# **SN NEWSLETTER**

"To excel in Nursing for the well-being of mankind"

COVER STORY

## Biggest-ever funding in the School of Nursing kicks off community participatory research to reduce COVID-19



Deputy President and Provost Prof. Wing-tak Wong (4th from right), Vice President (Research and Innovation) Prof. Christopher Chao (3rd from right), Prof. David Shum, Dean of Faculty of Health and Social Sciences (5th from right), Prof. Alex Molasiotis and lead researchers of the HMRF studies at the press conference.

The School of Nursing alongside the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences in PolyU have secured a total of HK\$ 55.88 million from the Health and Medical Research Fund (HMRF) of the Food and Health Bureau, HK Government. This is the second\* COVID-19 related HMRF fund that we have received and the biggest research support the School has ever obtained.

The funding is a recognition of PolyU outstanding research efforts in combating COVID 19 and a press conference was held on 27 September to announce the news to the public.

The SN study entitled 'A Community-Based Participatory Research Approach to Reduce the Covid-19 Risk in Hong Kong: Developing and Testing Social and Behavioural Interventions' is led by **Prof. Alex Molasiotis**\*\* [Angel S.P. Chan Lau Professor in Health and Longevity], Chair Professor of Nursing and Head of the School of Nursing. The study is among the 18 research proposals approved for funding by HMRF recently. This 4-year programme of research is funded with over HK\$ 27.6 million.

The research study consists of five individual but inter-related projects targeting different groups in the society, such as ethnic minorities, caregivers of persons with chronic illness, students and the general workforce, with a common theme: Applying digital technology to enhance COVID-19 related health literacy, adherence to hygiene practices and infection control policies, as well as vaccination and early testing rates.

Two eye-catching digital innovations in this programme of research are the *Al-driven Vaccine Communicator* and *Virtual Reality Game-based Educational Intervention*. The former is a web-based psycho-educational programme that incorporates the Al-driven Digital Assistant, which engages users in interactive communications and motivational interviewing skills, as well as providing relevant and effective information in addressing their hesitancy towards vaccines. The latter applies virtual reality technology to help school children learn about the routes of infection of COVID-19 and its reproduction in the host. It aims to improve hand-hygiene compliance, respiratory etiquette, and knowledge of early testing among primary school students.

Another uniqueness of this programme of research lies on its community-based participatory approach. The planning and development of health educational programmes is usually professionally-oriented with limited inputs from recipients. The research team, however, attempts to break away from the traditional top-down approach and will adopt a community-based participatory bottom-up approach to engage the health education recipients in idea exchange, discussions, and creating and evaluating the educational materials to ensure that the interventions are appropriate and culturally specific to them. 'We are

going to listen to the stakeholders and integrate their views into the development of the interventions to address their needs and specific conditions,' said Prof. Alex Molasiotis, 'This engagement will also enhance the community capacity to respond to future health challenges and achieve more sustainable and impactful results.'

\* Prof. Angela Leung's (Principal Investigator & Professor of the School) 'Blended Gaming COVID-19 Training System' (prototype) was one of the COVID-19 commissioned research projects selected by the Food and Health Bureau last year and her team was given over HK\$1.2 million from the HMRF for developing and implementing the system.

\*\* Prof. Alex Molasiotis (Principal Applicant), Prof. Angela Leung, Co-Principal Investigators (Co-PI); Dr Grace Xie (Co-PI), Dr Grace Ho (Co-PI), Dr Yan Li (Co-PI), PolyU's School of Nursing; Dr Polly Leung (Co-PI) [PolyU's Department of Health Technology and Informatics]; Dr Jenny Hua Li Wang, Family Medicine and Primary Healthcare (FMPH), Hospital Authority (HA); Dr Catherine Xiao Rui Chen, FMPH, HA; and Dr Danny Wah Kun Tong, Senior Manager (Nursing)/Principal Nursing Officer, HA.

#### SN studies under umbrella project granted 28 mil HMRF

Two School of Nursing's studies are under the umbrella project led by Prof. David Man (Project Coordinator) of PolyU's Department of Rehabilitation Sciences (RS), which has secured the HMRF grants with an amount of HK\$ 28.3million.

The RS project titled "The Prevention-Protection-Promotion Approach as a Novel and Effective Strategy to Prevent Infection and Enhance Recovery in Individuals with COVID-19" comprises five sub-theme studies from the constituent departments of the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, with a common theme: to treat the medium-and long-term effects of COVID-19 in COVID-19 survivors and their caregivers.

Led by Chief Investigators, **Dr Lin Yang** (Associate Professor) and **Dr Stefanos Tyrovolas** (Research Assistant Professor), the School of Nursing's sub-theme study aims to build an artificial intelligence-based digital contact-tracing platform for preventing COVID-19 outbreaks.

