

Answers

Recommended Ethical Principles on Partner Counselling and Referral for HIV Infected Individuals in Hong Kong

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CME point: 1

1. What are the terms being used for describing the public health activities of notifying, counseling and offering referrals to partners of HIV infected patients?
 - (a) Partner notification
 - (b) Partner counseling
 - (c) Contact tracing
 - (d) Partner Counseling and Referral Services (PCRS)
 - (e) **All of the above** ✓

2. Which of the following is not the goal or objective of conducting PCRS?
 - (a) Inform partner who had significant risk exposure to HIV
 - (b) Prevent onward HIV transmission from sexual contact and needle-sharing
 - (c) **Delay access to care and treatment of HIV infected partners** ✓
 - (d) Alert partner of possible HIV transmission
 - (e) Counsel partner for risk evaluation and HIV testing

3. What are the potential benefits of PCRS?
 - (a) Facilitate early HIV diagnosis
 - (b) Allow prompt referral to HIV care
 - (c) Provide opportunities for HIV prevention
 - (d) Improve quality of life of patient through HIV disclosure
 - (e) **All of the above** ✓

4. What are the potential adverse consequences of PCRS?
 - (a) Impact on trust between patients and their health care providers
 - (b) Relationship conflict between patient and partner
 - (c) Domestic violence in HIV infected family
 - (d) Going underground of people infected or at risk of HIV
 - (e) **All of the above** ✓

5. Which is not a method of PCRS?
 - (a) Conditional referral
 - (b) Dual referral
 - (c) Source referral
 - (d) **Partner referral** ✓
 - (e) Provider referral

6. What is the ethical dogma to be upheld when conducting PCRS?
 - (a) Beneficence
 - (b) Confidentiality
 - (c) Autonomy
 - (d) Justice
 - (e) **All of the above** ✓

7. Which of the following statement is not true regarding PCRS methods?
- (a) The various PCRS methods can be used in combination
 - (b) More resource is required for provider referral
 - (c) **Provider referral is less effective than source referral** ✓
 - (d) Source referral is more socially accepted
 - (e) A time span is specified for conditional referral
8. Which of the following is recommended principle for conducting PCRS in Hong Kong?
- (a) The infected patient should be involved for working out the most appropriate approach
 - (b) Health professionals taking care of HIV infected patients should conduct PCRS
 - (c) PCRS protocol suiting the setting of individual clinical service shall be developed, taking reference of the recommended principles
 - (d) Conduct of PCRS should comply with local law and professional codes
 - (e) **All of the above** ✓
9. Which of the following is not true regarding the information contained in the "Guidelines on disclosure of medical information to third parties. Professional Code and Conduct of the Hong Kong Medical Council"?
- (a) Patient's consent should be obtained before disclosure of medical information
 - (b) **Information of a patient can be automatically disclosed to his/her spouse without consent of the patient** ✓
 - (c) Disclosure in the public interest may be done without consent of the patient
 - (d) Justification is necessary for disclosure without patient's consent
 - (e) Advice from experienced colleague or other professional help is wise when in doubt about disclosure
10. Which of the following is not true regarding the information contained in the "Guidelines on handling of serious contagious/infectious diseases. Professional Code and Conduct of the Hong Kong Medical Council"?
- (a) A patient with serious contagious/infectious disease should not be denied of care
 - (b) A doctor may, given the circumstances of the case, consider it a duty to inform spouse/partner of the infected even if the latter disagrees to disclose
 - (c) The principle of confidentiality has to be observed
 - (d) Health care workers who might be at risk of infection should be informed of the risk
 - (e) **It is always an easy matter to deal with even if a patient does not consent to disclosure of information when indicated** ✓