

# Current status of cardiac rehabilitation and secondary prevention for coronary heart disease patients in mainland China: results from a mixed-methods study

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## **Current CVD status in China**



Economy growth rates averaging 10% over 30 years
 Industrialization, urbanization and adverse lifestyle changes
 Rapid increase of cardiovascular disease (CVD)

## **Current CVD status in China**

# 20 million coronary heart disease 270 million hypertension Total CVD population > 300 million





## **Study design**

#### A mixed-methods study

#### Face-to-face patient interview (n=200)

Confirmed coronary heart disease, received percutaneous intervention therapy (PCI) at least six month prior current admission

#### Medical staff survey (n=105)

Cardiologists, nurses and other Clinical staff

#### Focus group discussion (6-8 pts \* 7 group)

Barriers and facilitators for CR/SP services Acceptability to smartphone-based CR/SP

#### **Results and findings (patients)** Perceptions of CR/SP



\* "My cardiologist never mentioned CR to me, he just told me to do regular follow-up, taking all the medication. Even if he told me, there is no such service in the hospital." - Pt. 5

"My son puts me in a rehabilitation program at a private hospital, we had to pay from our own pocket, and he spent a lot money for the service." - Pt. 7

#### **Results and findings (patients)** Physical activity



- "We heard people saying that after PCI, you need avoid vigorous exercise for at least three months, otherwise the newly implanted stent may dislocate and cause problems." - FGD 2
- "I am too scared to walk or run, my heart is already very weak, I need to rest as much as possible to let my heart recovery." - Pt. 15
- \* "Nobody told me when and how to do exercise, so I just walk as much as I can every day. I think it will be beneficial to my health." - Pt. 18

## **Results and findings (patients)** Healthy eating



- "All I was told by doctor and nurse was to eat light, avoid fat meat and eat more vegetables, but no detailed information was given." - Pt. 25
- "I stopped eating eggs after my heart attack, nowadays, I am very careful with my food, I grow my own vegetable and eat only imported beef from the U.S." Pt. 27

#### **Results and findings (patients)** Smoking cessation



Current Smoker Ex-smoker Non-smoker

YES NO

I still can't believe that smoking caused my heart problem, Chairman Mao smoked throughout his life without suffering from coronary heart disease. - Pt. 18

I know smoking is bad for health, but no doctor taught me how to quit, all they say is you need to be tough to yourself and determined. Anyway, I have tried very hard in last six months, but its not that easy. - Pt. 22

#### Results and findings (patients) Medication adherence



"I stopped taking medication three month after the operation, because I felt good and never experience any chest pain after the stent was implanted. I strongly believe that PCI therapy has cured my heart disease." - Pt. 31

"Statin are very bad to liver, so I am scared to take it. Now I am taking traditional medicine instead. I think its working very well!" - Pt. 16

"Every two week I need travel three hours to this hospital to get the five medications, it's inconvenient. But I have no other options, so I will keep coming." - Pt. 4

### **Results and findings (patients)** CR/SP needs at least 6 months post PCI



- "I am totally lost after PCI. How long should I take these medications? Can I run as usual? Can I travel by airplane? To be honest with you, I don't know." Pt. 42
- Its very hard to get advice from highly qualified doctors, to come here, every time I have to queue for at least three hours for the 5 to 10 minutes consultation with a cardiology, and most time they don't have time to answer my questions." Pt. 39

#### **Results and findings (Medical staff)** Perceptions of CR/SP

## **CR/SP** is underdeveloped in China 11% 43% 44% Strongly agree Agree Neutral ■ Disagree Strongly disagree

#### **Obstacles for developing CR/SP**



#### **Results and findings (Medical staff)** Post PCI care and patient self management

Uncontrolled risk factors were common in patients Medication adherence is poor in patients





#### **Results and findings** Feasibility of smartphone and social media-based CR/SP



## **Next step**

Smartphone and social media-based cardiac rehabilitation and secondary prevention program: The SMART-CR/SP Study



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数	48	≤30			



Smartphone and social media-based cardiac rehabilitation and secondary prevention program: The SMART-CR/SP Study





# Thank you !