

ENQUIRE PROJECT DETAILS BY GENERAL PUBLIC

Project Details

Funding Scheme :	General Research Fund
Project Number :	14607819
Project Title(English) :	Individual-level Income Poverty and Deprivation as Predictors of Health. A Longitudinal Cohort Study in Hong Kong
Project Title(Chinese) :	個人層面的入息貧窮與匱乏作為健康的預測因子。一項香港的縱向研究
Principal Investigator(English) :	Prof Chung, Roger Yat-nork
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Institution :	The Chinese University of Hong Kong
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Panel :	Humanities, Social Sciences
Subject Area :	Social and Behavioural Sciences
Exercise Year :	2019 / 20
Fund Approved :	1,156,984
Project Status :	On-going
Completion Date :	31-12-2021
Abstract as per original application (English/Chinese):	Hong Kong, as one of the most-developed economies in the world, is facing one of the greatest income inequality. The link between poverty and poor health has been well-established in previous studies. However, most of these studies were cross-sectional, which may overestimate the association due to failure to control for potential confounders and possibility of reverse causality. Research is especially lacking on the long-term, longitudinal association of deprivation, in addition to income poverty, with general health. Accumulating evidence has shown that deprivation is a better measure of poverty, and that changes in deprivation level may be more strongly associated with health in long-term than changes in income level. However, no studies have ever investigated this longitudinal relationship in the context of Hong Kong. This proposed study will be a continuation of the previously funded project "Trends and Implications of Poverty and Social Disadvantages in Hong Kong: A Multi-disciplinary and Longitudinal Study," from which we aim to extend the data collection process and conduct an additional survey as the third time point of the study. In addition to cross-sectional associations between poverty and health, the analysis will focus on the longitudinal association between changes in poverty and health. We

will apply the multidimensional concept of poverty to our study, and use deprivation, in addition to income poverty, to measure poverty. We would examine if changes in deprivation will be a stronger predictor of health outcomes than changes in income poverty. This study will be the first prospective study in Hong Kong to be able to assess the temporal association between deprivation and health over a long period of time, which may help generate evidence for designing policies and interventions to improve health of socially-deprived groups and tackle health inequality in Hong Kong.

香港作為世界上最發達的經濟體之一，正面對著最嚴峻的收入不平等問題。過往已有充分的研究確認貧窮與健康狀況欠佳的聯繫。不過，這些研究大部分都屬橫斷面研究，或會因沒有調整干擾因素和反向因果關係，而高估了關係的強度。現時除了欠缺入息貧窮和健康關係的長期及縱向性研究，還缺乏針對匱乏和健康關係的長期及縱向性研究。有越來越多的證據顯示，匱乏更能反映貧窮情況，而相比起收入水平的變化，匱乏程度的變化與長期的健康狀況有更強的關係。可是，暫時還未有以香港作背景的研究去探討這個縱向性關係。這項擬議的研究是之前獲資助名為《香港貧窮與社會弱勢的趨勢-跨學科及縱向研究》的延伸，我們將會延長數據收集過程，額外收集多一次問卷調查，作為研究的第三個時間點。今次的研究除了探討貧窮與健康的橫向聯繫外，還會著重分析貧窮情況的變化與健康狀況的縱向聯繫。我們的研究將應用多維度的貧窮概念，以入息貧窮和匱乏衡量貧窮情況。我們亦會測試匱乏程度的變化是否一個比入息貧窮的變化更強對應健康狀況的預測因子。這將會是香港第一個評估匱乏與健康狀況之間的時間性關聯的前瞻性縱向研究，研究結果可協助設計改善社會貧困群體健康狀況的政策和干預措施，並有助解決香港的健康不平等問題。

Research Outcome

Layman's Summary of Completion Report:

Not yet submitted

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