Another sub-theme study, led by **Dr Justina Liu**, is about developing a smart health 3P (Prevention, Protection, Progression) platform for supporting people with physiological and psychosocial distress under the influence of COVID-19.

THE HONG KONG Polytechnic University

港理工大學

## **Admission Summary**

Our Master of Nursing and MSc in Nursing programmes achieved full enrollments [The intake quota of each programme is 40 and 120 respectively] with great increases in the number of applications. The applicants for the Master of Nursing programme increased to 431 (vs. 352 in 2020/21) and the MSc in Nursing programme increased from 186 in 2020/21 to 224. Both programmes recorded a more than 20% increase in the applicants, which indicated an increasingly interest of health care professionals in pursuing postgraduate study at PolyU.

The admission figures and scores of the undergraduate programmes were similar to last year, although there was a dip in the total number of applicants. A total of 204 students (with 11 above the intake quota) were admitted to the BSc (Hons) in Nursing programme, including 151 through JUPAS and 53 through Non-JUPAS. The average HKDSE score for this programme in 2021 was 29.5. (vs. 29.4 in 2020/21). The programme attracted 4,588 (vs. 4,867 in 2020/21) JUPAS applicants and the admission ratio based on the first choice/Band A applicants (including both JUPAS and non-JUPAS) to the initial intake quota was 6.5.

Seventy-three (the intake quota was 70) students were admitted to the BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing programme in 2021/22 academic year, including 62 from JUPAS and 11 from Non-JUPAS. The average HKDSE score for this programme (4 core subjects plus best 2 elective subjects) was similar to last year at 27 (vs. 27.5 in 2020/21). The programme attracted 3,128 (vs. 3,447 in 2020/21) JUPAS applicants and the admission ratio based on the first choice/ Band A applicants (including both JUPAS and non-JUPAS) to the initial intake quota was 4.8.

## First faculty member awarded HMRF Research Fellowship

**Dr Yan Li**, Research Assistant Professor, has been awarded the Health and Medical Research Fund Research Fellowship Scheme (2020) and she is the FIRST SN colleague to receive this fellowship.

The funding of a sum of HK\$ 952,685 will support her to conduct a study titled 'Effects of a Physical-Psychological Integrative (PPI) intervention on Physical inactivity, Depression and Chronic Pain for Community-dwelling Spinal Cord Injury Survivors: a Pilot Randomized Controlled Trial'. **Prof Alex Molasiotis** is Dr Li's fellowship mentor.

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# Projects received funding support

External Funding Support				
Project Title	Principal Investigator (PI)	Funding Scheme	Total Grant (HK\$)	
An Automated Urine Cytopathology Reporting System via advanced deep learning models driven by both data and human knowledge	Dr Harry Qin (Associate Professor)	Innovation and Technology Fund - Innovation and Technology Support Programme	2,425,760	
Effects of caregiver-administrated acupressure intervention for community-dwelling spinal cord injury survivors with constipation: A randomized controlled trial	Dr Yan Li (Research Assistant Professor)	Chinese Medicine Development Fund, Hong Kong Government	810,590	
Regular sleep, healthy future - promoting sleep health among college students and healthcare professionals	Dr Yan Li (Research Assistant Professor)	UGC Shanghai-Hong Kong University Alliance	50,000	
Greater Bay Area Nursing Forum: From research to clinical practice cum workshop on research methods training in nursing	Dr Yan Li (Research Assistant Professor)	UGC Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao University Alliance (GHMUA) Open Bid Funding	30,000	
Using a web-based mind-body intervention program for reducing stress in family caregiver of frail older people in Mainland China: An intervention protocol development	Dr Patrick Kor (Assistant Professor)	鄭州悅來蘋果酒店有 限公司 (Zheng Zhou Panda's Apple Hotel Ltd)	20,000	

# Projects received funding support

Internal Funding Support				
Project Title	Principal Investigator (PI)	Funding Scheme	Total Grant (HK\$)	
Perception towards mental health among PolyU nursing students (who have participated in the "5Win5As mental health ambassadors training program")	Dr Yim-wah Mak (Associate Professor)	Undergraduate Research and Innovation Scheme	30,000	
Effectiveness of a telecare-based intervention in supporting the informal caregiver of community-dwelling older adults: A pilot study	Dr Arkers Wong (Assistant Professor)	Undergraduate Research and Innovation Scheme	30,000	





## Dyadic pain management programme secured HMRF funding

A CGN project has secured HK\$ 1.5 million from the Health and Medical Research Fund of the Food and Health Bureau, HK Government. The project, led by **Dr Mimi Tse** (Principal Investigator & Associate Professor of the School), explored the effectiveness of a Dyadic Pain Management Programme (DPMP) for community-dwelling older adults with chronic pain and their informal caregivers.

