

Appendix

Table 1 Perceived Challenges

Scope	Examples	Level of perceived challenges	
		Mean*	Percentage of people rating higher than mid-point
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The timing of providing palliative care to patients (i.e. from curative treatment to palliative care) • Knowledge about palliative care • Knowledge about handling issues of death and dying 	3.35	64.2%
Advanced skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breaking bad news • Discuss about advance care planning or end-of-life care preferences with patients or their families • Telling the families about sudden death of the patients 	3.78	76.4%
Professional self-identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grief about death or dying of patients • Feeling sad about the emotional pain of patients' families • Stress brought by the professional identity • Feeling incompetent about the death or pain of patients • Feeling incompetent about the pain and sadness of patients' families 	3.26	61.5%
Work environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Availability of manpower • Communication among colleagues • Communication between different departments/units • Insufficient space or facilities 	3.50	70.6%

*Range from 1 to 5, higher score means higher level of perceived challenge. Mid-point is 3.

Table 2 Factors needing improvement with level of urgency

Factors needing improvement	Level of urgency (Mean)*
Availability of manpower	4.20
Linkage between hospital service and community service	3.76
Sufficient resource support	3.75
Recognition of the importance of paediatric palliative care	3.70
Bereavement service for patients' families	3.69
The knowledge of palliative care among patients' families	3.68

*Range from 1 to 5, higher score means more immediate improvement is needed. Mid-point is 3.