



香港中文大學
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



香港中文大學醫學院
Faculty of Medicine
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



HMRF Research Fellowship Scheme – Experience Sharing

Yin Ting CHEUNG, PhD

Assistant Professor

School of Pharmacy, Faculty of Medicine

Email: yinting.cheung@cuhk.edu.hk



School of Pharmacy CUHK

Expanding the pharmaceutical universe,
Creating opportunities for life



Outline

- Brief introduction of my HMRF Research Fellowship Application
- Proposal writing and interview
 - Reflections and mistakes
 - Advice from my mentor and senior colleagues
- Challenges during the implementation phase
- Take-home messages

“Personalized Risk-based Care and Education for Early Survivors of Childhood Cancer in Hong Kong” (HMRF 2017 Ref: 03170047)

- Timeframe: 2 years Mentor: Prof. Chi Kong Li (CUHK Paediatrics)
- Background: Survivors of childhood cancer are at-risk of developing treatment-related late effects.

Aim 1: To identify high-priority late effects for harmonizing screening guidelines

Approach: Delphi survey on oncology practitioners in Hong Kong

Aim 2: To evaluate the short-term efficacy of the personalized Survivorship Care Plan intervention in improving awareness of personal health risks among survivors of childhood cancer

Approach: Prospective study with pre- and post- intervention assessments. Survivors recruited from PWH and HKCH

Proposal Writing and Interview

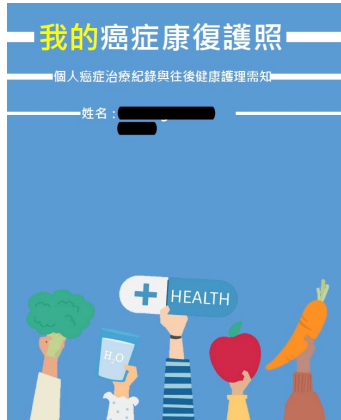
Components	My Mistakes, Reflections & Advice from Mentor/Senior Colleagues
A mentorship program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Seek support of a Mentor (<i>consider his/her expertise, accessibility, etc.</i>)- Develop the proposal with the Mentor
An overseas training program	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Training plan carries equal weightage as the research plan (both 35%)- Liaise with an overseas research group for training program early (<i>my "Overseas Preceptor" is also a Co-I on the grant</i>)- Set clear learning objectives (<i>must be relevant to the project</i>)- Include deliverables and time frame (<i>work with Overseas Preceptor on the training schedule</i>)- Provide justification for the budget (<i>Avoid over- or under-budget...</i>)

Proposal Writing and Interview

Components	My Mistakes, Reflections & Advice from Mentor/Senior Colleagues
A research project	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Scientific merits and translational value- Include preliminary data (<i>I included data from my overseas post-doctoral training... as well as my Mentor's local data</i>)- Feasibility within proposed time frame (<i>Seek the advice of Mentor</i>)- Powered sample size (<i>Not just based on feasibility</i>)- Limitations and alternative solutions (<i>Important for the interview... heed the advice of the panelists</i>)

Proposal Writing and Interview

Components	My Mistakes, Reflections & Advice from Mentor/Senior Colleagues
A research project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Have knowledge-transfer activities in mind (<i>Consider consumer engagement strategies... NGOs and patient communities</i>) - Local, regional and international perspectives in mind (<i>Seek the support of Mentor and Overseas Preceptor</i>)



康復者計劃 - 擁有自己的康復者護照 - 對「症」下藥, 「知」多D、「做」好D健康講座第三節

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Long-Term Follow-Up Guidelines for Survivors of Childhood, Adolescent, and Young Adult Cancers
 Version 5.0 (October 2018)
 New: Chinese Health Links (in Traditional [TC] and Simplified [SC] Chinese)

The Children's Oncology Group Long-Term Follow-Up Guidelines for Survivors of Childhood, Adolescent, and Young Adult Cancers (COG LTU Guidelines) are a resource for healthcare professionals who provide ongoing care to survivors of pediatric malignancies. The screening recommendations in these guidelines are appropriate for asymptomatic survivors of childhood, adolescent, or young adult cancer presenting for routine exposure-based medical follow-up. More extensive evaluations are presumed, as clinically indicated, for survivors presenting with signs and symptoms suggesting illness or organ dysfunction. A basic knowledge of ongoing issues related to the long-term follow-up needs of this patient population is assumed. Healthcare professionals who do not regularly care for survivors of pediatric malignancies are encouraged to consult with a pediatric oncology long-term follow-up center if any questions or concerns arise when reviewing or using these guidelines. A complementary set of patient education materials, known as "Health Links" accompany the guidelines in order to enhance patient follow-up visits and broaden the application of these guidelines. More detailed information regarding development and application of the COG LTU Guidelines and related materials is available by accessing the documents below.

<http://www.survivorshipguidelines.org/>

Project Period: Unexpected Challenges

- 2019: Centralization of pediatric oncology services at the HKCH (*it's great news! However...*)
 - Took time to commence recruitment of survivors from the HKCH
 - All recruitment took place at the PWH, recruitment affected by the pandemic
- 2020: COVID
 - Targeted sample size reduced from 250 to 180 (*By Jan 2020, we had some baseline data already... recalculated the sample size during the progress report submission*)
 - Project extension (*It's OK... provide justification and a concrete plan*)

Communicate with Research Fund Secretariat on amendments and budget revision



Take-home Messages

- Training/ Mentorship Plan is as important as the Research Plan
- Preparing for interview: Be cognizant of the limitations and alternative solutions
- Begin with the end in mind: Publications, societal impact and knowledge-transfer activities
- Challenges during implementation: Seek the advice of the Mentor and Co-Is
- Progress report submission time is a good checkpoint
- Timely communication with the Research Fund Secretariat on amendments and budget revisions

Acknowledgements

Thank you and
All the Best! 😊

- Mentor: Professor Chi Kong Li (CUHK Paediatrics)
- Co-Is:
 - Dr. Smita Bhatia (University of Alabama at Birmingham & Children's Oncology Group)
 - Prof. Vivian Wing-yan Lee (CUHK Centre for Learning Enhancement and Research)
 - Prof. Nelson Chun-yiu Yeung (CUHK JC School of Public Health)
- Survivors, oncology practitioners and student helpers
- NGOs: Children's Cancer Foundation, Little Life Warriors Society, Pau Kwong Wun Charitable Foundation
- CUHK Office of Research and Knowledge Transfer Services
- FHB Research Fund Secretariats, Consultants and Scientific Officers (past/present)



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