Project Title: Enhancing Orthopedics Curriculums in Chinese Medicine Education by Bringing Theory to Practice

Leading University: Hong Kong Baptist University

Participating UGC-funded University(ies): The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The University of Hong Kong

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“The great aim of education is not knowledge but action.” – Herbert Spencer.

To improve the quality of teaching and learning is the essential concern of medical education. According to the learning pyramid theory, “learning/practice by doing” is one of the most effective pedagogies. This project provides CM students with opportunities to apply what they learn through serving the elderly and meet the needs of HK community. With her aging population, bone and joint disease is very common among the elderly in Hong Kong. By establishing a professional research and service network of orthopedic traumatology in Hong Kong, a learning and service platform can be provided for the community. By educating and improving the health condition of community members, the incidence of falls and related injuries may be reduced, and the resulting burdens to family and society may also be reduced.

This service learning network on orthopedic health care also provides CM students with the opportunity to apply their knowledge for practice in an authentic context, which may enhance their professional skills and sense of social responsibility as CM practitioners.

The flipped learning experience of this project allows students to select appropriate online resources to prepare for the specific problem/topic to address in their service learning activities. Students would also collect various types of health data (such as
health measures, medical histories, and video-taped interviews) from the elderly to set up an online database of teaching and learning materials.