

# Interprofessional Education

## *Moving from Contemplative to Action*

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Summit on Integrative Medicine and the Health of the Public  
Institute of Medicine  
February 26, 2009

# What is Interprofessional Education (IPE) and Why Do We Need it?

*"IPE is any type of educational training, teaching or learning session in which two or more health and social care professions are learning interactively"*

*Zwarenstein et al., The Cochrane Library 2008, Issue 4*

- n Patient care is often fragmented
- n Patients increasingly present with complex chronic conditions
- n IPE has the potential to lead to improved effectiveness and efficiency of care

# How Do We Achieve Effective IPE?

- n We must overcome the lack of knowledge that leads to reluctance to refer or collaborate.
- n Start IPE early and maintain through Continuing Ed
- n Develop shared values and competencies in relation to Interprofessional skills, knowledge, attitude and performance
- n Ensure curriculum reflects real life experience of clinical teams
- n Use active learning methods, e.g. simulated patients
- n Ensure facilitators understand the historical relationship between the professions

# Challenges for the Future of IPE?

## **Culture and Mindset**

- MD's trained in a culture that rewards individual accomplishments
- Professional territorialism
- Philosophical differences between professions

## **Pedagogy**

- Inter-Institutional/Programmatic relationships
- Develop across-disciplinary competencies and curricula
- Extend IPE across all health care professions

## **Research**

- Studies are small, heterogeneous, limited methodologically
- Improved evidence on key elements of IPE
- Develop models of best practice
- Impact on quality of care, practitioner, service delivery, pt satisfaction

**Reimbursement must change to support an Interprofessional approach**