In Hong Kong, older adults with chronic pain are mainly being cared for by informal caregivers, who are burdened by multiple responsibilities. Dr Tse and her PhD student, **Dr Angel Tang** (currently Clinical Instructor of the School), have developed an eight-week centre/home-based programme, which includes physical exercises, pain education, coping skills and digital activities (for examples, YouTube exercise videos, digital reminders to attend the activities and digital teaching/exercise guiding materials). The interventions targeting the dyads aim to improve pain management knowledge and coping skills, and enable caregivers to experience caring role more positively. A pilot randomised controlled trial was conducted earlier to test the effectiveness of DPMP and the result was positive. The research team hopes that this larger-scale study will yield more comprehensive results and the findings can be expanded to treat other pain-related problems in other regions and countries.



## Monthly webinars

#### Comprehensive palliative care and interdisciplinary rehabilitation

The Centre continued to host a series of monthly webinars under the theme 'Embracing Ageing in the Western Pacific' (Click <u>here</u> to view the webinars).

In August, Prof. Yun-Hee Jeon, Faculty of Medicine and Health, The University of Sydney, introduced her Interdisciplinary Home-Based Reablement Programme (I-HARP) for People Living with Dementia (2015-2017). Since maintaining independent was found to be the utmost priority of older adults living in aged care homes, she called for increasing awareness about rehabilitation in the facilities. In face of high prevalence of dementia and co-morbidities among residents in long-term care settings, Dr Edward Leung, Director, Geriatric Medicine Centre (Healthy Ageing), Hong Kong Sanatorium and Hospital, overviewed the benefits of using a comprehensive palliative approach in residential aged care.



◀ Upper row: (left) Dr Edward Leung; (right) Prof. Angela Leung, Associate Professor of the School & Director of the Centre. Lower row: (left) Dr James Luk, discussant of the webinar, Past President of the Hong Kong Geriatrics Society; (right) Prof. Yun-Hee Jeon.

#### Assessing mental capacity and Enhanced Transitional Care Programme

In September, Dr Victor Lui, Clinical Associate Professor (Honorary), Department of Psychiatry, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, highlighted the importance of a proper mental capacity assessment in maximising one's autonomy and patients' mental capacity. **Prof. Frances Wong**, Chair Professor of Nursing (Advanced Nursing Practice) and Associate Dean, Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, described how the Enhanced Transitional Care Programme can reduce readmissions and contain medical costs through case manager's comprehensive care, continuity of care services, collaboration of healthcare and social work professionals, and co-ordination of healthcare and social support for post-discharge service and medical follow-ups.



◄ Upper row: (right) Dr Victor Lui; (left) Dr Min-hui Liu, Associate Professor, Central South University Xiangya School of Nursing, Associate Dean, Xiangya-Oceanwide Health Management Research Institute, Changsha City, Mainland China, discussant of the webinar. Lower row (right) Prof. Frances Wong.

#### RESEARCH THEMES & CENTRES UPDATE: FAMILY AND COMMUNITY HEALTH



## Resilience building and peer volunteer support

In October, Dr Erwin William A. Leyva, Assistant Professor and Head, UPCN Research and Creative Writing Program, Core Member, WHO-CC for Leadership and Nursing Development, University of the Philippines Manila, the Philippines, examined the role of various agents, including nurses, in addressing the health impact of climate change and public health problems on older adults. He also talked about interventions that help to build resilience in communities. **Dr Mimi Tse**, Associate Professor, talked about how her research team trained peer volunteers to give pain management support to older adults in nursing homes and discussed the possibility of training peer volunteers to provide emotion and relationship support to the left behind older adults caused by the recent migration.



Upper row: (left) Dr Mimi Tse; (right) Dr Ivy Zhao, Facilitator of the webinar [Post-doctoral Fellow of the School]. Lower row (right) Dr Erwin William A. Leyva; (left) Dr Chun-lan Guo, discussant of the webinar [Research Fellow of the School].

