

Role of Family Doctor in DHC

Dr David Chao
President

The Hong Kong College of Family Physicians
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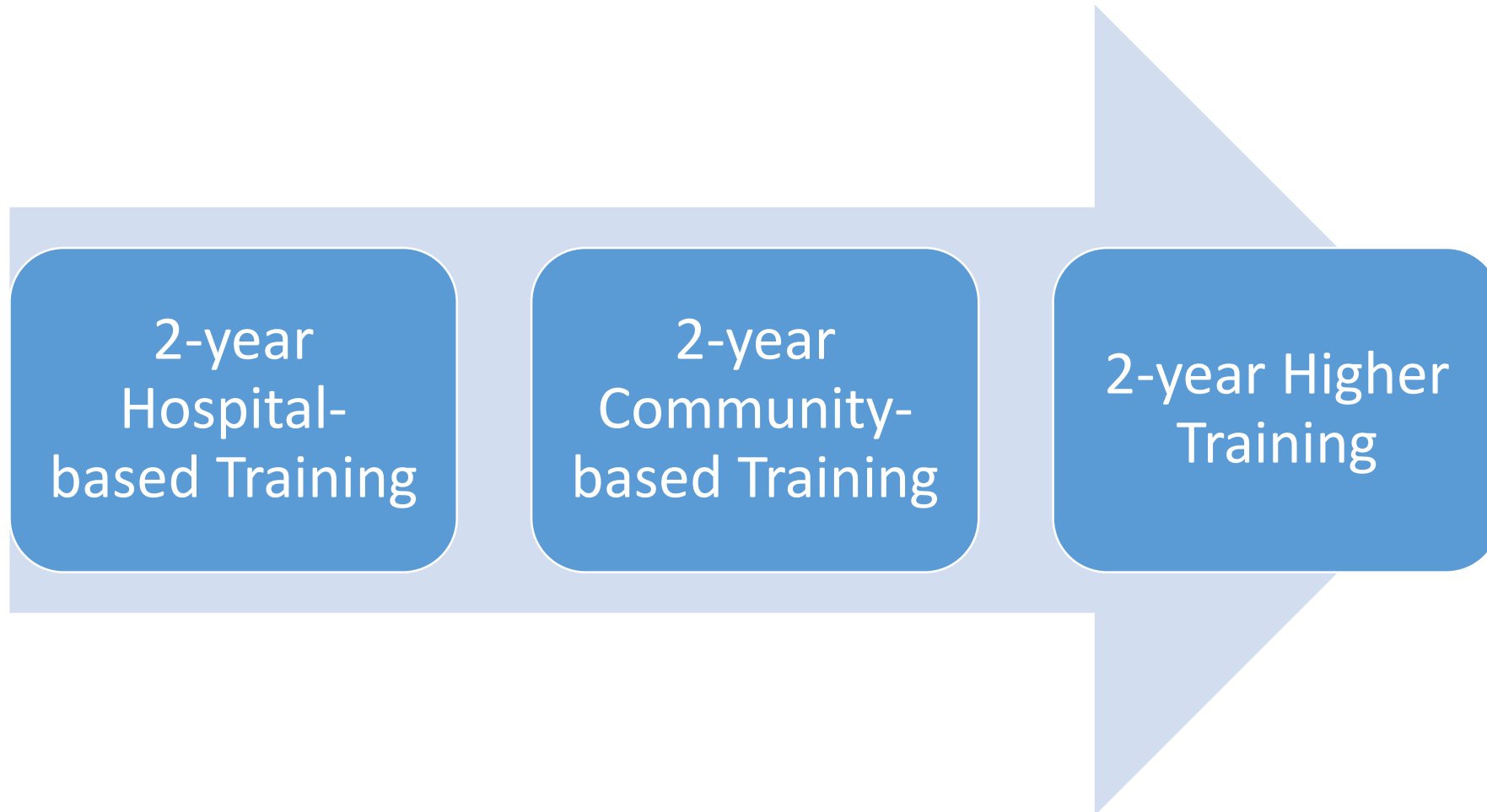
