation. Apart from investigating the psychosocial health of cancer survivors, the concerns and needs of close family members and direct caregivers should also be addressed and possibly tackled by healthcare providers. The aims of this project are to improve the understanding of psychosocial needs and QoL of RC RT patients and their direct caregivers in Hong Kong, and to explore the roles of</p>

	<p>radiation therapists in RC RT supportive care and medical-social collaboration in RC survivorship.</p> <p>The involvement of participating students in this project includes participation in discussion of research issues, conduct of literature review, involvement in subject recruitment and data collection under the supervision of the mentor, and involvement in the process of data analysis and presentation of preliminary findings.</p>
No. of Places Offered:	3
Frequency of Meetings:	Bi-weekly
Special Requirement(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preferred subjects taken: Biology and/or Applied Psychology or equivalent - Fluent in Cantonese and with good communication skills
Remarks:	Caring and no fear of facing cancer patients

** The information presented above is subject to change.*