## **Research Publications**

- Abu-Odah, H., Molassiotis, A., & Liu, J. (2021). Lessons learned from countries that have introduced palliative care services into their national health system: a narrative review. *Journal of Palliative Care*. <u>https://doi.org/10.1177/0825859721989557</u>
- Abu-Odah, H., Molassiotis, A., & Liu, J.Y.W. (2021) Global palliative care research (2002-2020): bibliometric review and mapping analysis. *BMJ Support Palliative Care*, (Online ahead of print). <u>https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjspcare-2021-002982</u>
- Amoah, P.A., Leung, A.Y.M., Parial, L.L., Poon, A.C.Y., Tong, H.H., Ng, W.I., Li, X., Wong, E.M.L., Kor, P.P.K., & Molassiotis, A. (2021). Digital health literacy and health-related well-being amid the COVID-19 pandemic: the role of socioeconomic status among university students in Hong Kong and Macao. Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health, 33(5):613-616. <u>https://doi.org/10.1177/10105395211012230</u>
- Chan, A. C. Y., Piehler, T. F., & Ho, G. W. K. (2021). Resilience and mental health during the COVID-19 pandemic: Findings from Minnesota and Hong Kong. *Journal of Affective Disorders*, 295, 771-780. <u>https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jad.2021.08.144</u>
- Cheng, H.L, Molassiotis, A., Leung, A.K.T., & Wong, K.H. (2021) Docetaxel-induced peripheral neuropathy in breast cancer patients treated with adjuvant or neo-adjuvant chemotherapy. *Breast Care* (Basel), *16*(3):269-275. <u>https://doi.org/10.1159/000507843</u>
- GBD 2019 Respiratory Tract Cancers Collaborators (Prof. Alex Molasiotis is one of the collaborators). (2021). Global, regional, and national burden of respiratory tract cancers and associated risk factors from 1990 to 2019: a systematic analysis for the Global Burden of Disease Study 2019. *The Lancet Respiratory Medicine*, 9(9):1030-1049. https://doi.org/10.1016/S2213-2600(21)00164-8
- Herrstedt, J., & Molassiotis, A. (2021). Teaching supportive care: what is the core curriculum? *Current Opinion in* Oncology, 1;33(4):279-286. <u>https://doi.org/10.1097/CCO.00000000000735</u>
- Ho, K. H. M., Cheung, D. S. K., Lee, P. H., Lam, S. C., & Kwan, R. Y. C. (2021). Co-living with migrant domestic workers is associated with a lower level of loneliness among community-dwelling older adults: A cross-sectional study. *Health and Social Care in the Community*. <u>https://doi.org/10.1111/hsc.13520</u>
- Ho, M. C. J., Chan, S. W., Luk, C. Y., & Tang, M. K. P. (2021). Book Review: The Body Keeps the Score: Brain, Mind, and Body in the Healing of Trauma. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 12. <u>https://doi.org/10.3389/fpsyg.2021.704974</u>
- Kinyoki D, Osgood-Zimmerman AE, Bhattacharjee NV; Local Burden of Disease Anaemia Collaborators (Prof. Alex Molasiotis is one of the collaborators), Kassebaum, N.J.,& Hay, S.I. (2021) Anemia prevalence in women of reproductive age in low- and middle-income countries between 2000 and 2018.*Nature Medicine*, 27(10):1761-1782.(Online ahead of print). <u>https://doi.org/10.1038/s41591-021-01498-0</u>
- Kwok, S.W.H., Wu, C. S. T., Tong, H. T., Ho, C.N., Leung, K.L., Leung, Y.C. P., Lui, K.C., & Wong, C.K.C. (2021) Effects of the school-based integrated health promotion program with hydroponic planting on green space use and satisfaction, dietary habits, and mental health in early adolescent students: a feasibility quasi-experiment. *Frontiers in Public Health. 9*, 1384. <u>https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2021.740102</u>
- Lai, Claudia KY., Leung, Audrey PY., Lee, Rainbow LP., Kwong, Enid WY., Kwan, Rick YC., Kor Patrick PK., Chung Annie., & Liu, Justina YW. (2021) Infection prevention and control practices in long-term residential care settings: A multiple methods approach. *The Asian Journal of Gerontology and Geriatrics*, 16(1):5–12. <u>https://doi.org/10.12809/ajgg-2020-416-oa</u>

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## **Research Publications (con't)**

