

School of Nursing

COVER STORY

Issue no. 8 October 2020

Dr Timothy Sim has passed the torch on to Dr Angela Leung, who took the new role as the Deputy Director of the School's WHO Collaborating Centre for Community Health Services on July 2020. Under the new leadership, the direction of partnership between the WHO and the School will steer towards a focus on Healthy Ageing. We thank Dr Sim for his contribution during the time with us.



Dr Angela YM Leung (Deputy Director)

PhD (HKU), MHA (UNSW), BN (Deakin), FHKAN (Gerontology),
FHKAN (Education and Research), CADENZA fellow

Dr Angela YM Leung is Director of the Centre for Gerontological Nursing (CGN) / Leader of research theme 'Ageing and Health', Associate Professor of the School of Nursing of Hong Kong Polytechnic University. She was the awardee of the Hartford Geriatric Scholars Program at the Johns Hopkins University in 2014, and Distinguished Gerontological Nursing Educator by National Hartford Centre for Gerontological Nursing Excellence (NHCGNE). She is an active researcher in health literacy and dementia caregiving, with a wide range of publications in international journals.

Dr Leung developed various interventions (photovoice, e-painting mobile app, a sensor-based system for alleviating stress) addressing the issues of depressive symptoms or stress among caregivers for persons with dementia. She has a strong belief that technology can help people to understand their current health status and make the informed health decision. Her projects were funded by Health and Medical Research Fund, Karolinski Institute (KI) - HK Polytechnic University (KI-PolyU) Collaborative Research Fund, Kamprad Foundation Fund of Sweden, and Hong Kong Jockey Club Charity Trust.

Dr Leung has good network with non-academic partner organizations, such as Hong Kong Housing Society, Astrix, Hong Kong Science and Technology Corporation. She also serves as the Council member of the Hong Kong Association of Gerontology (HKAG), the Committee on Rehabilitation of Hong Kong Society of Rehabilitation (HKSR), and Advisor of the Health and Social Information Team of Active Ageing and Medical and Health (AA&H) Services of Christian Family Service Centre (CFSC) in Hong Kong. Internationally, Dr Leung is the Vice President of Asia Health Literacy Association (AHLA) and member of Global Working Group in Health Literacy, International Union of Health Promotion and Education (IUHPE).

WHOCC-Related works in the past few months :

- Support the translation of ICOPE guidelines and care pathways to Chinese version
- Support the development of WHO long-term care facilities guidelines for COVID-19
- Adopt the WHO COVID-19 infection control guideline and develop a blended-training system for resident care home staff
- Provide consultancy to the Hong Kong government for carer policy and services
- Prof. Alex Molasiotis and Dr Angela Leung were invited to serve in the WHO Global Network on Long-term care as the experts in gerontology

EVENT HIGHLIGHT

CUHK Jockey Club Institute of Ageing Symposium on "Application of Digital Health in Community Centres: The First Step in a Stepped Care Approach to Primary Care of Older People"

Date: 13 January 2020
Time: 10am -5pm
Venue: Auditorium, 1/F Main Clinical Block and Trauma Centre, Prince of Wales Hospital, Shatin

Dr Angela Leung together with the Centre for Gerontological Nursing (CGN) team participated in the event where she was being invited as one of the panelists to discuss the use of technology and digital health issues in communities. The symposium covered the World Health Organization's current evidence based guidelines for primary care in older people and the role of digital health, and a review of current pilot studies and potential for future incorporation into existing health and social services in Hong Kong setting.



Dr Angela Leung was being invited as one of the panelists to discuss the usage of technologies and digital health issues in communities.



From left to right, Dr Timothy Sim, the former Deputy Director of the School's WHO CC; Dr Amuthavalli Thiyagarajan Jotheeswaran, the Technical Officer (Epidemiologist) of the Department of Ageing and Life Course WHO; Dr Angela Leung, the Deputy Director of the School's WHO CC.



Dr Angela Leung presented her views on the experience of using technologies in health promotion among middle-aged older adults in Hong Kong.



Members of the Centre for Gerontological Nursing (CGN) participated in the event and took a photo with Prof. Jean Woo, the Director of the CUHK Jockey Club Institute of Ageing.



Professor Alex MOLASIOTIS :

Director (Angel S.P. Chan Lau Professor in Health & Longevity, Chair Professor of Nursing & Head of School)
Tel: (852) 2766 6396
Email: alex.molasiotis@polyu.edu.hk

Dr Angela LEUNG :

Deputy Director (Associate Professor)
Tel: (852) 2766 5587
Email: angela.ym.leung@polyu.edu.hk

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:

Website: <http://sn.polyu.edu.hk/whocc>
Email: sn.whocc@polyu.edu.hk