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香港精神科醫學院

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)

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Press Release

To: Assignment Editor

23 December 2015

“A Survey on Psychiatrists’ Experiences in Hong Kong” Press Conference

In response to the recent public concern about psychiatrists’ caring experience and social stigma experienced by patients with mental illness, the Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists conducted a survey into psychiatrists’ insider views on challenges and rewards from daily clinical practice encompassing impact of social stigma related to mental health service.

We have invited 490 psychiatrists either in training or as a specialist in the public or private sector in Hong Kong to participate in this survey. The response rate is unprecedentedly high as 70% of all psychiatrists in Hong Kong have participated in this survey launched in 48 hours. Over 80% of Hong Kong psychiatrists often have a REWARDING EXPERIENCE seeing their patients. 70% of Hong Kong psychiatrists often feel challenged by stigma on patients and the profession as well as deficits in resources and long-term policy. Among these 60% Hong Kong psychiatrists often frustrated to have difficulties in issuing medical certificate for patients for sick leave, as a result of their fear of their employer knowing about the nature of the illnesses.

Parallel to the survey, psychiatrists and service user will share their views and personal experiences on prevailing discriminations against those with mental illnesses as well as challenges faced by the local mental health service providers.

The Hong Kong of College Psychiatrists has long been collaborating with Hospital Authority, schools, Educational Bureau and non-government organizations for various activities to promote mental health education. In 2015, College also issued an anti-stigma position statement with public awareness objective to reduce discrimination against mental illness in the society. We will launch out a “Look at Mi” Anti-stigma campaign, involving public lecture series, mental health youth ambassador program and “Look at Mi” photography workshop and competition.

Speakers: **Dr. Phyllis Chan**

Vice-President, the Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists

Consultant, Department of Psychiatry, Queen Mary Hospital

Prof. Sandra Chan

Chairman of the Research Committee,

The Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists

Associate Professor, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Dr. Ivan Mak

Chairman of the Public Awareness Committee,

The Hong Kong College of Psychiatrists

Sharing by psychiatrists

Dr. Sherry Chan

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Sharing by service user

Ms. Esther Lee

Language: English /Cantonese

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