- Lekdamrongkul, P., Pongthavornkamol, K., Molassiotis, A., Sriyuktasuth, A., Siritanaratkul, N.,& Chansatitporn, N. (2021) Exploring health-related quality of life among non-Hodgkin's lymphoma survivors after completion of primary treatment: a cross-sectional study in Thailand. *Support Care Cancer*, 29(11):6511-6522. <u>https://doi.org/10.1007/s00520-021-06246-1</u>
- Leung, A.Y., Molassiotis, A. & Carino, D.A. (2021) A Challenge to Healthy Aging: Limited Social Participation in Old Age. *Aging and Disease*, *12*(7):1536-1538. (Online ahead of print). <u>https://doi.org/10.14336/AD.2021.02018</u>
- Li, Y., Coster, S., Norman, I., Chien, W. T., Qin, J., Tse, M. L., & Bressington, D. T. (2021). Feasibility, acceptability, and preliminary effectiveness of mindfulness-based interventions for people with recent-onset psychosis: A systematic review. *Early Intervention in Psychiatry*. <u>https://doi.org/10.1111/eip.12929</u>
- Li,Y., Bressington, D., Wang, S.S, Leung S.F., & Mak Y.W. (2021). Relationship between parental psychological control and optimism among Hong Kong adolescents: The mediating role of self-mastery. *Current Psychology*.1-8 <a href="https://doi.org/10.1007/s12144-021-02312-3">https://doi.org/10.1007/s12144-021-02312-3</a>
- Lin, B., Zhang, Z., Guo, Y., Wang, W., Mei, Y., Wang, S., Tong, Y., Shuaib, N., & Cheung, D. (2021). Perceptions of recurrence risk and behavioural changes among first-ever and recurrent stroke survivors: A qualitative analysis. *Health Expectations*. https://doi.org/10.1111/hex.13335
- Mak, Y.W., Loke, A.Y., & Leung, D. Y. P. (2021). Acceptance and Commitment Therapy versus Social Support for Smoking Cessation for People with Schizophrenia: A Randomised Controlled Trial. *Journal of Clinical Medicine*, *10*(19), 4304. <u>https://doi.org/10.3390/jcm10194304</u>
- Molassiotis A, Tyrovolas S, Giné-Vázquez I, Yeo W, Aapro M, & Herrstedt J. (2021). Organized breast cancer screening not only reduces mortality from breast cancer but also significantly decreases disability-adjusted life years: analysis of the Global Burden of Disease Study and screening programme availability in 130 countries. *ESMO Open*, *6*(3):100111. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.esmoop.2021.100111
- Molassiotis, A., Leung, A.Y.M., Zhao, I.Y. (2021) Call for urgent actions in societies and health systems in the Western Pacific Region to implement the WHO Regional Action Plan on Healthy Ageing. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, *69*(8):2374-2377. <u>https://doi.org/10.1111/jgs.17196</u>
- Pang, P. C. P., Cheung, D. S. K., & Chiang, V. C. L. (2021). Visual art intervention for people with stroke on holistic wellbeing: A critical review. *Journal of Holistic Nursing*. <u>https://doi.org/10.1177/08980101211032062</u>
- Ren, G., Xiao, H., Lam, S-K., Yang, D., Li, T., Teng, X., Qin, J., & Cai, J. (2021). Deep learning-based bone suppression in chest radiographs using CT-derived features: a feasibility study. *Quantitative Imaging in Medicine and Surgery*. https://doi.org/10.21037/qims-20-1230
- Tse, M. M. Y., Ng, S.S.M., Lee, P. H., Bai, X., Lo, R., Tang, S. K., Chan, K. L., & Li, Y. (2021). Effectiveness of a peer-led pain management program in relieving chronic pain and enhancing pain self-efficacy among older adults: a clustered randomized controlled trial. *Frontiers in Medicine*. <u>https://doi.org/10.3389/fmed.2021.709141</u>
- Tse, M. M. Y., Tang, S. K., Ng, S., Li, Y., Cheung, D. S. K., & Kwan, R. Y. C. (2021). Assessing the fidelity of a peer-led chronic pain management programme (PAP). *BCM Trails* Article number: 644 (2021). <u>https://doi.org/10.1186/s13063-021-05599-6</u>
- Tyrovolas, S., Giné-Vázquez, I., Fernández, D., Morena, M., Koyanagi, A., Janko, M., Haro, J.M., Lin, Y., Lee, P., Pan, W., Panagiotakos, D., Molassiotis, A. (2021) Estimating the COVID-19 spread through real-time population mobility patterns: surveillance in low- and middle-income countries. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*,14 ;23(6):e22999. doi: 10.2196/22999

- Wang, H., Zhang, W., He, H., Liu, P., Luo, D. X., Liu, Y., Jiang, J., Li, Y., Zhang, X., Liu, W., Zhang, R., & Lan, X. (2021). An Evolutionary Study of IoT Malware. *IEEE Internet of Things Journal*, 1-19. <u>https://doi.org/10.1109/JIOT.2021.3063840</u>
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- Wong, A. K. C., Wong, F. K. Y., Chow, K. K. S., Wong, S. M., & Lee, P. H. (2021). Effect of a Telecare Case Management Program for older adults who are homebound during the covid-19 pandemic: A pilot randomized clinical trial. *JAMA network open*, 4(9), [e2123453]. <u>https://doi.org/10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2021.23453</u>
- Wong, A. K.C., Wong, F. K. Y., Chow, K. K.S., & Wong, S.M. (2021). Effects of a video-based mhealth program for homebound older adults: study protocol for a pilot randomized controlled trial. *Gerontology*. <u>https://doi.org/10.1159/000516967</u>
- Yeo, W., Mo, F.K.F., Yip, C.C.H., Yeo, V.A., Li, L., Lau, T.K.H., Lai, K.T., Chan, V.T.C., Wong, K.H., Pang, E., Cheung, M., Chan, V., Kwok, C.C.H., Suen, J.J.S., & Molassiotis, A.(2021). Quality of Life associated with nausea and vomiting from Anthracycline-based chemotherapy: A pooled data analysis from three prospective trials. *Oncologist*, 13 (Online ahead of print). <u>https://doi.org/10.1002/onco.13978</u>
- Yung JYK, Wong V, Ho GWK, Molassiotis A. (2021) Understanding the experiences of hikikomori through the lens of the CHIME framework: connectedness, hope and optimism, identity, meaning in life, and empowerment; systematic review. *BMC Psychology*, 10; 9(1):104. <u>https://doi.org/10.1186/s40359-021-00605-7</u>
- Zhao, Y.I., Ma, Y.X., Yu, M.W.C., Liu, J., Dong, W.N., Pang, Q., Lu, X.Q., Molassiotis, A., Holroyd, E., & Wong, C.W.W. (2021) Ethics, integrity and retributions of digital detection surveillance systems on infectious diseases: systematic literature review. *Journal of Medical Internet Research*, 14. (Online ahead of print). <u>https://doi.org/10.2196/32328</u>

