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安享終老院舍中

“Dying In Nursing Home” service (DIN):
Opportunities and challenges

Haven of Hope Nursing Home
Since 1999

HKEC Symposium on Community Engagement IX
Journey for a healthy community– Choice, Collaboration and Continuum of care
12.7.2014

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Dying in Nursing Home “DIN”



...that the elders are able to have a peaceful death at the last phase of their life, under the care of familiar faces at the trusting environment in presence of their family.”



8th Nov 2000



Dec 2013

91



**12.3% of total
deaths at NH**





Opportunities

- Ageing population in Hong Kong
- Residents in RCHEs: 6.8% for >65 with multiple co morbidities – that are irreversible and chronic
(THS Report No.40, C&SD, HKSAR, 2009)
- At Hong Kong, almost all persons at end of life are sent to hospitals
33.5%(~13,630) of all deaths in IP/DP/A&E (40,630) are RCHE residents (HA working group on EOL care in RCHEs, 2013)
- Contradicting “Ageing in Place” and “Continuum of Care” (Social Policy For elderly Persons in HK)



- Choice of care: ACP (Advance Care Plan)
- Dissemination of expertise knowledge
- Recognition and acceptance of palliative care approach in professional and public
- Positive attitude towards death through life education
- Medical & Social interface : outreach support from CGAT

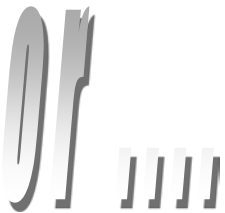


Options in the event of imminent death (days / weeks / months/ years)

**Transferring to hospital
immediately**

**Transferring to hospital
when death occurs**

**End-of-Life (EOL) care
in Nursing Home**





Challenges

- Common belief in over-medicalized pattern of care near end-of-life
- Legal issues
- Staff acceptance
- Resources :
staff, equipment, space, facilities



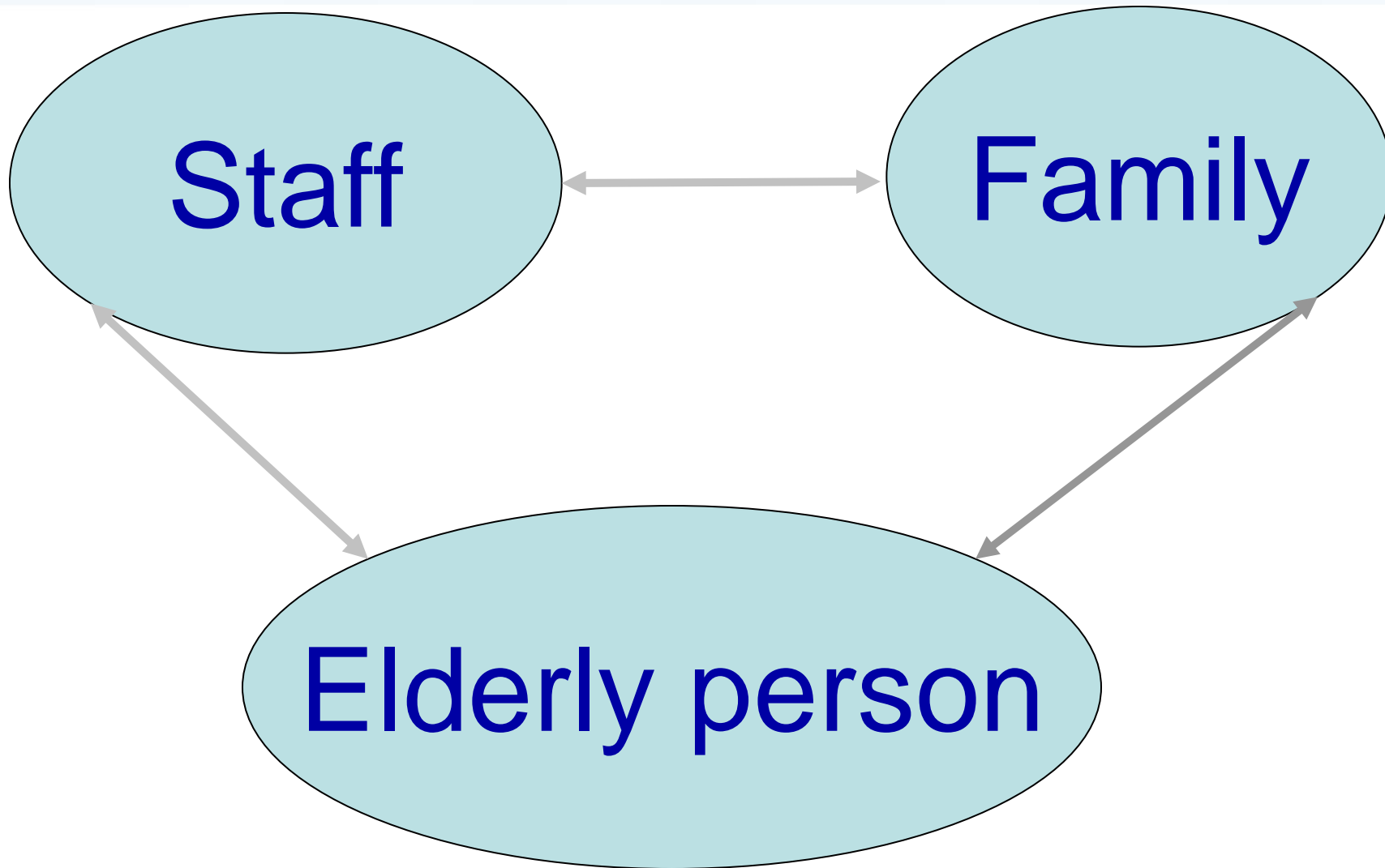
- Experience in care of the dying & the sustainability of the service
- Transportation & storage of dead body
- Government policies: hurdle
- Medical & social integration



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The readiness of





Legal consideration

- Legal status

It is lawful for deaths to occur in Nursing Homes in Hong Kong (which is registered under the Hospitals, Nursing Homes and Maternity Homes Registration Ordinance Cap 165), provided that the attending medical staff is satisfied with the cause of death..Attending physician has to view the body and to sign the certificate of death (form 18)



Overcoming challenges

- Preparing staff :
 - accept changes, benefits of continuum care at the familiar environment, Life & death education
- Professional training to lead the team
- Recognition the need of the service
- Support from the government



Keys to success

- Good Palliative Care
 - **Staff**
 - Attitude
 - Knowledge
 - Experience
 - Equipment
 - Environment
- Appropriate patient selection
- Effective communication



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《安享終老院舍中－靈感至實幹之旅》

《End-of-Life Care in a Nursing Home - from Illusion through Vision to Culture》



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Thank you