



Check your practice: Team-based care in the Patient's Medical Home

Best Advice Guide: Quick Reference

Interprofessional teams can uphold the foundation of a strong primary care system among increasingly complex health challenges. By providing patients with a comprehensive array of services that best meet their needs, team-based care can lead to increased access, higher patient and provider satisfaction, and better resource efficiency. The diverse mix of professional backgrounds creates an opportunity to redefine what is considered optimal care.

Collaborative, multidisciplinary team members work closely together, with their respective services often complementing each other. The guide provides descriptions of the roles of the different health professionals that may be part of a health team.



Consider the following strategies for your practice:



Skill mix and team size:

The team composition of a practice depends on the professional competencies, skills, and experiences needed to address the health needs of the patient population.



Patient-centredness: “Nothing about me, without me”:

Teams should work together to establish shared goals that reflect patient and family priorities, and can be clearly understood and supported by all members.



Technology:

Electronic medical records (EMRs) are useful for communication and information sharing among team members. Technology allows physicians to connect with clinicians from other disciplines who do not work in the same location or organization.



Team member relationships:

Fostering a positive team dynamic facilitates trust between team members, and encourages relationships that are collaborative, open, and inclusive.



Teamwork:

Practices should discuss ways to define and measure team success, and incorporate those lessons learned into ongoing care provision.

For more information about implementation strategies, an overview of the range of health professionals that play a role in sustaining an interdisciplinary team in the [Patient's Medical Home](#), and for details about resources available to you, refer to [Best Advice: Team-Based Care in the Patient's Medical Home](#).