



## Other Abstracts

# An Alternative Choice of Service for Parents with Special Needs Children: A Self-financing Model of Community-based Pediatrics Service for the Children with Special Needs.

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### **Introduction:**

Many children with special needs cannot receive suitable training at their right age, because it is difficult for their parents to afford the expensive fee of training at private sector or the long queuing time for the limited quota of training at the public sector. Therefore, TWGHs KWMCMHHC cum AJRCFRC offered an alternative choice of service between private and public sectors to the needy parents.

Pediatrics service for the children with special needs of TWGHs KWMCMHHC cum AJRCFRC has been providing to the public for around one and half years. This is a paid service. The service scope is to provide service to children aged 2 to 12 with special needs and their parents, which included ADHD, SLD, Autistic Feature, dyslexia, SI Deficit and Asperger Syndrome etc. at the affordable rate of fee.

### **Purpose of the Project:**

1. To provide quality training to the children with special needs at their right age
2. To relieve the burden on the public sector in provision of appropriate service to children with special needs and also the financial burden of those parents in using private service.

### **Material & Methods:**

Pediatrics service for the children with special needs of TWGHs KWMCMHHC cum AJRCFRC, not only provided centre-based training and counseling service, but also participated in school-based training and education projects.

From the training aspect, we not only focus on the process of the development, but also pay attention to the children's enjoyment and sustainability of the treatment outcome. Therefore, our staff members would put various elements onto the training process such as play, music, art and drama etc in order to enhance their enjoyment during the training process. Moreover, in order to keep the sustainability of the treatment outcome, we would also pay attention to the trainability of parents and the parent-child relationship. Thus, there are many courses and services provided to the parents to equip their training knowledge and skills and enhance the bonding within the family members.

### **Results:**

- Over 90% service users achieved their treatment goals
- Over 100 children and parents use our service within a half year
- Over 10 written appreciations to this service within a year
- Over 90% service users expressed their willingness to promote our service to others

### **Conclusions:**

It is crucial for the children with special needs to receive quality training at their right age. There is no reason why the training needs of the needy children could not be met due to financial reason and insufficient quota. Pediatrics service for the children with special needs of TWGHs KWMCMHHC cum AJRCFRC is an alternative choice of service for the children with special needs and their parents. It is not necessary for the parents to pay a higher cost to purchase private service and spend long time on waiting for training offer by public sector for their children.