The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) School of Nursing
WHO Collaborating Centre for Community Health Services

About the Centre
The WHO has designated the School of Nursing, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University as a WHO Collaborating Centre for Community Health Services in December 2007. Through implementing the WHO’s mandate, the School has been playing a proactive role in strengthening evidence-based community health services and improving the health outcomes of local, regional, and global populations. In December 2015, the School was redesignated as a WHO Collaborating Centre for Community Health Services with the following terms of reference:

- To develop and pilot-testing of minimum standards to promote psychosocial aspects of adolescent health in school setting in collaboration with eight WHO CCs in the Western Pacific Region (WPRO) and South-East Asia Regional Office (SERO). The research outcome will support the regional action plans both for the maternal child and adolescent health, and mental health.
- To improve health outcomes by developing and testing effective psychosocial services delivery model / programme via community-based interventions for people across the life span in Asian countries. The research outcome will support the regional action plans for the non-communicable diseases, psychosocial problems and mental health illness.
- To contribute and influence WHO member states’ policies and programmes in matters relating to health service provision through policy, research programmes and education related to WHO CC’s activities.

Highlights of Work Areas

**Dementia Care**
- Music intervention for people with early dementia and their family caregivers has commenced, which aimed at using a music with movement intervention to promote the wellbeing and quality of life of people with dementia and their families.
- An oral paper of “A survey of general practitioners’ awareness & management of patients with dementia in Hong Kong” was presented at the Asia Pacific Regional Conference Alzheimer’s Disease International 2014
- Co-organized “Dementia Care Forum” with 24 organizations under the Task Force on Dementia of the Hong Kong Council of Social Services in 2010, 2012 & 2014. A big step forward in the community in Hong Kong, moving dementia and dementia care forward in the policy agenda of the Hong Kong government. The Task Force continues to advocate for policy changes for people with dementia and their families.

- A cross-cultural comparison of the burden of caring for people with dementia
- Hosted a conference themed “Translating Evidence into Impact: Creating a Road Map in Caring for the Elderly”, bringing 400 health care scientists, clinicians, and policy makers from all over the world to discuss an important issue of “Frailty”.

**Transitional Models**
- Research papers/Highlights:
- Develop evidence-based palliative care services for persons with organ failure and their family caregivers, in collaboration with local health service providers, professional associations and regional palliative care networks.

**Adolescent Health & Development**
- Established Health Ambassador Scheme Award
- The 3rd Biennial Regional School Health Congress 2014
- Macau was held

- Research papers/Highlights:

- Capacity building for school nurses on adolescent health and development competencies by developing a regional School Nurses Network and a School Nurse Certified Programme
- Associations between lifestyle behaviors and psychosocial health conditions in Hong Kong adolescents: A cross-sectional and cross-cultural study (Hong Kong, Beijing, Australia, Japan, South Korea, Thailand and India)
- Acceptability and sustainability of minimum standards / guidelines to implement adolescent health services in the school community in the three levels of family incomes settings in the selected countries in the region.

- Young and vulnerable adolescents involvement in Global AA-HA! Framework project to organize four consultation workshops with young and vulnerable adolescents in the Western Pacific Region.

**Mental Health Care**
- Mental health nurse prescribing: An international cross sectional survey of mental health nurses’ views in Hong Kong, Qatar and South Australia

- Mental Health Literacy and Help Seeking Behavior in the Western Pacific” where Cambodia, Fiji, Mainland China and the Philippines were involved.

**Global Networks**
The School of Nursing is a member institute in various working groups on global issues, including:
- Global Network of WHO Collaborating Centres for Nursing & Midwifery Development
- Asia Pacific Emergency & Disaster Nursing Network (APEDNN)
- Global Alliance for Nursing and Midwifery (GANM) Communities of Practice
- WHO Network for HIV and Health in the Western Pacific Region
- Regional School Nurses Network
- International Collaboration on Community Health Nursing Research (ICCHNR)