Medical Setting Social Work Services







See, hear, feel what they see, hear and feel.....

Empathy The Human Connection to Patient Care - YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/watch ?v=f4SYR4EcHlc



Medical Setting Social Work Services

Placement opportunities

- Medical Social Services Unit (general, psychiatric)
- Medical Special Projects (PRC, HRC, CCSU, AMC)
- Primary care and Community Health service (Apleichau outpatient Family Medicine clinic, DHC)



Target Group:

- Patients (In-patients, outpatients)
- Family members & caregivers
- Volunteers (ex-patients, community)
- General public



Nature and Purpose of Services of MSSU

- Pre-admission assessment and planning
- Psychosocial assessment to form holistic treatment plan
- Supportive and therapeutic counselling
- Referrals for tangible assistance
- Statuary services
- Outreaching services
- Discharge planning and follow-up service
- Advocacy of patients' rights and mobilization of community resources
- Consultation/ collaboration with inter-disciplinary team
- Organization and facilitation of educational/ supportive/ mutual-help/ therapeutic group and programs
- Conducting empirical research



Counselling service

 Adjustment/acceptance to illnesses, aging and disabilities

Losses: organs, body parts, bodily functioning, roles, dignity, abilities, self-esteem, hope.

Threats and changes: daily functioning, interpersonal relationship



Counselling service

- Family problems
 communication problems, conflictual relationships, caregivers' stress, financial hardship, diminished roles and discrepancies in expectations
- Family violence

Physical, psychological, emotional, sexual, identification, screening and referral



Counselling service

Bereavement

Anticipatory grief and preparation for impending death of life threatening illnesses

Follow-up the bereaved families after death in bereavement counselling and support



Tangible service

Help giving information, screening and referrals of tangible services, such as:

Financial (CSSA/DA/HAD,OAA, OALA, trust fund, special grant, medical waivers etc)

 Information on placement (Home transfer, Spilt tenancy, CR, Emergency shelter, respite care of old aged home)



Tangible service

- Assisting in the assessment of Elderly long term care plan and follow-up
- Referral or giving information on Employment and training (supported employment, sheltered workshop, ERB)
- Referral or giving information on other community support services (home-help, escort, self-help organization etc.)



Discharge / Rehab. plan

- Discuss discharge plans with interdisciplinary team to enhance consideration on the psychosocial aspect of patients and families
- Discuss discharge plan with the patients and families including the community resources and alternatives to discharge home eg private homes, hostels, half-way house etc.



Outreaching service

- Outreaching teams for elderly and psychiatric patients
- Early Assessment Services for Young People with Psychosis (EASY) team



Statutory service

- Mental Health Ordinance
- Court report
- Care and protection of children
- Guardianship



Groups / Programs Services

- Therapeutic group, supportive group, mutual help group for patient and caregivers
- Psychoeducational and psychosocial programs for patients or families
- Community educational programs



Special features for placements in MSSU (Gen/Psy)

- Predominantly caseworks
- Some units can have groups/programs
- Can be under SWD or HA
- 8:45 am to 5:33 pm
- Weekdays, daytime
- MSW/BSW students for MSSU/ Gen, MSW for MSSU/Psy



Nature and Purpose of Services of Special Projects

- To provide information and support to patients and relatives in the diagnosis, treatment, rehabilitation or palliative care phases
- To enhance self-help and mutual support capacity among patients and their caregivers
- To enable the optimal use of available resources in improving the quality of life of patients through referral and networking



Nature and Purpose of Services of Special Projects

- To mobilize volunteers among patients, professional groups and the community to assist in patient care
- May work with patients with the various illnesses or conditions, eg:
 - Physical illness: Cancer, cardiac disease, renal failure, diabetes, stroke, hip fracture etc.
 - Mental health problems: mood disorders, psychosis, dementia
 - Developmental issues in children & adolescents:
 SEN, biological or organic maldevelopment;
 mental health issue
 - Rare diseases type



Special features for placements in MSP

- Patient Resource Centres (Daytime, mainly weekdays, both MSW or BSW students)
- Adolescent and Medical Centre, QE (Concurrent: Mondays, Fridays daytime and may be Thursdays pm to night, MSW students)



Special features for placements in MSP

- Cancer Care and Support Unit (weekday, daytime, MSW students)
- Apleichau outpatient clinic (HKU Family Medicine) (Any days of daytime Mon to Fri, both MSW or BSW students, only in concurrent)
- Hospice Centre/QEH (MSW students)



Special features for placements in MSP

- Case, group, program: AMC
- Group, program, project, NO
 CASES: PRC, HRC, CCSU



Nature and purpose of Services in Primary Care and Community Health Services

Tertiary Prevention Management of chronic diseases, and rehabilitation support services to slow down the progression of diseases

Secondary Prevention Health assessment and screening to facilitate early identification of chronic diseases

Primary Prevention

Health promotion, advisory and counselling services and educational programmes to drive lifestyle changes for the prevention of chronic diseases



Special features of placement in District Health Centre

Involve in the following scope of services

- Health Promotion
- Health Assessment
- Chronic Disease Management
- Community Rehabilitation
- Can run group, educational talks, community education, booths, workshops and brief cases on disease management



Special features of placement in Apleichau outpatient clinic

- Apleichau outpatient clinic under HKU Family Medicine
- Cases referrals: mood problems, carers' stress, adjustment to illness and aging, family relationship problems, losses and bereavement, information for community resources.
- 4-5 case conferences with doctors of clinic and professors of HKU Family Medicine.