- Family Medicine training in Hong Kong
- What does a Family Doctor do?
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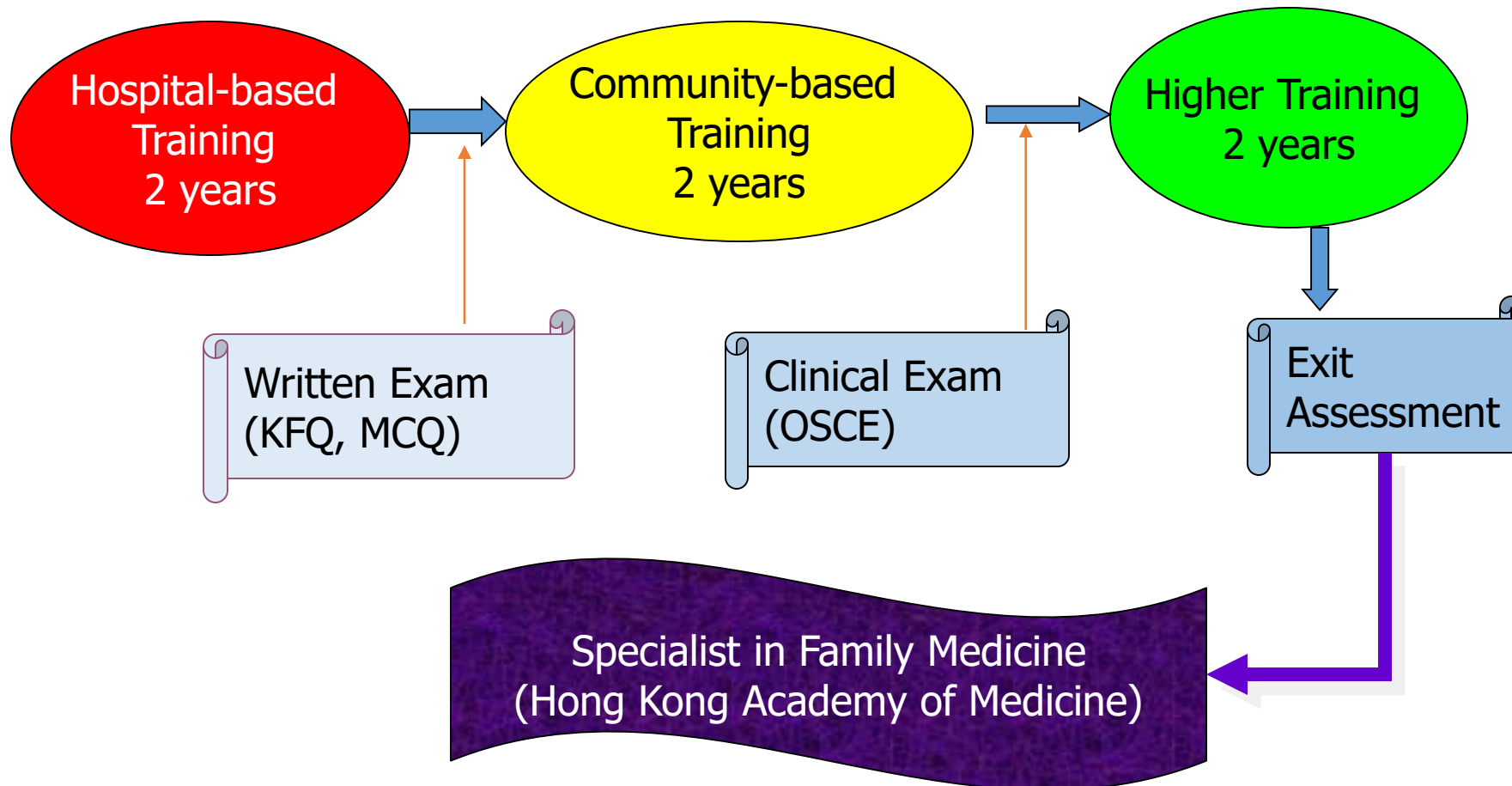
HKCFP Family Medicine Vocational Training Programme