## Inter-professional Education (IPE) Programme

Collaborated with the constituent departments<sup>#</sup> of the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, the 2nd Inter-professional Education (IPE) Programme was held in August to give students from various health-related disciplines the opportunity to experience interdisciplinary teamwork in a simulated clinical setting.

The IPE simulation workshop is part of the five-day Interprofessional Simulation and Community Placement programme, including online teaching for theoretical learning, the IPE simulation workshop and two-day community placement. **Ms Ivy Wong** and **Mr Timothy Lai**, Clinical Associates of the School, are co-chairs of the programme.

IPE at a pre-professional level helps students recognise each discipline's unique identity and contribution and learn how to communicate and collaborate effectively in a healthcare team to solve health problems.

In this simulation workshop, nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, and social work students formed interdisciplinary teams to practise with a simulated patient (role-played by a faculty member) before the placements. The simulation workshop took participants through the clinical process of patient admission, pre-operation assessment, post-operation care, rehabilitation support, and discharge planning. Each team was given a simulated patient with a different medical/ surgical condition, such as stroke, breast cancer, diabetic foot problem, and late-stage degenerative hip disease that required emergency medical treatment or surgical interventions.

Participants were challenged in their abilities to integrate knowledge and skills to evaluate clients' problems, manage clients' changing physical conditions and emotional needs, and coordinate health professionals in other disciplines to provide holistic care service.



Students learnt at a simulated ward. Inter-professional education enhanced students' interdisciplinary capacity and prepared them for the real world of healthcare.

#### Pre-operative assessment: Get to know the client

Led by the nurse, the interprofessional team communicated at the client's bedside for the pre-operative assessment. The nurse acted as an information provider and a coordinator to help the therapists know about their client's condition and concerns. The communication facilitated the assessment, and the therapists would be more aware of the client's emotional concerns such as worry, fear, and possible misconceptions of the client that might affect the health outcome. 10



Left to right: The nurse (the student holding a clip file) was informing the healthcare professionals about the condition of a stroke patient [role-played by Mr Timothy Lai, Clinical Associate of the School] who was worrying about the loss of income and ability to take care of his children after having a stroke.

'Interdisciplinary communication was much better than just reading the medical chart notes at the patients' bedsides. The nurse highlighted important medical information, and we learnt clearly about the patient's condition,' said a physiotherapy student participant.

#### Post-operative care: Learn from other's perspectives

The interprofessional teams provided care and rehabilitation advice after the clients' received the surgeries. Working as clinical teams allowed participants to learn what other healthcare professionals did and their perspectives as well as how various disciplines could fit together to facilitate clients' recovery.





Left photo: This patient had received an amputation of the lower limb due to diabetes [role-played by Ms Fionca Tse, Clinical Associate of the School]. The occupational therapists were teaching her how to transfer from a seat to a wheelchair. Right photo: A social worker (mid) was assessing the financial concern and emotional need of the amputated patient at the bedside.

'I now realise that physiotherapists want to know a patient's blood pressure level because this information can help them decide whether the patient is suitable for receiving a treatment or not,' said a nursing student participant.

'Patients usually need to go to the Medical Social Services Units to seek help from a social worker. Communicating with the patients at their bedsides and listening to interprofessional teams gave me a better understanding of the patients' situation,' said a social work student participant.

#### FEATURE STORY

#### Discharge planning: Case conference

Case conferences were held between the Physician (role-played by Ms Ivy Wong, Clinical Associate of the School) and the interdisciplinary healthcare teams to facilitate continued home care. In addition, participants learnt how to report their care plans concisely and gained hands-on experience working together with other healthcare professionals to ensure the clients would receive quality care and emotional support after discharge.

All in all, participants gave positive comments to the workshop, and they valued building communication between disciplines as this will help reduce barriers and enhance understanding of other healthcare professions.



Left photo: Before the discharge, the Physician asked about the home modification and training on daily activity living plans prescribed by the occupational therapist for the client who underwent a total hip replacement operation. Right photo: At the case conference, the social worker (1st from left) informed the Physician that child care was prescribed to the patient who received mastectomy.

