

Patient Perspective on Interprofessional Collaboration between Nurses and Physicians to Improve Patient Safety.

Interprofessional collaboration (IPC) has become a key strategy as there are high numbers of deaths in healthcare caused by failures in the system and process of care. One primary strategy proposed by organizations, such as the WHO and the Institute of Medicine, involves strengthening the cohesion, coordination and communication within interprofessional healthcare teams. However, interprofessional collaboration remains problematic. The WHO stated that patients and families have the right and responsibility to participate in their care to ensure their safety. A patient-centered approach of IPC will give patients a voice and lead to more detailed understanding of IPC on the care process. It will be possible to look beyond power issues between healthcare professionals. Hence, patients, who should be the focus of collaborative practices, can be valuable partners in the description of the collaborative process and its influence on patient well-being and safety.

Study Aim: This study will explore patients' experience of interprofessional collaboration, and innovative recommendations, truly patient-centered, will be developed.

Research question: What is the patients' perspective regarding interprofessional collaboration? What is the impact of collaboration on patient care and well-being and safety, from the patients' point of view? How do the patients see their role in interprofessional collaboration?

Methods: The study design is based on "Grounded Theory" methodology. Data will be collected through interviews with patients (in hospital and afterwards at home). Patients will also be invited to keep a diary during their hospital stay. Data will be collected until saturation in three inpatient services (maximum 10 patients per service) of three departments at the Inselspital, University Hospital of Bern, Switzerland.

Conclusion: With this study, the patients' role in IPC will be described in detail. Subsequently, a patient-centred model of IPC will be developed. Areas for interventions to improve IPC will be identified. It is then possible to develop tailored interventions to support patient-centred IPC.

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