

Tele-medical Care in Rural Area: How Pharmacists Participate in Transdisciplinary Collaboration to Improve Patient Care

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The Hong Kong Pharmaceutical Care Foundation (HKPCF)

- Established in 2007 by a group of pharmacists
- IT dispensing systems & pharmacist visiting services for elderly homes
- Public education
 - Talks, exhibitions etc.
- Outreach services
- **NGO pharmacy**



SafeMed Dispensary



- Dispensing of prescription items
- Other pharmacy-related services
 - Dispensing for elderly homes
 - Collaborate with other parties to provide dispensing service



Tele-medical Care and Medication Guidance Pilot Project in Sai Kung Rural Communities (TMMG)

Background

- Overloading of public healthcare system
- Long travelling time to medical appointments for rural residents
- Limited mobility of patients

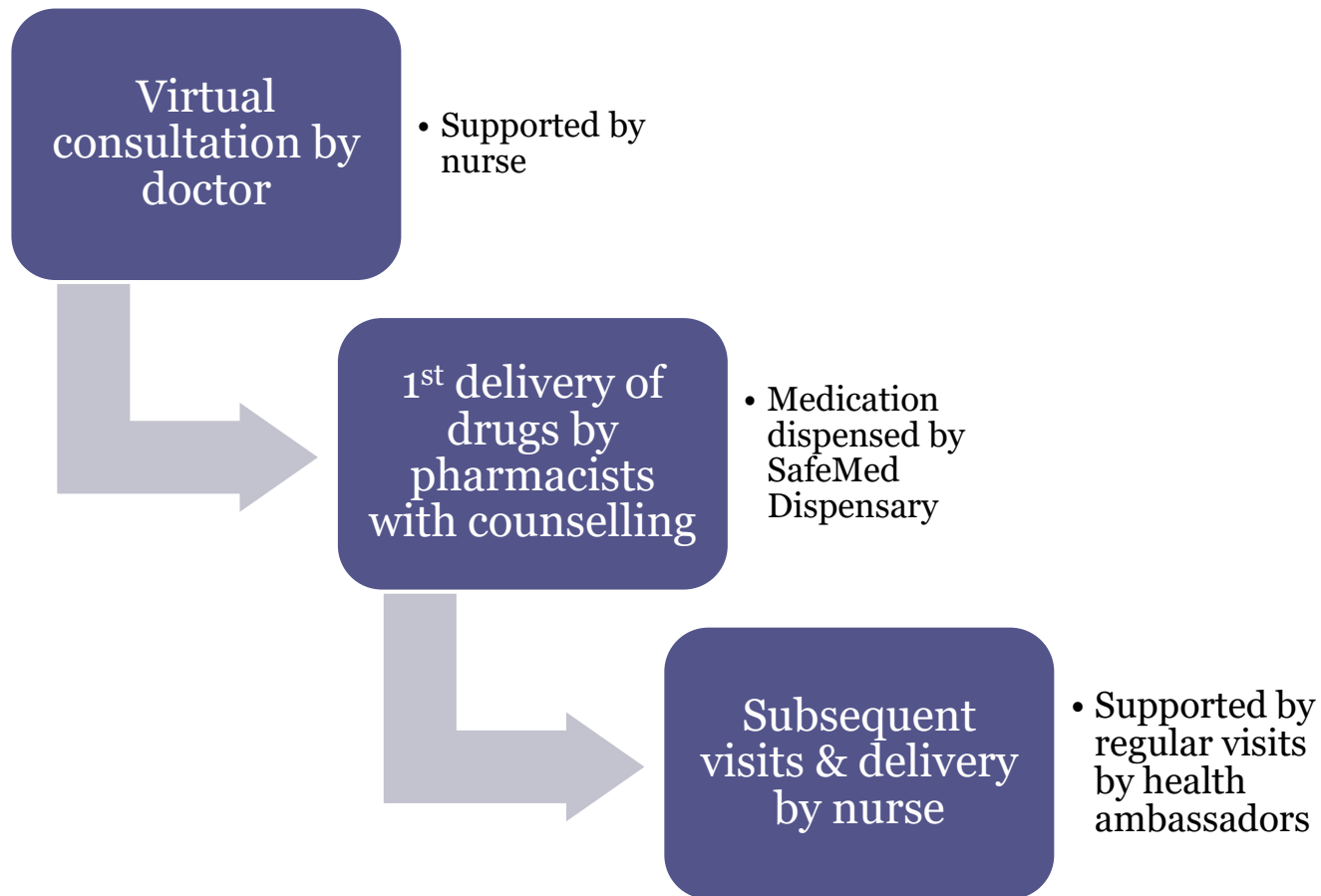
Project overview

- Collaboration with Sai Kung District Community Center (SKDCC)
- 1-year pilot service
 - Sep 2020 – Sep 2021
- Target size: 40
 - Cases uptake by nurse from SKDCC

Eligibility for service

- Suffering from chronic conditions
 - Hypertension, diabetes etc.
 - Clinically stable
- Regular appointments at GOPC
- With valid eHR account

Service flow



Pharmacists' work

- Dispensing work
 - Communication with nurse/doctor
- Inventory & formulary management
- Home visits
 - Counsel on drug regimen & side effects
 - Identify of drug-related problems



Multi-disciplinary care



Service targets

- Reduce patients' chance of infection when going to GOPC
- Allow collaboration of various healthcare professionals in the patient-care process
- Utilize existing healthcare resources to optimize quality of patient care

Potential issues for patients

- Storage of medications
- Competence in self-care
 - Understanding of regimen
 - Splitting of medications
 - Use of pill boxes
- Monitoring of disease control

Research of the service

- Improvement in disease control
- Patient acceptance of new service model
- Opinions of various participants of the project

Difficulties

- Technical issue
 - Equipment for tele-medical care
- Sustainability
 - Cost? Manpower?
- Continuity of care
 - eHRSS
- Public perception
 - Community-based care VS GOPC

Take-home message

- Possible new primary healthcare models
- Utilization of technology in promoting quality of patient care
- Collaboration in provision of primary healthcare
 - Pharmacist is part of the team

Questions

- Please feel free to contact us at
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 - Email: info@pcfhk.org

THANK YOU