Long-Term Care for Older Persons in China

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I. Background

- China has more than 202 million people aged 60 and over by the end of 2013, accounting for 14.9% of the total population.

- It is estimated that 18.6% of the elderly population with ADL problems, the number of older persons need long term care in China grows about 1.5 million each year and reached 37.5 million by 2013.

- Fertility decline, changing living arrangements and huge migration.

- Increasing needs and shortage of services.
II. Long term care policies

- Government defines priorities and tasks of LTC for older persons.

- Changing role of the government.

- Social support system for the older persons.

Key policies:


- Law on Protecting the Rights of Older Persons, 2012
III. Practice of LTC Services

- The Standardized Assessment Mechanism for LTC Needs.

- The provision mechanism of LTC Service.

  Residential, community and nursing home care.

- The LTC Insurance System
### Table1 LTC Insurance System in the city of Qingdao

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Items</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implementation region</td>
<td>Urban area in Qingdao City</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participants</td>
<td>The workers and retirees from the urban medical insurance system, the old age residents, the severe disabled people, and un-employees with urban hukou.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insured principle</td>
<td>The participants who are suffering from moderate or server level of impairment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial resources</td>
<td>One part of the financing is transferred from the urban medical insurance system, including the medical insurance for retirees and urban residents Another part comes from the Fiscal system, which transferred by the Public Welfare Fund with annual 20 million yuan(RMB).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service content</td>
<td>Home-based LTC, LTC in institutions, LTC in hospitals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insured content</td>
<td>The insured money is paid to the care providers directly: 60 yuan per bed per day for home-based care and institutional care, 170 yuan per bed per day in second-class hospitals, 200 yuan per bed per day in first-class hospitals.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IV. Caregivers of LTC service

- The roles of relative caregivers in Chinese LTC:
  - government, family, community, institutions.

- Human resources of Chinese LTC service
  - Caregivers in LTC are of shortage, and they are lack of professional knowledge and skills.
  - Caregivers for elders have low income and low reputation.
  - There’s a lack of clear promotion path and career planning for caregivers in LTC.
V. Financial support of LTC

- Direct investment.
- Indirect Investment by purchasing service.
- Policy support about investment and financing.
VI. Potential problems of LTC

- Present operation mode of LTC in China is non-sustainable because of shortage of funds.
- LTC service is expensive and time consuming.
- How to support the LTC by basic medical insurance and the nursing care.
- LTC insurance system will inevitably encounter great difficulties due to the confusion of responsibility, the reality of low income and the consciousness of socialized service.
VII. Policy suggestions

- To establish LTC basic service system to meet the increasing LTC needs.
- To establish evaluation standards of LTC needs and improving efficiency of LTC service.
- To establish LTC insurance system at national level and ensuring sustainable development of LTC.
To establish family support programs of LTC and consolidating the foundation of LTC offered by family members.

To have specific laws and policies of LTC.

Rationally plan and develop the distribution of LTC Service to promote equitable access of services.

Make a scientific planning for long-term caregivers’ capacity building and support.
Thank you