#### Community placements

Students were on 2-day community placements at the YWCA Wan Wah Care & Attention Home for the Elderly and the Hong Kong Family Welfares Society. They attended the case conferences in the centres to learn more about the assessments and services provided to the clients with multiple health needs. The health care teams in the centres shared their interprofessional working experience with the students, which have inspired the students to work in the community and provide quality health care services.

'The workshop and placement have helped me understand the importance of interprofessional communication among healthcare professionals for achieving common goals. I realise how importance it is to give holistic care to clients. Attending the case conference in the elderly centre gave me a clear understanding of different roles of various healthcare professions in the community.'

(Year-3 physiotherapy student)

'The workshop has given me insight into social work. For me, it is to socialise with different disciplines and work together to support clients' recovery'.

(Year-3 social work student)



Left photo: Students completed the community placements. Right photo: Students attended a case conference at the Hong Kong Family Welfare Society.

<sup>#</sup>The Department of Applied Social Sciences and the Department of Rehabilitation Sciences.

- Dr Chunlan Guo (Research Fellow) has received funding with an amount of RMB 240,000 from the Young Scientist Programme of the National Natural Science Foundation of China (國家自然科學基金青年科學基金) for supporting her project entitled 'Cross-border Differences in the Disaster Literacy of the General Public in Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area: A Case Study of Typhoon Emergency Response'. The funding is one of the competitive grants for junior scholars in China.
- Dr Jerry Yeung's (Associate Professor) project 'Self-administered Acupressure for Insomnia Disorder: A Randomized Controlled Trial' received the Outstanding Junior Research Award for Clinical Research at the International Research Conference 2021, held by Society for Acupuncture Research on 18 June.
- Dr Arkers Wong's (Assistant Professor) paper entitled 'Effects of a Telecare Case Management Program for Homebound Older Adults during the Covid-19 Pandemic: A Pilot Randomized Clinical Trial' received the Best Research Paper Award at the Hong Kong Primary Care Conference 2021 organised by the Hong Kong College of Family Physicians.



- Dr Daphne Cheung (Assistance Professor) has been appointed Adjunct Senior Research Fellow and Dr Yan Li (Research Assistant Professor) appointed Adjunct Senior Lecturer to the College of Nursing and Midwifery, Charles Darwin University, Australia. Locally, Dr Cheung has been invited to be the External Examiner for the School of Health Sciences of Caritas Institute of Higher Education.
- Dr Yim-wah Mak (Associate Professor) was invited to be a member of the Award Committee of the Association for Contextual & Behavioral Science (ACBS). ACBS is an international community aimed to support a dynamic interaction between basic and applied research and disseminate contextual behavioral science. Locally, she has been appointed as a member of the HKDSE Health Management and Social Care Subject Committee, Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority; and an external panel member for the Fellowship viva exit assessment, The Hong Kong College of Community and Public Health Nursing, Hong Kong Academy of Nursing.

#### Staff movement

- Congratulations to Mr Aero Li, on his promotion from Administrative Assistant to Executive Assistant.
- Welcome to *Ms Evangeline Lam, Ms Tammy Tse, Mr Chak-fai Ma, and Mr Wai-chi Lau* who joined the School as Clinical Associates; *Mr Harry Chan* as Clinical Instructor; *Ms Morley Cheung* as Senior Executive Officer; *Ms Sandy Kwok* and *Ms Hung-yan Yam* as Administrative Assistants; *Mr Pak-lun Lau* as Technical Support Assistant.
- Farewell to Dr Vico Chiang, Associate Professor, Dr Choi-wan Chan and Dr Simon Lam, Assistant Professors; Ms Kitty Wong, Senior Clinical Associate; Ms Wing-sum Ng, Clinical Instructor; Ms Hannah Lam, Assistant Information Technology Officer; Ms Edith Wong, Executive Officer; Mr King Hang Leung, Executive Assistant; Ms Vivian Lai and Ms Jennifer Lo, Administrative Assistants. We thank them for their contributions during the time with us.
- Dr Kitty Chan has taken up the role as Deputy Chair of the School Learning and Teaching Committee.

#### OUR PEOPLE

## Alumni



## 4-25 Aug

Forty undergraduate students and alumni attended a four-day Basics of Mechanical Ventilation course organised by the Alumni Association of Nursing Studies (AANS).



#### May-Aug

**Current Issues** 

Prof. Thomas Choi (Professor), Dr Yim Wah Mak (Associate Professor), Dr Arkers Wong and Dr Eva Ho (Assistant Professors) led five teams to supervise 12 secondary 4 and 5 students from 11 high banding schools who were selected to join the new PolyU Junior Research Mentoring Programme.