- Family Medicine - unified duration of 6 years vocational training since 1995 under Hong Kong Academy of Medicine



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Characteristics of Family Medicine (General Practice)

- Person centredness
- Continuity of care
- Comprehensiveness
- Whole person care
- Diagnostic and therapeutic skill
- Coordination and clinical teamwork
- Professional, clinical and ethical standards
- Leadership and advocacy

The Role of Family Doctor/ General Practitioner

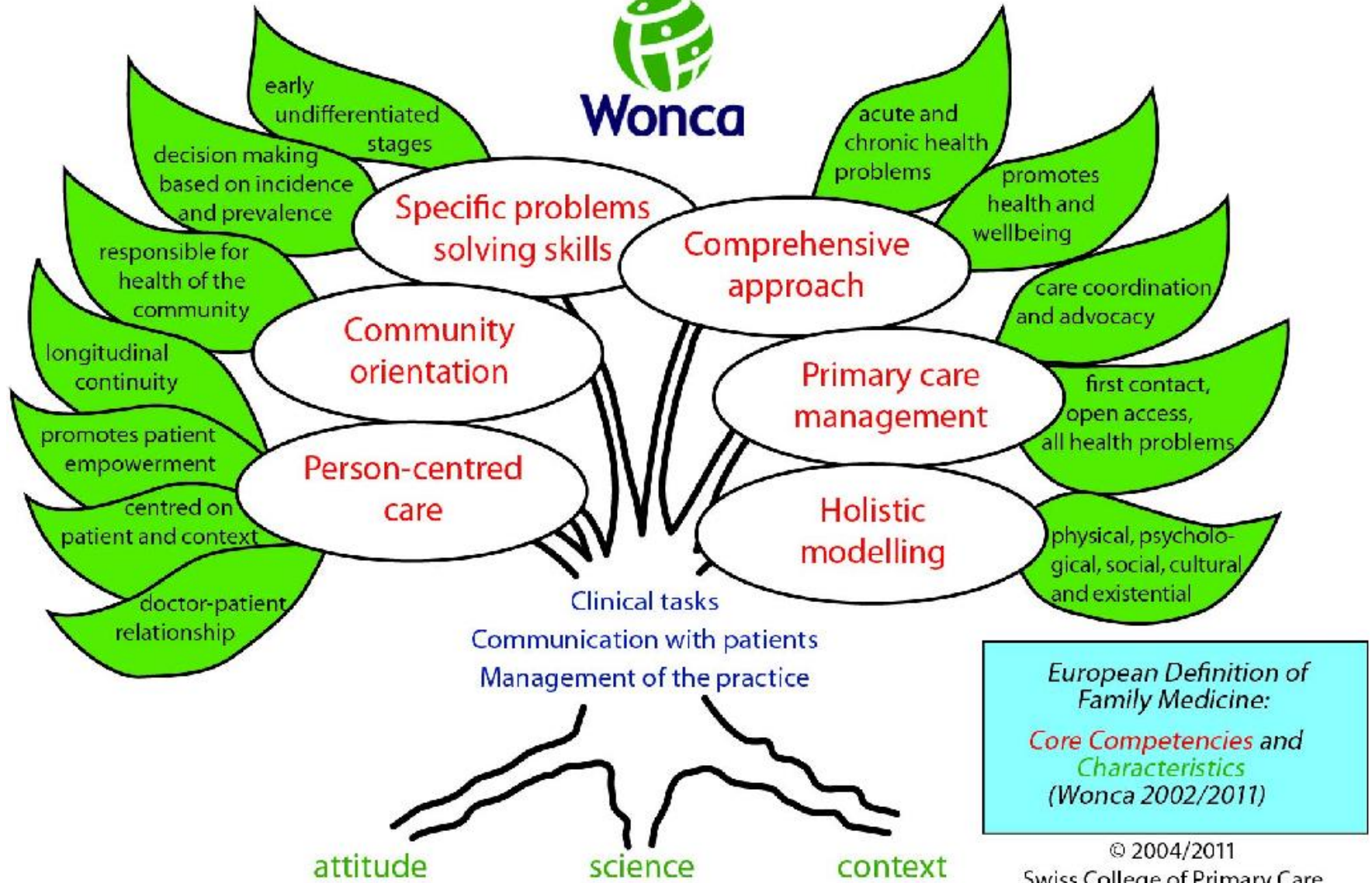
Family Doctor plays a central role in the delivery of health care in community

