



Dr NG, Siu Man

Dr. Siu-man Ng, RSW, RCMP, PhD is Associate Professor of Department of Social Work and Social Administration, The University of Hong Kong. With a dual professional background in mental health social work and Chinese medicine, his research theme is mental health, mental disorders and culture. His active research areas include (i) the operationalization of the Chinese medicine stagnation syndrome as a psychological construct useful to all mental health practitioners; (ii) family expressed emotion of persons with schizophrenia and its impacts on the course of illness; and (iii) illness behaviors and illness coping patterns in functional disorders, in particular self-oriented symptoms catastrophizing versus others-oriented social hypervigilance coping. Siu-man has been running a live clinical teaching clinic for over ten years. His teaching emphasizes on going beyond diagnosing, and focuses on conceptualizing individualized case formulation. Attention is not only to illness, but also to illness behaviors. Moreover, attention is not only to precipitating or predisposing factors, but also to multidimensional maintaining factors. Putting all these together systematically may inform deriving strategic-integrative intervention. In a significant portion of clients, 'illness' is not illness, but the illness behavior is, and thus illness behavior should be the focus of intervention instead.