STRIKE FOR EXCELLENCE: ELDERLY SERVICE

The New Trend of Services for the Elderly Suffering from Dementia

Tung Wah Group of Hospitals
Standard Chartered Hong Kong 150th Anniversary Community Foundation
Alzheimer's Community Support Centre

BACKGROUND

- Elder population climbs up rapidly in recent years. According to the Census and Statistics Department (2012), there is 15.6% of the total population aged 65 or above in the Eastern District; that is much higher than the 13.3% out of the whole population in Hong Kong.
- Facing the aging population, the number of demented elders will also increase. According to the World Alzheimer Report 2010 The Global Economic Impact of Dementia, "after age 65, the likelihood of developing dementia roughly doubles every five years".

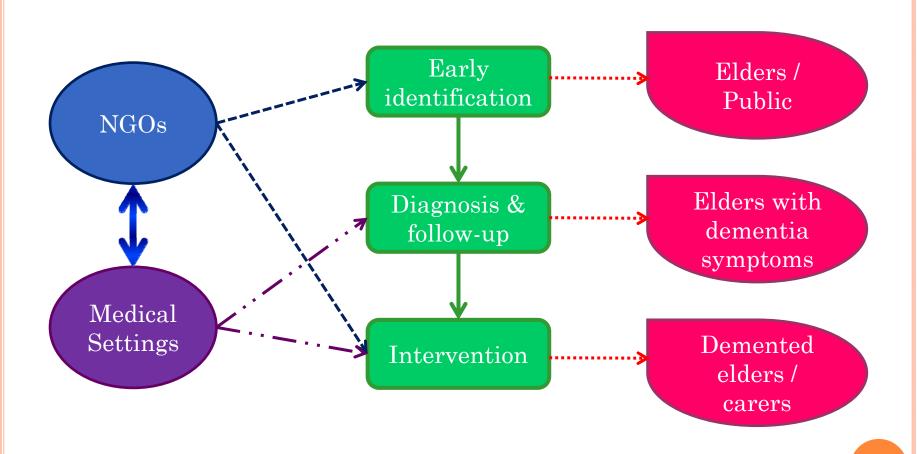
BACKGROUND

- Under-diagnosis of dementia is common all over the world. Only 20-50% of dementia cases are receiving formal diagnosis and medical follow-up, in high income countries; and the diagnostic rate in low income countries is much lower (Alzheimer's Disease International, 2010).
- This situation may be because of the following reasons:
 - The stigma of dementia preventing open discussion
 - The false belief that changes were a normal part of ageing
 - The false belief that nothing could be done

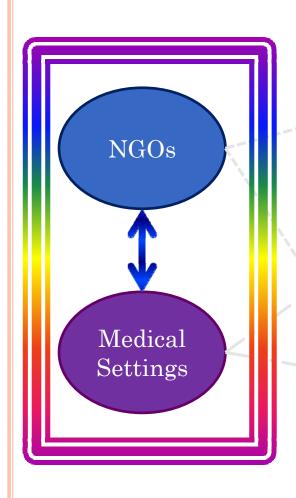
NEW SERVICE TREND FOR DEMENTIA SERVICE

- Early identification of elders with dementia symptoms or memory problems
- Collaboration between Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and medical settings
- Exploration and adoption of different intervention methods, both medical and non-medical