- 1st point of contact in matters of personal health
- Coordinates the care of patients
- Cares for patients in a whole of person approach & in the context of their work, family and community
- Cares for patients of all ages, both sexes, children & adults across all disease categories
- Cares for patients over a period of their lifetime
- Provides advice & education on health care
- Certification of documents or provision of medical reports

World Organisation of Family Doctors (WONCA)

The Role of the Family Physician/General Practitioner in Health Care Systems is linked to features of Family Medicine/General Practice which includes:

- Comprehensive care
- Orientation to the patient
- Family focus
- Doctor/patient relationship
- Co-ordination with other services
- Advocacy
- Accessibility and resource management



*European Definition of Family Medicine:
Core Competencies and Characteristics
(Wonca 2002/2011)*

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Swiss College of Primary Care
Medicine / U. Grueninger
www.kollegium.ch

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Key Roles of Family Doctor in a Multidisciplinary Team

1. Networking

→ Establishing & maintaining contacts with community partners, health insurers, hospitals, social services

2. Facilitating

→ Liaising with social and care services

→ Adjusting medication therapy management, quality improvement

3. Team building

→ Professionals, competencies, tasks and responsibilities, improve connections, support & encouragement of team members

4. Integrating care

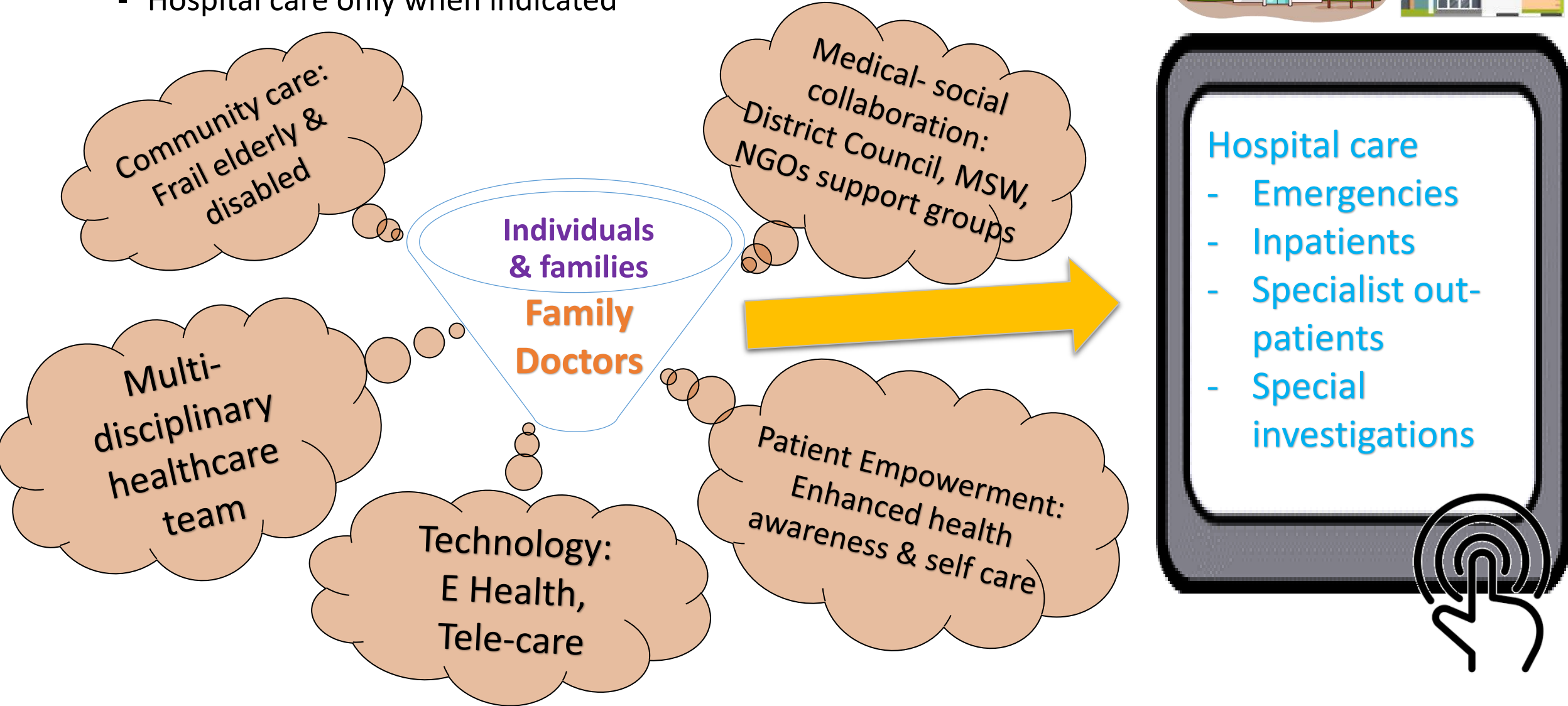
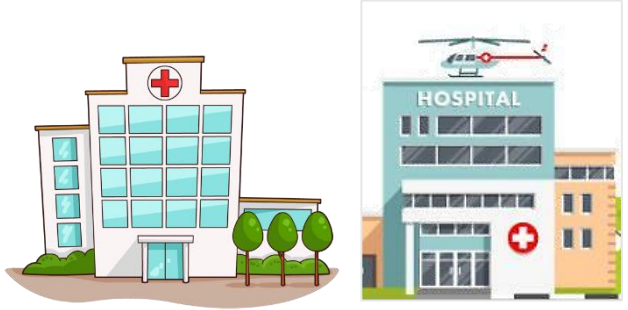
→ Coordination of care, keeping an overview of care, connecting domains (hospitals, primary care, nursing homes, social services, community services, prevention, ..etc)

