

School of Nursing

COVER STORY

Issue no. 10 August 2022

High acceptance of Blended Gaming COVID-19 Training System paves way for efficacy pilot test

The WHO CC launched the first phase of the pilot tests in September 2021 to understand the level of acceptance by the users towards their innovative interactive system, the Blended Gaming COVID-19 Training System (BGCTS) that aims to enhance the infection control knowledge among healthcare workers at local residential care homes.

Led by Prof. Angela LEUNG (Principal Investigator, Professor & Associate Head [Research]), the research team* interviewed six personnel recruited from the local residential care homes to find out the users' experience in using the BGCTS and identify possible improvements to the system. Users' suggestions on improving the user-friendly features and presentation format of the system were taken into consideration by the team. In general, the users described the BGCTS 'informative and motivational' for learning infection control practices. They considered the animations attractive, the games interesting and educational, and the overall experience fun and engaging.

The results were positive and the team is going to launch the second phase of the pilot test in November this year to test the effectiveness of the BGCTS in enhancing infection control practices among all staff in residential care homes.

The team is now recruiting 188 health care personnel from 20 residential care homes. The participants will be given two-week blended training (eight 15-minute e-learning [total 120 minutes]). After playing the games, they will attend two face-to-face group learning sessions, conducted by an infection control officer, to enhance their infection control knowledge.

The system is one of the COVID-19 commissioned research projects of the Food and Health Bureau and it secured over HK\$1.2 million from the Health and Medical Research Fund (HMRP) in 2020 for its development. The BGCTS, set with reference to usual practices in local residential care homes, is composed of eight themes, including proper use of personal protective equipment (PPE) for different healthcare activities, hand hygiene techniques, managing suspected or confirmed COVID-19 cases, techniques to communicate with suspected or confirmed COVID-19 patients at the healthcare facility, and stress coping for healthcare workers, and so forth.

Players engage in different scenarios to make decisions on implementing appropriate COVID 19 preventive measures and learn skills to handle suspected or confirmed cases to prevent an outbreak in a residential care home, as well as, to care for their physical and mental wellness during the pandemic. The infection control measures in the system are based on the WHO infection prevention and control guidelines in healthcare facilities and the infection control guidelines of Centre for Health Protection.

The research team expects positive results obtained from the efficacy pilot test, and the BGCTS can be proven effective in reinforcing infection control practice among healthcare workers in residential care homes for reducing the possibility of COVID-19 outbreaks.



Players of the games need to select the appropriate infection control measures in a residential care setting

**Team members

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The WHO has designated the School of Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University as a WHO Collaborating Centre for Community Health Services since December 2007. Through implementing the WHO's mandate, the School has been playing a proactive role in strengthening evidence-based community health services and improving the health outcomes of local, regional and global populations. The World Health Organization has recently redesignated our School's WHO Collaborating Centre (WHO CC) for Community Health Services for a period of four years to December 2023. It was agreed with WHO that we would change the focus of our WHO CC to align with one of the WHO current strategic priorities: healthy ageing. The following are the key foci of our activity:

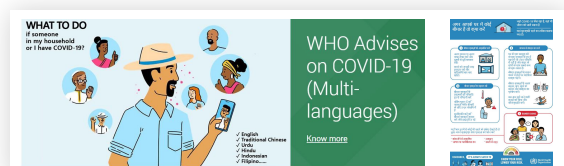
1. Understand key indicators of ageing and health in the countries in Western Pacific Region.
2. Promote WHO Guidelines on Integrated Care for Older People (ICOPE) and develop initiatives to disseminate and implement it in Western Pacific Region countries.
3. Consolidate good practices and policies that ensure healthy lives and promote well-being of older people in the Western Pacific Region.

A series of work plans, including collaborative research projects, roundtable sessions, training workshops and so on related to Healthy Ageing, will be developed in conjunction with WHO. This redesignated WHO CC unit on 'Healthy Ageing', the first and only WHO collaborating centre on 'Ageing' in Asia and the Pacific at this juncture, will assist the Western Pacific Regional Office (WPRO) to roll out its strategic initiatives on ageing for the region.

