# A Health and Wellbeing Barometer for Hong Kong: Translational Impact Attained over a Decade and Counting

#### Research Team:

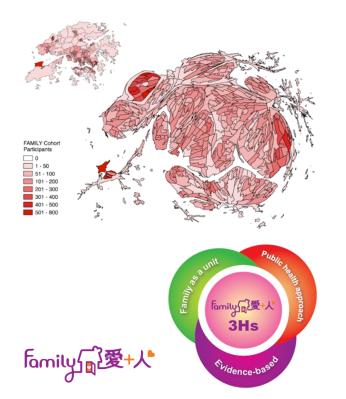
Dr Michael Ni
Dr Candi Leung
Ms Phyllis Lun
Ms Cynthia Yau
Dr Corine Wong
Dr Ke Ning
Mr Solomon Wong
Mr Francis Flores
Mr Wong Hoi Wa
Ms Tiffany Ma







# FAMILY Cohort: A Unique Health and Wellbeing Barometer for HK since 2009





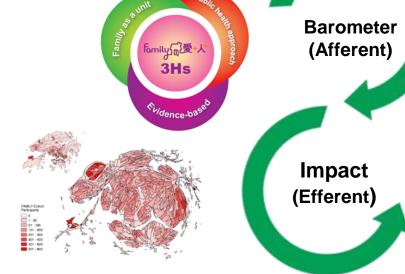
- The first HKU-led research programme in HK to comprehensively assess physical, mental, and social wellbeing
- Population-based: 1% of the HK households (n=20,000; 46,000 participants) covering 99.8% of all neighbourhoods in HK

# Why does HK need a Health and Wellbeing Barometer?



- Policymakers, NGOs, philanthropic foundations, health and social services and professionals need to know the magnitude of needs and the high-risk groups
- Population-representative cohorts with baseline data (allowing comparisons of population health and wellbeing before and after) are critical for precision policy planning and evaluation

# From Science to Impact









Food and Health Bureau







## **UNDERPINNING RESEARCH – CASE STUDY (1)**

# Mental Health during Major Population Shocks

#### THE LANCET

Depression and post-traumatic stress during major social unrest in Hong Kong: a 10-year prospective cohort study

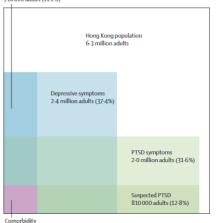
Michael Y Ni, Xiaoxin I Yao, Kathy S M Leung, Cynthia Yau, Candi M C Leung, Phyllis Lun, Francis P Flores, Wing Chung Chang, Benjamin J Cowling, Gabriel M Leuna

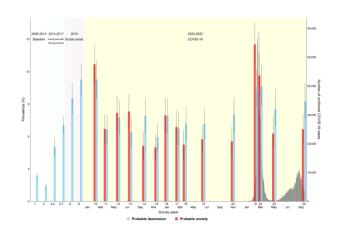
#### Summary

Background Hong Kong has been embroiled in increasingly violent social unrest since June, 2019. We examined the associated population mental health burden, risk factors, and health-care needs.

#### Probable depression 710 000 adults (11-2%)

160 000 adults (2-5%)





- The largest and longest prospective cohort study worldwide on collective actions and mental health
- Real-time monitoring of population mental health and psychobehavioural responses throughout the COVID-19 pandemic

# **Evidence for Mental Health Services Planning**

16. <u>Chairman, AC</u> advised that <u>HKU</u>'s research, together with the mental health prevalence surveys being conducted by the Administration, would provide a basis for long-term manpower and service planning. As an



#### 立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)1389/19-20 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref : CB2/PL/HS

Panel on Health Services

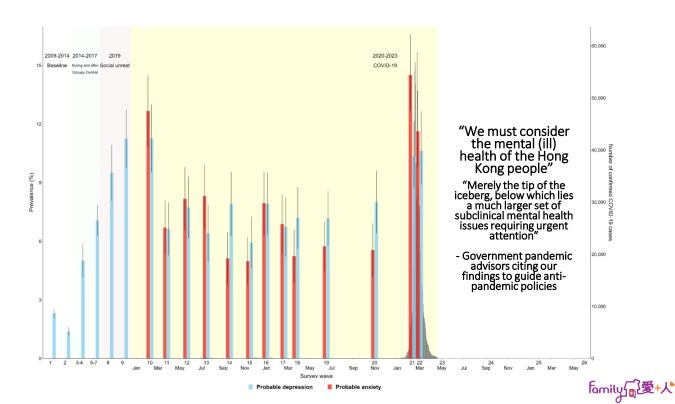
Minutes of meeting held on Friday, 10 January 2020, at 10:45 am in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex



Chairman of the Advisory
Committee for Mental Health
cited our work in the
Legislative Council as the
"basis for the Government's
long-term manpower and
service planning"

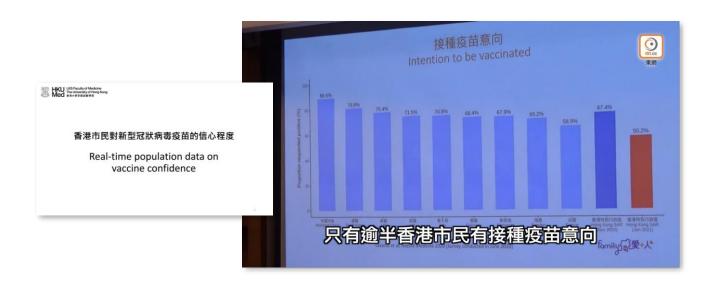
Wong YL. 黃仁龍主席Live同你講. 2020.