SERVICE APPROACH



DIFFERENT ROLES IN THE SERVICE APPROACH



Early identification

Diagnosis & follow-up

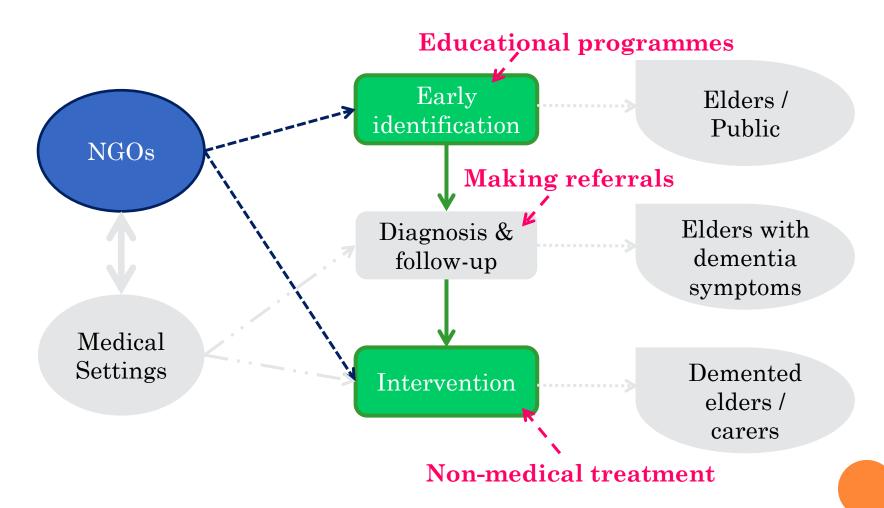
Intervention

Elders / Public

Elders with dementia symptoms

Demented elders / carers

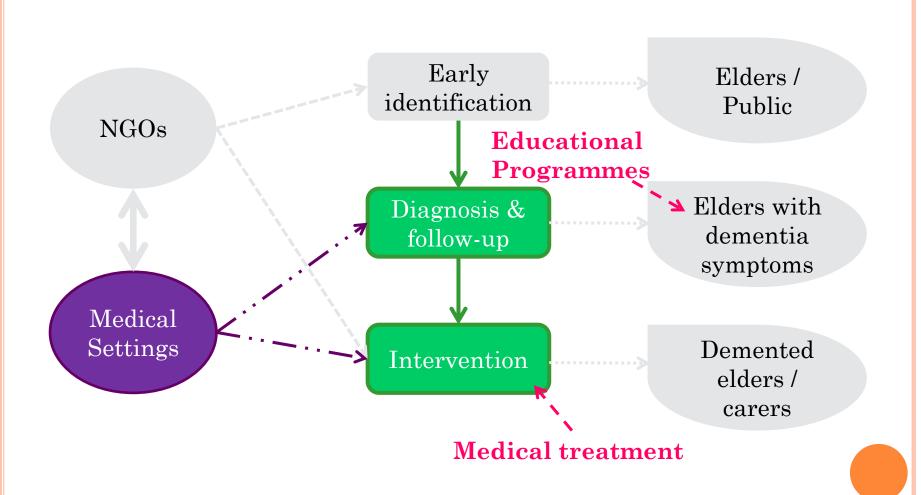
DIFFERENT ROLES – NGOS



DIFFERENT ROLES – NGOS

- To identify elders with dementia symptoms or memory problems
- To educate elders and their families on knowledge of dementia
- To refer suspected cases to medical / hospital settings for clinical diagnosis and follow-up
- To provide different kind of intervention programmes and carer support services

DIFFERENT ROLES – MEDICAL / HOSPITAL SETTINGS

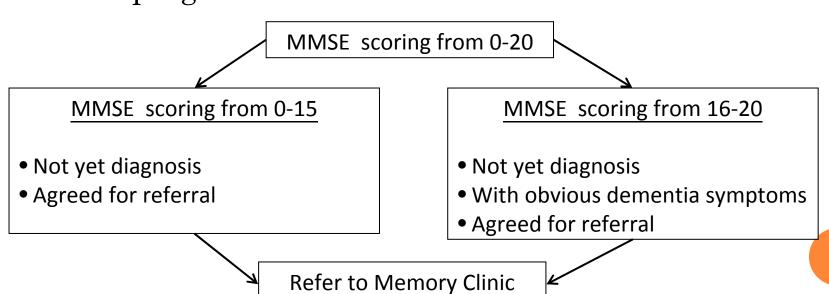


DIFFERENT ROLES – MEDICAL / HOSPITAL SETTINGS

- To provide medical diagnosis, treatment and follow-up
- To educate elders and their families on knowledge of dementia
- To refer cases to NGOs for non-medical treatment as well as carer support services

KEY FACTORS ON COLLABORATION

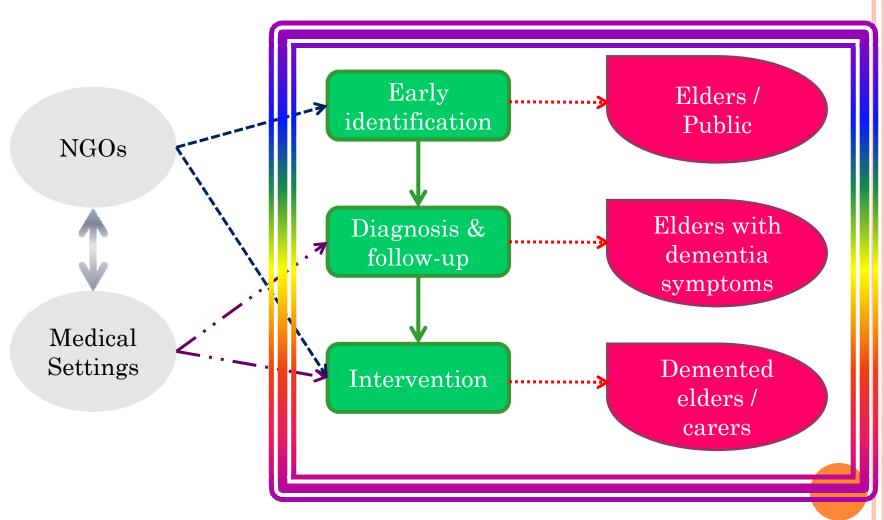
- To develop case referral system
- To identify referring criteria
- To have close communication and monitoring on cases' progress



IMPORTANCE OF EARLY DIAGNOSIS AND INTERVENTION

- According to the Alzheimer's Disease International (2010), early therapeutic interventions can be effective in the following areas:
 - improving cognitive function
 - treating depression
 - improving caregiver mood
 - delaying institutionalisation
- It is also recognized that many treatments are more effective during the early stage of dementia.

SERVICE APPROACH – STEPS AND SERVICE TARGETS



SERVICE APPROACH – EARLY IDENTIFICATION

• Purpose:

- To promote and arouse public awareness on dementia
- To identify elders with memory problem

• Service Targets:

- Elders
- General Public

• Means:

- Talks and exhibitions
- Dementia screening programmes
- Outreaching programmes



SERVICE APPROACH – DIAGNOSIS & FOLLOW-UP

• Purpose:

• To provide early medical diagnosis and treatment for elders with dementia

• Service Targets:

Elders with dementia symptoms or memory problems

• Means:

 To collaborate with local medical or hospital settings to provide diagnosis and medical follow-up



SERVICE APPROACH – INTERVENTION

• Purpose:

- To have better control on dementia symptoms
- To improve elders' cognition
- To enhance elders' quality of life

• Service Targets:

• Elders with dementia

• Means:

• To provide medical treatment for elders with dementia

SERVICE APPROACH – INTERVENTION

• To adopt different kind of conventional non-medical intervention, including cognitive training, orientation training, activity of daily living training, reminiscent training programmes etc.



Centre-Based Training









SERVICE APPROACH – INTERVENTION

• To adopt innovative intervention, that is the Activities of Physical and Mental Activated Therapy (心身機能活性運動療法)

手指棒



健康環



高爾槌球







Activities of Physical and Mental Activated Therapy