Contact Us:
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WHO Advises on COVID-19 (Multi-languages leaflets)

The Centre has also uploaded a series of World Health Organisation's (WHO) leaflets in different languages for the public to easily understand the WHO advice on COVID-19 prevention and better prepare to manage the challenges brought by the virus.



The centre disseminates WHO advice on COVID-19 in different languages.

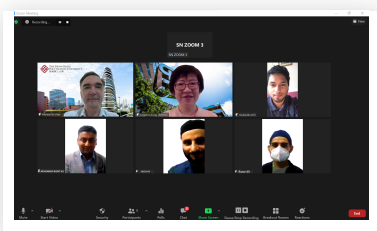
*** (CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE MULTI-LANGUAGES LEAFLETS)

Webinars to enhance COVID-19 literacy of ethnic minorities

To enhance COVID-19 literacy and infection control knowledge of ethnic minorities living in Hong Kong, the School's WHO CC for Community Health Services joined hands with ethnic minority organizations (co-organisers): Tung Chung Tamil Muslim Jamath, Dompot Dhuafa Association, Idara Minhaj UI Quran HK, and Ethnic Minority Health and Education Service Hong Kong, to hold a series of COVID-19 webinars. The representatives of the organisations from different communities, were invited to participate in the webinars and provide simultaneous interpretations in different languages (such as Hindi and Urdu) for the events.

Date	Topic	Speakers
19 MAR 2022	COVID-19 symptoms and it's effect on health	Prof. Alex MOLASIoTIS
23 MAR 2022	COVID-19 quarantine at home: what should be done to protect other family members?	Prof. Angela LEUNG
26 MAR 2022	Rapid Antigen Test (RAT): when and how to conduct the test?	Dr Margaret O'DONOGHUE
2 APR 2022	How to reduce stress and maintain healthy life during COVID-19	Dr Stephanie SZETO
9 APR 2022	COVID-19 vaccination: should I go for vaccination?	Dr Dauda SALIHU

*** (CLICK THE SPEAKERS TO VIEW THE VIDEOS)



The representatives from different cultural background supported the event and provided simultaneous interpretations to enhance participation and learning.

MONTHLY WEBINAR SERIES

The Centre continued to host a series of monthly webinars under the theme 'Embracing Ageing in the Western Pacific'.

Month	Topic	Speakers
	<u>Moderator (SEP-NOV): Dr Ivy ZHAO</u>	
17 SEP 2021	Assessing Mental Capacity for Older People and a Transitional Care Model	Dr Victor LUI Prof. Frances WONG Dr Minhui LIU (Discussant)
15 OCT 2021	Examining Resilience and Peer Volunteering in Later Life	Dr Erwin William A. LEYVA Dr Mimi TSE Dr Chulan GUO (Discussant)
19 NOV 2021	Fostering Connections of Older Pacific Adults and Promoting Advance Care Planning for Older Chinese People	Dr El-Shadan TAUTOLO Prof. Renli DENG Prof. Yongyi CHEN (Discussant)
	<u>Moderator (MAR-JUL): Dr Shanshan WANG</u>	
18 MAR 2022	Promoting Aging-in-Place and Infection Control of Aged Care	Dr Minhui LIU Prof. Angela LEUNG Dr Patsy CHAU (Discussant)
20 MAY 2022	Promoting Healthy Ageing During the Pandemic	Prof. Patricia DAVIDSON Dr Wenru WANG Prof. Angela LEUNG (Discussant)
15 JUL 2022	Promoting Healthy Ageing for Older Adults and Caregivers	Dr Yurun CAI Dr Patrick KOR Dr Xinyi XU (Discussant)

*** (CLICK THE SPEAKERS TO VIEW THE VIDEOS)