

The Canadian Interprofessional Health Collaborative



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Consortium pancanadien pour l'interprofessionnalisme en santé

learning to work together, working to learn together

apprendre à collaborer, collaborer pour apprendre

an innovative initiative aimed at strengthening collaboration across Canada

BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

The Canadian Interprofessional Health Collaborative (CIHC) is a Health Canada funded initiative aimed at building a pan-Canadian collaborative to advance the field and implementation of Interprofessional Education for Collaborative Patient-Centred Practice (IECPCCP). Its three main components are:

1. Building the collaborative
2. Best practice identification and sharing
3. Knowledge translation

METHODS

SAMPLE: All members of the CIHC.

Data Collection (February to April 2008):

- * e-mail survey (n=141) on members' perspectives of and experiences with CIHC
- * 21 follow-up telephone interviews (representing provinces, professions, workplaces and roles in CIHC)

DATA ANALYSIS: Quantitative data were analyzed using descriptive statistics. Qualitative data underwent thematic analysis. A presage, process, product (3P) model (Freeth & Reeves, 2004) was employed to understand how presage factors impacted on processes and products in the development of the CIHC.

FINDINGS

Our previous work (Reeves & Goldman, 2007) indicated that presage factors (e.g. CIHC membership, organisational structure, funding mechanisms) played a role in the CIHC's initial processes (e.g. networking, knowledge exchange activities). This poster reports on key CIHC products after its first two years of operation, and longer-term products.

CIHC Two-year Products

- * Creation of a collaboration through a no-charge membership opportunity and national conference, regional meetings, sub-committee activities and a communication strategy
- * Sharing and compilation of current knowledge and expertise of interprofessional curriculum, research and evaluation across the country, paving foundation for systematic and comprehensive agenda setting
- * Development of networks and partnerships at local, provincial, regional and national levels that form foundation for future knowledge development and exchange activities
- * Initial knowledge translation: printed materials, website, newsletters, networking
- * National organization to support changes at a national level and to interact with other national organizations
- * Single source or hub for evidence, information and resources on interprofessional education (IPE) and interprofessional collaboration (IPC)
- * Support and legitimacy for local IPE and IPC work and activities

"Providing a national perspective and saying this is something that's happening across the country allows us to network with others with similar ideas or complementary ideas."

"It [membership of CIHC] gives a credibility to the work within my health authority and people start to pay attention. It gives IPE a strength and a robustness that wouldn't be there with a random demonstration project."

"I think it would be wonderful if there was a national research agenda, a sense of who was going to tackle which questions, and also that research would be shared widely through CIHC."

CIHC Longer-term Products

- * Prioritizing and optimizing efforts and resources given many types and levels of activities (e.g. patients, practice, policy, research, education)
- * Broadening the leadership and membership of CIHC
- * Developing sustainability plan: business plan and organizational structure

"The difficulty is in operationalizing what patient-centred means at the various levels."

"My sense is that the communication that's gone on has been quite good amongst the people who are already interested in doing interprofessional stuff. It's how do we get beyond that."

www.cihc.ca

References

Freeth D & Reeves S. (2004) Learning to work together: using presage, process and product (3P) to highlight decisions and possibilities. *Journal of Interprofessional Care*; 18:43-56.
Reeves S & Goldman J. (2007) Canadian Interprofessional Health Collaborative: activities, outputs and impacts evaluation. Interim report. www.cihc.ca/about/accountability.html

Authors

BRENDA SAWATZKY-GIRLING, CIHC

JOANNE GOLDMAN, St Michael's Hospital, Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute, University of Toronto

JOHN GILBERT, CIHC

SCOTT REEVES, St Michael's Hospital, Li Ka Shing Knowledge Institute, University of Toronto, CIHC

