

Is Speaking the Same Language Good Enough?

Lesson Learnt from Working with the Chinese Community

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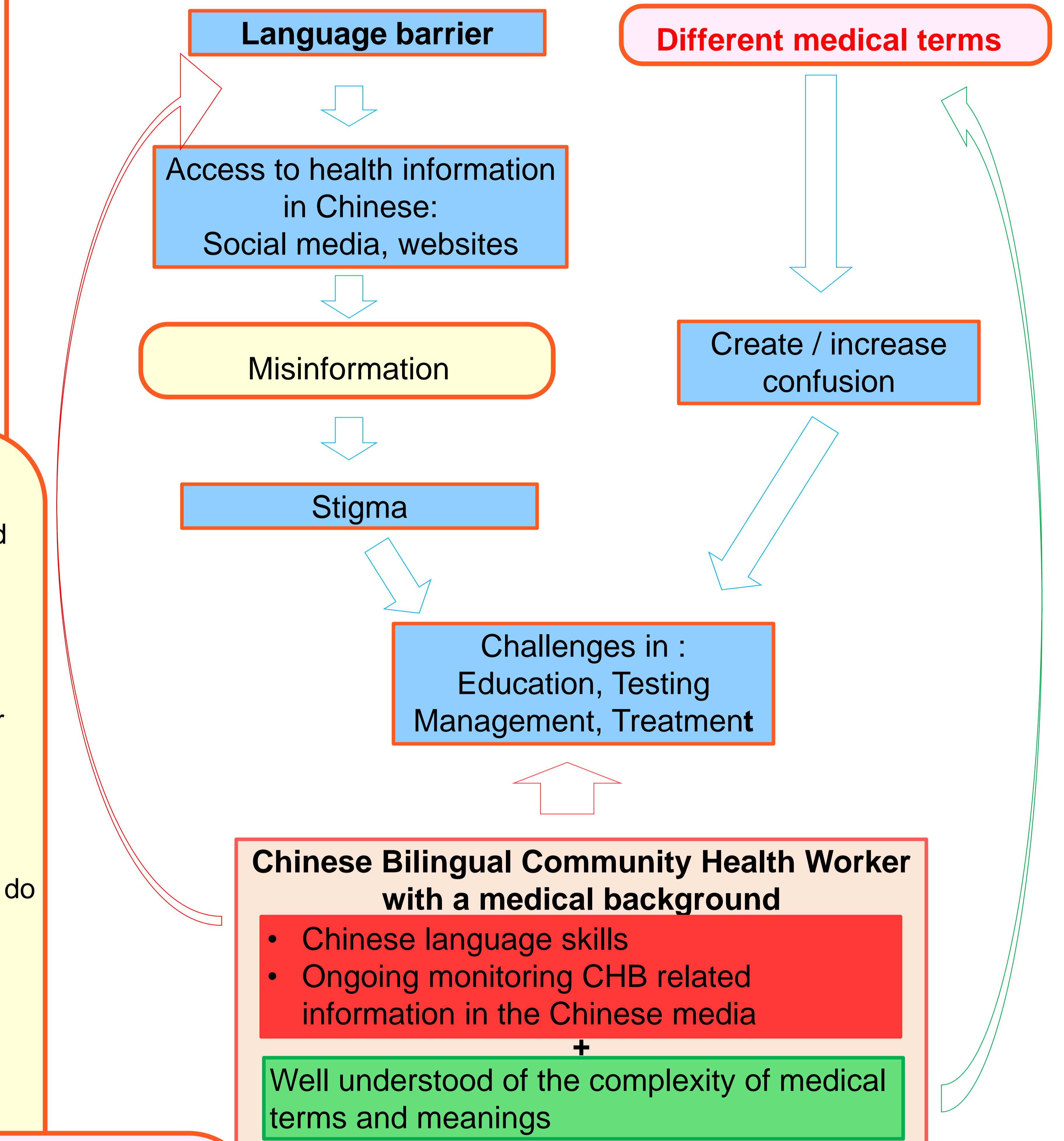
Background

- Chinese population in Australia has grown rapidly in recent years.
- Currently people born in China comprises nearly 18% of all people living with Chronic hepatitis B (CHB) in Australia .*
- CHB continues to increase in the Chinese community.

Common misinformation

- Sharing food / drink or eating contaminated food can transmit hepatitis B
- People with hepatitis always have symptoms
- CHB is genetic disease
- Liver function tests / other blood tests = tests for hepatitis
- A 'healthy carrier' does not need regular monitoring
- Treatment for hepatitis B can be stopped if they do not feel "better"
- People with CHB cannot have a healthy baby
- Liver detox can help people with CHB
- ...

Analysis & Outcome



Different medical terms

Terms used in the Chinese community	Meaning in English	
'2 ½ pairs' test	Surface antigen	1 pair
	Surface antibody	
	e antigen	1 pair
	e antibody	
	Core antibody	½ pair
Big three positives	Surface antigen (+) e antigen (+) Core antibody (+)	
Small three positives	Surface antigen (+) e antibody (+) Core antibody (+)	

Conclusion

What we learnt could be useful for people who work with the Chinese community on CHB prevention, testing, management and treatment in Australia.

Reference:

- *Viral Hepatitis Mapping Project: National Report 2017*

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