### CASE STUDY (2) – Guiding pandemic response



### CASE STUDY (III)

# **Nowcasting COVID-19 Vaccine Confidence**



Our data also provided sentinel alert for declining COVID-19 vaccine confidence in January 2021 (prior to vaccine rollout) and that vaccine confidence in Hong Kong was lower than other jurisdictions

## CASE STUDY (IV)

# How Did Hong Kong Become the Longest Living Population in the World?

# "There could not be a more important puzzle to solve for the rest of the world"



# **NAM Perspectives**

Chung RY and Marmot M. People in Hong Kong have the longest life expectancy in the world: Some possible explanations. NAM Perspectives 2020

#### UNDERPINNING RESEARCH

# Hong Kong's Journey to Become the World's Longest Living Population

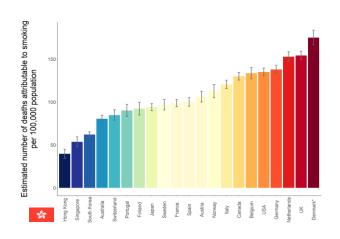
# THE LANCET Public Health

Understanding longevity in Hong Kong: a comparative study with long-living, high-income countries

Michael Y Ni\*, Vladimir Canudas-Romo\*, Jian Shi, Francis P Flores, Mathew S C Chow, Xiaoxin I Yao, Sai Yin Ho, Tai Hing Lam, C Mary Schooling. Alan D Lopez, Majid Ezzati, Gabriel M Leung

#### Summar

Background Since 2013, Hong Kong has sustained the world's highest life expectancy at birth—a key indicator of population health. The reasons behind this achievement remain poorly understood but are of great relevance to both rapidly developing and high-income regions. Here, we aim to compare factors behind Hong Kong's survival advantage over long-living, high-income countries.



- Showed that Hong Kong's longevity was underpinned by its successful tobacco control
- Contributed to 50.5% and 34.8% of Hong Kong's survival advantage over males and females in high-income countries, respectively

## CASE STUDY (V

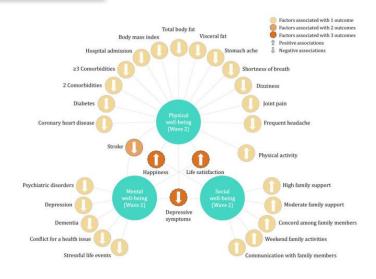
# Identified Potential 'Best Buys' to Comprehensively Improve Population Health

Mental Health

Determinants of physical, mental and social well-being: a longitudinal environment-wide association study

Michael Y Ni, 1,2,3<sup>†</sup> Xiaoxin I Yao, 1<sup>†</sup> Felix Cheung, 1 Joseph T Wu, 1 C Mary Schooling (6), 1,4 Herbert Pang (6) 1\* and Gabriel M Leung 1 International Journal of **Epidemiology** 

- A fundamental disconnect in HK's population wellbeing: attained the world's highest life expectancy yet also ranked among the worst globally for mental wellbeing
- First to identify determinants that could simultaneously improve physical, mental and social wellbeing

