Development of Chinese Medicine Clinical Service Recommendations for Cancer Palliative Care in Hong Kong: A Delphi survey

Background
Existing overviews of systematic reviews (SRs) and SRs for Cancer Palliative Care

The use of certain Chinese medicine (CM) interventions for symptoms management among patients

Aim
To establish consensus on CM clinical service recommendations for cancer palliative care among Hong Kong experts using the GRADE-ADOLOPMENT approach

Methods
7 CM interventions with statistically significant favourable results in existing overviews of SRs and SRs

➔ Included in a GRADE-ADOLOPMENT based two-round Delphi survey

Based on the criteria of Evidence to decision (EtD) framework below:

- Priorities of problem
- Benefits and harms
- Equity
- Feasibility
- Acceptability

Prior to the Delphi study, seven CM interventions with statistically significant favourable results were included:

- Acupuncture
- Acupressure
- Moxibustion
- Herbs
- Cupping
- Tai Chi
- Qigong

Physicians (n=4)
Chinese medicine practitioners (n=4)
Nurses (n=4)

Hong Kong experts in cancer palliative care

Results
List of service recommendations developed in the two-round Delphi survey:

1. Should acupuncture be used for reducing fatigue among palliative cancer patients?
2. Should acupressure be used for reducing fatigue among palliative cancer patients?
3. Should moxibustion be used for reducing nausea and vomiting among palliative cancer patients receiving chemotherapy?

Conclusion
Use of EtD framework within the GRADE-ADOLOPMENT approach would:

- Facilitate development of evidence-based CM service recommendations which are compatible to Hong Kong context
- Encourage interprofessional collaboration in the future dissemination and implementation of these recommendations

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Please scan for detailed workflow and results of the study