



March 24, 2016

Family Physicians and Nurse Practitioners Working Together for Patient-centered Care

Vision:

Family physicians and nurse practitioners are committed to successful collaboration to provide the people of Saskatchewan with high quality health care that is safe, compassionate and efficient.

Values:

The following values are fully shared by both family physicians and nurse practitioners:

- Care that is focused on the needs of patients and their families.
- Collaborative approach for the best patient outcomes.
- Interprofessional care that is continuous and comprehensive.
- Trust and mutual respect for the unique role each profession brings to the team.
- Accountability and the interdependency of both professions.

Goals:

Family physicians and nurse practitioners work collaboratively to achieve:

- **Effective team based care:** enable an approach to patient/family-centered care that also supports the development of the interprofessional team.
- **Role clarity:** optimize understanding and respect of Family Physicians and Nurse Practitioners' role distribution in patient management.
- **Professional communication:** foster clear and timely communication among healthcare professionals including referral and consultation.

Definitions:

Collaboration - “It involves the continuous interaction of two or more professionals or disciplines, organized into a common effort to solve or explore common issues, with the best possible participation of the patient” (*Interdisciplinary Education for Collaborative Patient-Centred Practice*, University of Toronto et al., Health Canada, 2004).

Collaborative practice – “an inter-professional process of communication and decision- making that enables the separate and shared knowledge and skills of care providers to synergistically influence the client/patient care provided” [*Implementation Strategies: Collaboration in Primary Care – Family Doctors and Nurse Practitioners Delivery Shared Care* (Toronto: The Ontario College of Family Physicians, D. Way et al., 2000, p 2)].

Interdependency - “Refers to the fact that professionals are interdependent, rather than autonomous, because of a common desire to fulfill patients/clients’ needs. When teamwork is successful, synergy occurs and the output of the whole is much larger than the sum of the individuals involved” (*Enhancing Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Primary Health Care*, 2005, p 3).

Autonomous - licensed autonomously but practice interdependently.

Resources/References:

Patients Medical Home, 2011

http://www.cfpc.ca/uploadedFiles/Resources/Resource_Items/PMH_A_Vision_for_Canada.pdf

Enhancing Interdisciplinary Collaboration in Primary Health Care, 2005

<http://www.eicp.ca/en/resources/pdfs/enhancing-interdisciplinary-collaboration-in-primary-health-care-in-canada.pdf>

Implementation Strategies: Collaboration in Primary Care – Family Doctors and Nurse Practitioners Delivery Shared Care. Toronto: The Ontario College of Family Physicians, D. Way et al., 2000

<http://www.eicp.ca/en/toolkit/management-leadership/ocfp-paper-handout.pdf>