



**Interprofessional
Education
Initiative**

SGEA

Impact of IPE on professional practice and health care outcomes:

- Health care professionals, such as physicians, nurses, physical therapists, pharmacists and social workers, need to work together effectively to improve patient outcomes.
- Unfortunately, most professionals have not been trained to work together as a team.
- Training and educational programs can be developed as a possible way to improve how professionals work together to take care of patients.

Definition

Interprofessional education (IPE) is any type of educational, training, teaching or learning session in which two or more health and social care professions are learning interactively ¹ *(to improve collaboration and the quality of care in professional practice)*.²

¹Reeves S, Zwarenstein M, Goldman J, Barr H, Freeth D, Hammick M, Koppel I. Interprofessional education: effects on professional practice and health care outcomes. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews* 2001, Issue 1. Art. No.: CD002213. DOI: 10.1002/14651858.CD002213.pub2

²Hammick, M., Freeth, D., Koppel, I., Reeves, S., & Barr, H. (2007) A Best Evidence Systematic Review of Interprofessional Education. *Medical Teacher*. (in press).

The Drivers for IPE

- A desire to enhance patient outcomes or service delivery through improvement in interprofessional collaboration
- *Top down drivers:* government policy, need to reduce medical errors, deans of schools in the health sciences
- *Bottom up drivers:* health care providers *as well as* faculty who have identified the need to teach future practitioners how to work together in complex clinical settings

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Potential areas for collaboration

- Educational issues
number/level of students, duration of experience, settings, required or elective, teaching & learning methods, sustainability of efforts
- Model courses/seminars
on such topics as ethics, communication, nutrition
- Case development for standardized patients or for use in simulation settings
to teach approaches to interprofessional care
- Team development approaches
- Faculty development approaches

Potential areas for collaboration

- Assessment

changes in learners' skills, knowledge or perception and attitudes

changes in learners' behaviors

development of survey tools and measures, rating scales

- Quality improvement

changes in health care delivery, patient satisfaction, team

satisfaction, errors

- Other areas of research/outcomes studies

Areas of IPE positive outcomes

- culture
- patient satisfaction
- collaborative team behavior
- reduction of clinical error rates
- practitioner competencies related to the delivery of patient care.

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SGEA Incentives

- Opportunity to exert directed focus and energy on this emerging topic of interest across our region
- Shared resources and shared expertise
- Collaborative grant opportunities
- Potential for IPE track in upcoming SGEA Spring meetings

Measuring Success

- Track the SGEA incentives as they are implemented
- Assess which incentives are most successful
- Monitor numbers of submitted abstracts for presentation at SGEA
- Gauge response of SGEA membership to regional collaborative efforts on this issue

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