

Interprofessional Collaborative Practice (ICP) & Interprofessional Education (IPE)

What is ICP & IPE?

Interprofessional Collaborative Practice (ICP)

Interprofessional collaborative practice occurs when members of multiple disciplines actively participate in patient care to deliver the highest quality of care across settings. ICP is enhances patient and family centered goals and values, provides mechanisms for continuous communication among care givers, optimizes staff participation in clinical decision making within and across disciplines and fosters respect for disciplinary contributions from all professionals.¹

The Canadian Interprofessional Health Collaborative (CIHC) identifies six competencies for effective interprofessional collaboration²:

- Interprofessional communication
- Patient/client/family/community centered care
- Role clarification
- Team functioning
- Collaborative leadership
- Interprofessional conflict resolution

Interprofessional Education (IPE)

Interprofessional education occurs when two or more professions learn about, from, with and about each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes.³

Professional is an all-encompassing term that includes individuals with the knowledge and/or skills to contribute to the physical, mental and social well-being of a community.⁴

Why ICP & IPE?

The health care system is experiencing health and human resource shortages, escalating costs, and more complex health care needs.

¹ Health Canada, 2004.
World Health Organization, 2010.

² www.cihc.ca

³ World Health Organization (WHO) www.who.int/resources

⁴ Ibid

Research continues to demonstrate and provide support for collaborative practice as being a necessary way of practice to improve health outcomes and patient safety issues and to strengthen the health care system.

Evidence shows that interprofessional education and collaborative patient-centered practice can positively impact current health issues such as:

- wait times,
- healthy workplaces,
- health human
- resource planning,
- patient safety,
- rural and remote accessibility,
- primary healthcare,
- chronic disease management,
- population health and wellness⁵

The World Health Organization's report, *Framework for Action on Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice (2010)*⁶ emphasizes that IPE is essential and that through collaborative practice optimal health service delivery will be provided. Strategies on how to implement IPE and collaborative practice are discussed along with international perspectives on interprofessional collaboration.

References

Canadian Interprofessional Health Collaborative. (2010). A National Interprofessional Competency Framework.

http://www.cihc.ca/files/CIHC_IPCompetencies_Feb1210r.pdf

Health Canada. (2004). Interprofessional education for collaborative patient centred practice. Ottawa, ONT, Canada: Office of Nursing Policy.

World Health Organization. (2010). Framework for Action on Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice



⁵ Canadian Interprofessional Health Collaborative (CIHC)

⁶ http://www.who.int/hrh/resources/framework_action/en/