Under the guidance of the academics, the students engaged in small-scale research projects, covering various topics. The programme have deepened understanding of research work among young people and is expected to inspire them to consider PolyU for their future academic journey.

25 Sep

AANS members visited the Chinese University Medical Centre.



26-27 Jul

Around 100 secondary 4 and 5 students joined us in this year's Summer Programme to learn more about our nursing studies and get simulated nursing experience in our labs.

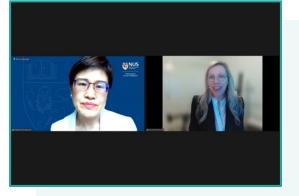


## Visitor



#### 19 Aug

The delegation of Hong Kong Eye Hospital & Kowloon Hospital met with Dr Martin Christensen, Associate Professor & Associate Head, and visited the Dorothy Wong Intensive Care Laboratory.



#### 16-18 Aug

The online inbound student exchange programme was held. 370 students from 16 partner universities in 7 countries/places (including Mainland China, Taipei, Australia, Singapore, Japan, Indonesia, and the Philippines) participated in the exchange to learn about the nursing education in Hong Kong and gain new knowledge on various nursing topics.

Left Photo: Dr Catherine Dong, Assistant Professor, Alice Lee Centre for Nursing Studies, National University of Singapore delivered a talk on cognitive impairment in heart failure. Right Photo: Dr Sonia Reisenhofer, Associate Provost (International)

Right Photo: Dr Sonia Reisenhofer, Associate Provost (International), La Trobe University, Australia, talked about care for patients with chronic illness.

#### **EVENTS**

## **Current Issues (con't)**



## 9 & 18 Aug

Eleven Associate Professors and 12 Assistant Professors took two days away from research and teaching pressures to attend the Associate Professor Away Day and the Assistant Professor Professional Development Day organised by the School. Dr Martin Christensen (Associate Professor), Prof. Frances Wong (Chair Professor) and Prof. Angela Leung (Professor) led the discussion and shared their insights on research and the School's development. The events provided valuable opportunities for colleagues to reflect their roles and professional development.

Photo: The away day gave inspirations to our assistant professors.



#### 10 Oct

The PolyU undergraduate Info Day was held. Over 500 prospective students attended our info seminars and visited our labs to learn more about our programmes and facilities.



The Pi lota Chapter Amendment Ceremony was held to turn the chapter into an at-large chapter that includes four more schools of nursing: Hong Kong Baptist University, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The University of Hong Kong, Tung Wah College.



## 22-24 Sep

Dr Grace Xie (Assistant Professor) was an invited speaker for the virtual 7<sup>th</sup> International Nursing Forum 2021 'Application of Nursing Management Tools and Clinical Professional Practice'& the 1<sup>st</sup> Yunnan Cardiovascular Interventional Diagnosis and Nursing Forum & the 3<sup>rd</sup> Kunming Cardiovascular Interventional Diagnosis and Nursing New Progress Training Course. She spoke about nursing research and clinical practice in undergraduate nursing education in Hong Kong.



#### 2 Oct

A workshop on Acceptance and Commitment Therapy was organised at the School's Integrative Health Clinic. Speakers included Dr Yim-wah Mak (Associate Professor) and Mr Samuel Hui, Project Assistant, the School of Nursing; and Dr Samuel Leung, Teaching Fellow, the Department of Applied Social Sciences.

Photo: Participants practised leaves on a stream ACT exercise to enhance psychological flexibility and be more aware of their thoughts.



## Oct

PolyU's Student Affairs Office collaborated with the Hong Kong Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service to organise the Blood Donation Campaign 2021 at the Campus Blood Donor Centre housed at the IHC.

▲ Photo : 2<sup>nd</sup> row from left: Ir Dr Eric Tam, Associate Dean of Students; Prof. Geoffrey Shen, Director of Global Engagement Office; Ir Prof. Albert Chan, Dean of Students; Prof. Ben Young, Vice President (Student and International Affairs); Dr C K Lee, Chief Executive & Medical Director, HK Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service. 2<sup>nd</sup> row 1<sup>st</sup> from right: Dr Jennifer Leung, Head of Blood Collection & Recruitment, HK Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service.



## 26 Oct

Prof. Alex Molasiotis (Head of the School) and Prof. Frances Wong (Chair Professor), together with the funding awardees from the constituent departments of the Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, shared their experience and talked about how good writing led to successful HMRF (Health and Medical Research Fund) grants.





#### 28 Oct

Dr Martin Christensen presented the idea of developing an *Interdisciplinary Centre for Qualitative Education and Research* in a forum hosted by the Faculty and the School.

Prof. David Shum (Dean, Faculty of Health and Social Sciences) and Prof. Alex Molasiotis (Head of the School) responded to the suggestion and discussed the financial and manpower support to the centre. Dr Christensen called for interested researchers from the constituent departments of the Faculty to participate in this joint effort.