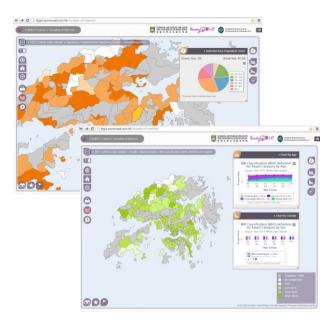


# **Knowledge Exchange with Stakeholders**

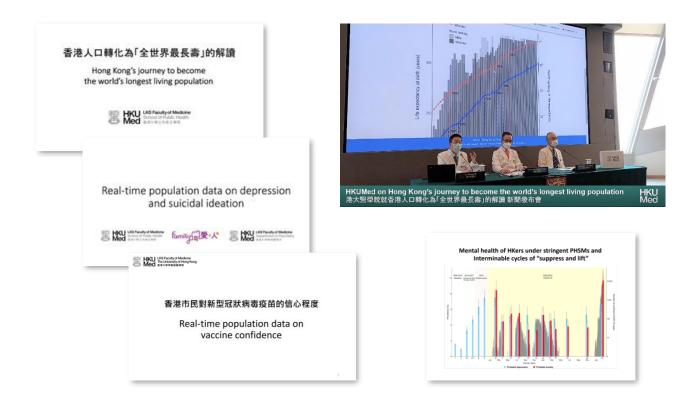
### **Reports for 18 Districts**



## **Open-access Geographic Information System (GIS)**



# **Public Engagement and Press Conferences**



health problems

# **Selected Media Coverage**



SMOKING BAN 'KEY' TO LONGEVITY IN THE CITY

# 高血壓病情八成失控

(有高血壓,但當中八成人都未能控制病情,另

2009年3月至去年3月期|新冠疫苗|港大研究指|

研究・其中一項為了解港人患高血壓情 況。研究人員09年3月至11年3月·成功 為其量度2次血壓,再取得平均數以確 定被訪者的血壓情況

#### 港大調查 當中46%獲確診

調查顯示,4.846被訪者有高血壓

關:相反,部分沒服藥患者,因建立

段人數以一半的比率遞減,每年約有四

3%·鄰舍凝聚力指數每升1分·血壓受

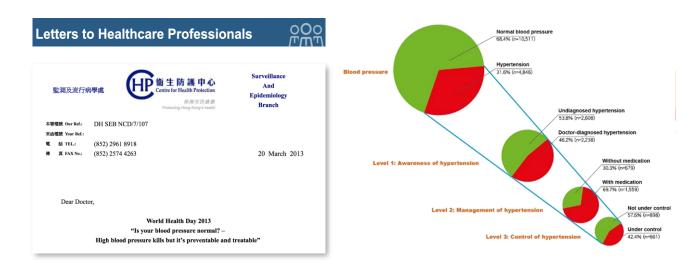
# 低吸煙率為港人長壽關鍵



年,其中有50.5%。



# **Detecting the Rule of Halves in the HK Population**



- Detected that a third of the HK population had hypertension, of which the majority were undiagnosed
- The findings was cited by Department of Health and Centre for Health Protection in their 'Letters to Doctors'

# Policymaking for a New Mode of Primary Care

LC Paper No. CB(2)1787/17-18(01)

For discussion
on 16 July 2018

Legislative Council Panel on Health Services
District Health Centre in Kwai Tsing District



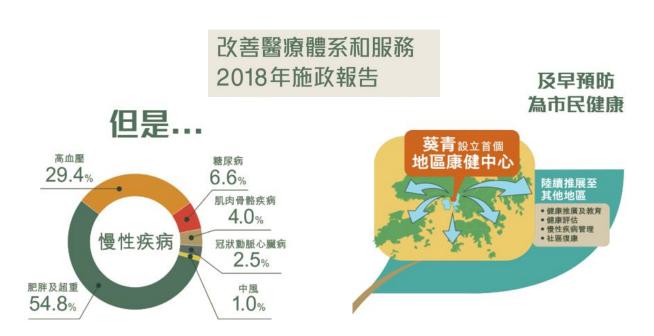
- 7. In determining the scope of services to be provided by the DHC, the Steering Committee examined the findings of four large-scale surveys/data sources to better understand the health profile of the Kwai Tsing population, namely -
  - (a) Chronic Disease Virtual Registry of HA<sup>2</sup>;
  - (b) Population Health Survey ("PHS") conducted by DH<sup>3</sup>;
  - Thematic Household Survey conducted by the Census and Statistics Department ("THS")<sup>4</sup>; and
  - (d) The collaborative project entitled "FAMILY: A Jockey Club Initiative for a Harmonious Society" ("FAMILY Project") conducted by the School of Public Health of The University of Hong Kong and funded by the Hong Kong Jockey Club<sup>5</sup>.

Since item (d) above contains district-based health data most relevant to the DHC, we have consulted the Steering Committee and have agreed to adopt the data of the FAMILY Project as the baseline.



- Invited by the then Secretary of Food and Health to identify health needs in each of the 18 districts and to help inform primary care reform
- Legislative Council Briefing Paper: cited as the "most relevant" data source
- Only non-governmental info source for decision-making

# First District Health Centre (DHC) in Hong Kong



The 2018 Policy Address has directly drawn on findings from the FAMILY Cohort for formulating the first District Health Centre (DHC) in Hong Kong

## **Extended to All 18 Districts in HK**



DHCs / DHC Expresses have now been launched in all 18 districts

Passage of the Smoking (Public Health)

(Amendment) Bill 2021

# THE LANCET Public Health

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2961 8823

由2022年4月30日起

prisonment for 6 months and a fine of \$50.00

另類吸煙產品,包括電子煙,加熱煙 3草本煙。違例最高刑罰為監禁6個月

From 33 April 2022, no person may import, promote, manufacture, sell, or possess for commercial purposes alternative smoking products, including electronic smoking

 Our findings helped influence the final session of the Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Bill committee proceedings

# Impact Summary of the FAMILY Cohort

Research

Tracking physical, mental, and social wellbeing of the HK population since 2009



Engagement

Engaging stakeholders and the public through publications, press conferences, among others

#### 香港人口轉化為「全世界最長壽」的解讀

Hong Kong's journey to become the world's longest living population



**Impact** 

- I. Policymaking
- II. Legislation
- III. Resource mobilisation





