

The promotion of tobacco-free hospital is not just a plan but a commitment : A promise of tobacco-free, quality, qualia and innovation

Taiwan launched the active preparation procedure to apply the network member at the end of 2010. Bureau of Health Promotion, Department of Health, Taiwan has been authorized as the corporate member that coordinates Global Network for Tobacco Free Healthcare Services in Taiwan since February 2011, including 11 hospitals as the associate member. Taiwan is the first national network group member in Asia.

The Tobacco-free Hospitals Conference titled “Tobacco-free, Quality, Qualia and Innovation”, just held in Taipei city, Taiwan from August 16-17, 2011. It is the first time of ENSH tobacco control conference out of European countries, around 400 people representing 124 hospitals participated, the event was a great success. The conference took place in NTUH International Convention Center which aimed to appeal more hospitals to join the Tobacco free hospital program.

During the Conference, many tobacco free implementing-related dialogues have taken place and have produced fruitful and remarkable outcomes.

To start with the opening remarks on August 16, the biggest support from Dr. Wen-Ta Chiu, Minister, Department of Health, Taiwan. After the opening remarks, a ceremony for awarding 53 hospitals in the national level was held, 32 for Gold, 13 for Silver, 3 for Bronze and the rest of 5 hospitals without these awards got the awards for potentiality to encourage them.

In the activities, 3 keynote lectures, a forum and 3 lectures were organized :

- Christina Dietscher, Senior Researcher, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute, Health Promotion Research, presented the way for Health Promoting Hospitals Support the Implementation of Smoke-free Hospitals.
- Shu-Ti Chiou, Director General, Bureau of Health Promotion, Department of Health, Taiwan, presented Development of a National Network for Tobacco-free Health Care Services in Taiwan. Her present expects through the implementation of the ENSH standards more support on a comprehensive and systematically approach with a focus on Second Generation tobacco cessation.
- Yaw-Tang Shih, President, Taiwan College of Healthcare Executives, talked about the linkage between philosophy of Tobacco-free hospital and Quality of Healthcare.

- Besides, we also organized a Forum with 5 experts (included Yaw-Tang Shih, President, Taiwan College of Healthcare Executives; Chin-chuan Yeh, Professor, Department of Public Health, Tzu Chi University; Shu-Ti Chiou, Director General, Bureau of Health Promotion, Department of Health, Taiwan; Christina Dietscher, Senior Researcher, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute, Health Promotion Research; Jong-Tsong Chiang, Professor, Department of Business Administration, National Taiwan University) was organized to discuss the values of Tobacco-free hospitals implementing.
- Christa Rustler from Germany, Miriam Gunning and Ann O'Riordan from Ireland, Cristina Martínez from Spain and other professor from Taiwan (Chi-Pang Wen) talked about the ENSH GOLD Forum-related issues and Engaging Health Professionals in the Movement.
- Cristina Martínez share about the Motivational Tools and Implementation Strategies and Christa Rustler talked about the European experience of Achieving Tobacco-free in Healthcare Settings through Organizational Changes.
- Other than the experts presentation, there were 4 oral presentations, addressed tobacco-free implementing in Healthcare Settings-related issues from Taiwan experiences, these 4 hospitals had achieved highest score of Gold Award in national level, other hospitals were invited to join poster presentation during the conference.
- Following the conference, the European guest speakers and hospital representatives had the opportunity for site visits to four Taiwanese gold-level hospitals. During the site visits, visitors, management and staff engaged in lively discussion and exchange on experiences with implementing smoke-free hospitals.

The conference was really interesting and highlighted a complete implementation on tobacco ban in healthcare settings (including the campus since 2009) even in the small local mental hospital. The presentation files of the Conference are also available for downloading on the Taiwan College of Healthcare Executives website now:

<http://www.tche.org.tw/UI/H/H100023.aspx?prjid=8CDBE71B650C8FC&bulid=8CE316336B71E74>

<http://www.tche.org.tw/UI/H/H100023.aspx?prjid=8CDBE71B650C8FC&bulid=8CE3162B3281C48>

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