

An interprofessional education/collaboration (IPE/C) program in maternity care: Development, implementation, evaluation and adaptability

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We developed a 6-part maternity care interprofessional education/collaboration (IPE/C) program to help learners in medicine, midwifery and nursing acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for interprofessional collaborative patient-centred practice consisting of the following modules:

1. The Grey Zone: Whose Job is it Anyway? (*role definition; scope of practice*);
2. Most Valuable Team: Maintaining Effective Working Relationships (*collaboration*);
3. Women and Children First! Woman Centred and Family Focused Care (*ethics and values*);
4. Explorations in Collaborative Practice (*learners explore interprofessional collaboration topics in small groups*);
5. Ideas into Action: (*presentations, discussion and reflection*); and
6. The Student Voice (*commitment to change, focus group, evaluations*).

The program utilizes a variety of interactive educational tools including DVD scenarios, an e-learning module, and role plays simulating interprofessional conflict and patient safety issues.

We present the quantitative and qualitative outcomes of the 2009 pilot of the curriculum and the 2010 expanded course for undergraduate learners to provide an understanding of how an IPE/C program may be developed and provide a framework for how such a program may be tailored to postgraduate learners to promote the CanMEDS Roles of Collaborator, Communicator and Professional.