Learning and Challenges in medical setting Social Work Service

- Working in collaboration with interdisciplinary team in the secondary setting
- Competent verbal and written communication, able to communicate effectively in Cantonese
- Active engagement with patients
- Efficient work pace and assessment skills
- Efficient referrals and accurate written work, update recordings according to SWD/HA format (precise, concise, accurate, clear follow-up plan)



Learning and challenges

- Quick update of current policies and resources on tangible services eg. financial assistance, elderly and rehabilitation services, community resources and carers' support services.
- Knowledge on illness and treatment
- Practice creative planning and facilitation of groups
- Proactive recruitment strategies
- Understand the service needs of targets suffering from various illnesses or impairments
- Understand the carers' stress (the impact of illness on the families)



Learning and challenges

- Coordinating and collaboration with community partners
- Training and monitoring of volunteers
- Understand the current development of the health care policy, strategic plans of HA, the development of primary care and community health care



Groups

- Cancer Support Group
 (IBMS, Expressive Art, Photo-voice, Satir model, Narrative Approach, self-compassion, horticultural therapy)
- Depressive Patients Group(CBT, Mindfulness, Expressive Art)
- Renal Patients Support Group (Narrative therapy, Expressive Art/Psychoeducational)
- Dementia patients and caregivers
 (Cognitive stimulation therapy, reminiscence therapy, psychoeducation)
- Person in Recovery (Expressive Art, Strength-based)



Preparation and mindset

- Need to attend the core volunteer training/Infection control training
- Vaccinations or have immunity of chicken pox and measles
- Update essential medical jargons, knowledge on chronic illnesses and mental illness
- Be initiative
- Be independent
- Be open
- Time and stress management



Tips in choosing medical setting for your placement

- Competitive
- Fluctuating placement quotas ranging from 14 to 28 (see below)
- BSW students (mostly PRC, can have MSSU in CMC and UCH)
- MSW students have more choices
- May need to travel long distance
- No location preference may have higher chance
- Availability to attend placement at daytime of Weekdays is essential
- If Medical as first choice, second choice should consider a less competitive choice



Tips in choosing medical setting for your placement

Placement may be affected, suspended under pandemics







Placement Units in Summer 2023 (19)

- MSSU PYNEH (Psy)
- MSSU Yung Fung Shee (Psy)
- MSSU Kwai Chung (Psy)
- MSSU Haven of Hope Hospital
- MSSU & HRC of Caritas Medical Centre
- PRC of PYNEH
- PRC of Pok Oi Hospital
- PRC of Tin Shui Wai
- PRC TMH
- Adolescent and Medical Centre of QEH



Placement Units in Concurrent 2023-24 (14)

- Cancer Care and Support Unit, QMH
- MSSU Yung Fung Shee (Psy) & HRC of UCH
- Adolescent and Medical Centre of QEH
- Ap Lei Chau outpatient Clinic, HKU Family Medicine
- □ PRC, TMH



Placement Units in summer 2024 (28)

- MSSU & HRC, Caritas Medical Centre
- MSSU Tseung Kwan O Hospital
- MSSU United Christian Hospital
- MSSU Tin Shui Wai Hospital
- MSSU Kwai Chung Hospital (Psy)
- MSSU, North District Hospital
- MSSU Queen Elizabeth Hospital
- MSSU United Christian Hospital
- MSSU Yung Fung Shee (Psy)
- MSSU Tuen Mum Hospital
- MSSU Wong Tai Sin Hospital (palliative)



Cont'd Summer 2024

- Adolescent Medical Centre, QEH
- PRC Kowloon Hospital
- PRC Tuen Mun Hospital
- PRC Tin Shui Wai Hospital
- PRC Pok Oi Hospital
- PRC Queen Mary Hospital



Placement Units in Concurrent 2024-25 (22)

- MSSU UCH
- MSSU Pamela Youde Eastern Nethersole Hospital (psy)
- MSSU Tai Po Hospital (psy)
- MSSU Yung Fung Shee (psy)
- AMC, QEH
- Apleichau clinic HKU Family Medicine
- PRC Tuen Mun Hospital
- Cancer PRC Tuen Mun Hospital
- Cancer Care & Support Unit QMH
- PRC QMH
- DHC Express, Shatin, CRN



Thank You

Further Enquiries kodebby@hku.hk