5. Leadership

→ Passion for care for people, clear vision, endurance, drive, taking responsibility

Role of Family Doctor in District Health Centre (DHC)

- Help people stay healthy in the community
- Hospital care only when indicated



Community care:
Frail elderly &
disabled

Medical- social
collaboration:
District Council, MSW,
NGOs support groups

Multi-
disciplinary
healthcare
team

Technology:
E Health,
Tele-care

Patient Empowerment:
Enhanced health
awareness & self care

Hospital care

- Emergencies
- Inpatients
- Specialist out-patients
- Special investigations



One Family Doctor for Each Citizen



- As family doctor is familiar with patients' health conditions, he is the best person to provide continuity of care for the patients, avoiding the risks such as those related to repeated investigations, and potential drug-drug interactions due to polypharmacy.
- A family doctor can also detect subtle changes in health status in early stage of an illness and hence tailor the appropriate treatment plan accordingly.
- A patient communicates better with a family doctor whom he/she knows well. The rapport and mutual trust built over the years helps to enhance the patient's involvement in the management plan which would be beneficial to the treatment outcome.
- With the aging population and the increase in chronic diseases in the community, having a regular family doctor who can advise on preventive activities of an individual throughout different stages in life would reduce the likelihood of suffering from preventable illnesses.
- HKCFP strongly advocates that every Hong Kong citizen should have one regular family doctor.

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Thank you!

