

“KCHDA's opinions on mental health policy” in Legco meeting on 22-11-2007

1. Overload of daytime work
Problem: Not enough time to see each patient:
 - a. Number of patients per OPD session : 40 old cases + 1 new case
 - b. Time for each OPD session: 3 hours for old cases and hour for new case
 - c. Time for each old case: 4.5 mins (including 1 min of typing and printing prescribing sheet)Solution:
 - a. Increase resources and manpower
 - b. Try to attract the doctor to stay in HA, e.g., flexible employment and more promotion
 - c. Attract the private psychiatrist to work in HA

2. Inadequate specialists in HK and HA -194 fellows in HK in which 119 fellows in HA
Problem:
 - a. Not all new cases seen by specialist
 - b. Consultant: SMO/AC: MO ratio is not good enough for adequate supervision, especially, for the new graduates
 - c. Lack of experience in the new doctors who may miss some important clinical information from the patientsSolution:
 - a. Increase the number of trainees in psychiatry
 - b. Increase the number of senior doctors to provide sufficient supervision by whatever means, e.g., promotion
 - c. Provide more training to the new graduates, including face-to-face supervision which requires more time and input from senior doctors

3. Crowded environment in mental hospital
Problem:
 - a. Too many patients in one ward
 - b. Patients and their relatives did not like to stay in hospital even when the patients are in danger to themselves and others
 - c. Increased conflict and violence amongst the patients and even between the patient and the staffSolution:
 - a. Increase manpower to re-open some wards
 - b. Increase the remission and discharge rate of the patients, e.g., more intensive treatment and using more newer medication
 - c. Increase resources in community care in order to keep the patient outside the hospital but it will be more expensive than in-patient care