

Measures of Collaboration: Performance Indicators for Interprofessional Primary Care Teams

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Background

Despite the increasing emphasis on interprofessional primary care (IPC) models across Canada there is relatively little evidence as to whether or not the intended outcomes of IPC teams have been achieved¹. To date, little is known about performance indicators of the providers contributing to the collaborative process in IPC teams^{1,2}. Part of the challenge is determining how to measure the value of interprofessional collaboration³.

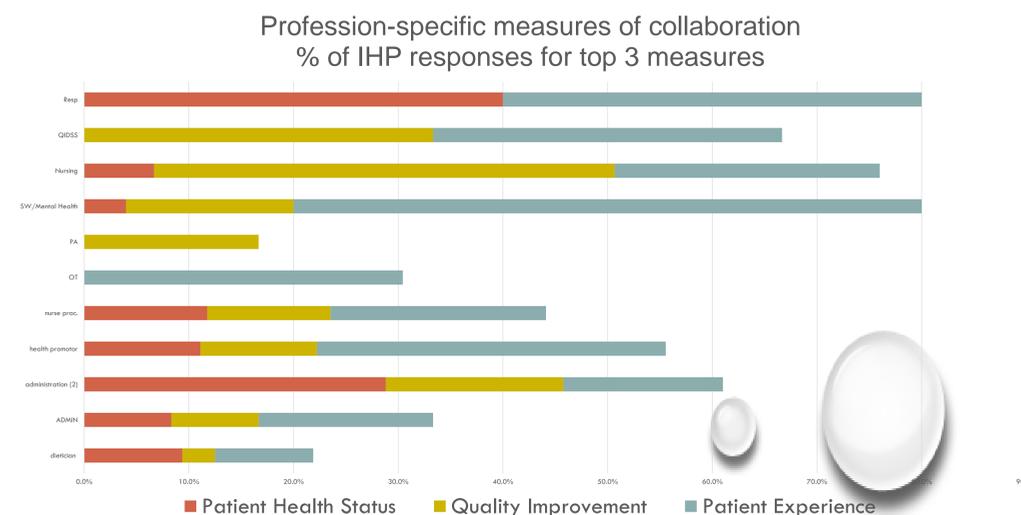
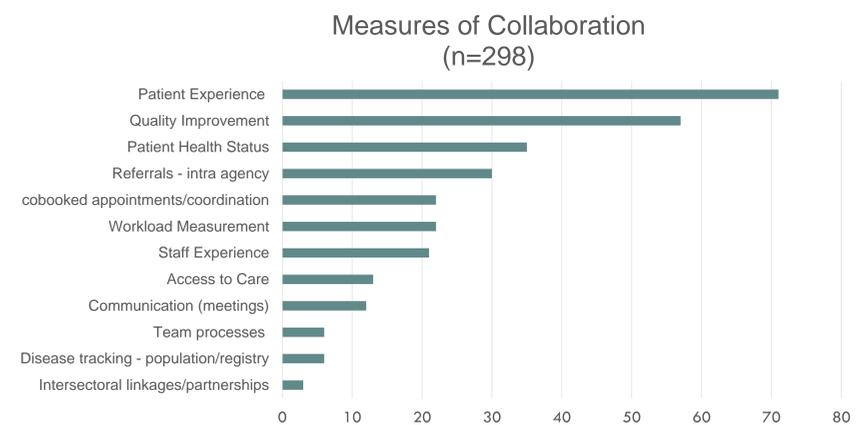
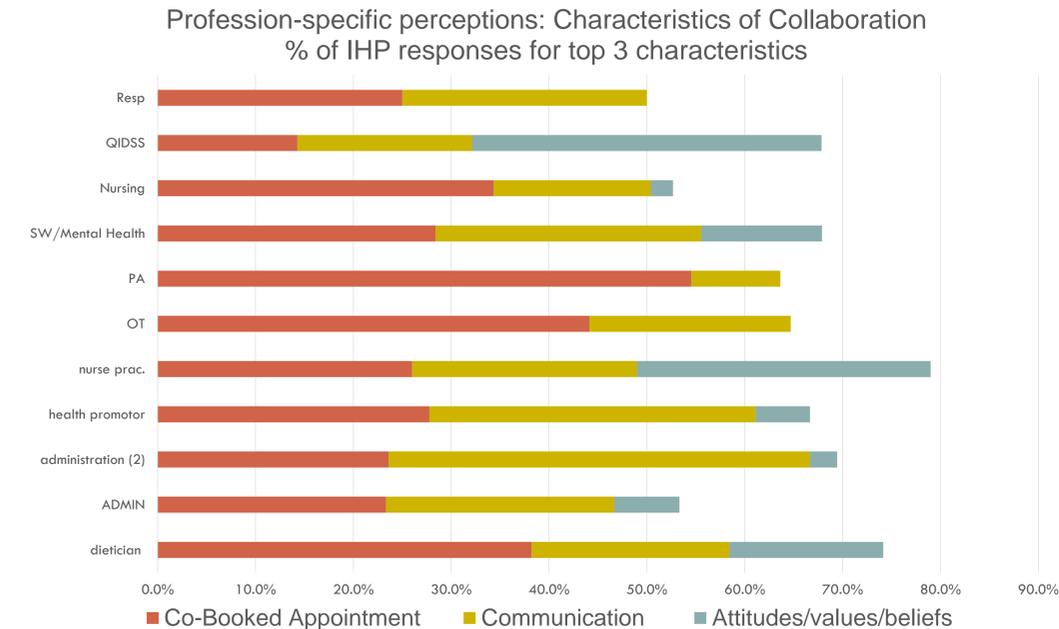
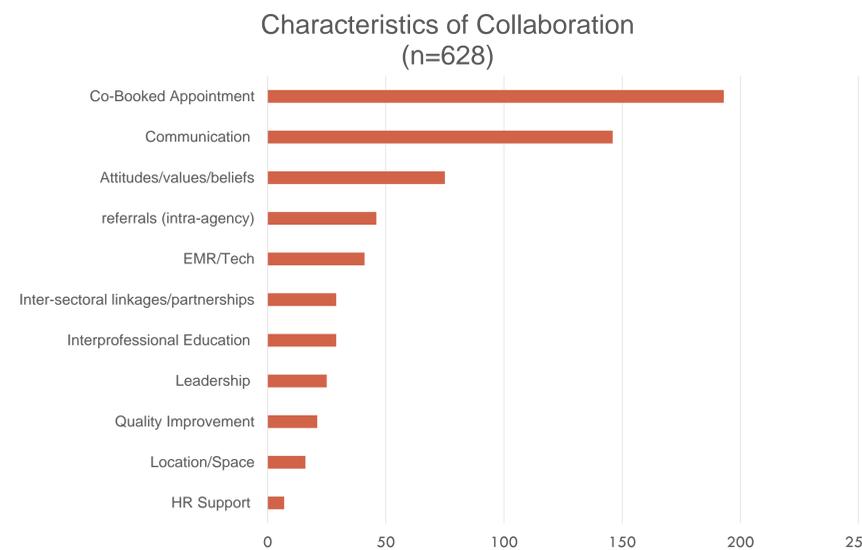
Objective

The purpose: 1) identify current practices supporting and measuring the impact of collaboration in IPC teams, and 2) identify IPC performance indicators from an interprofessional health provider (IHP) perspective.

Methods

A qualitative study; part of a larger mixed methods developmental evaluation to examine performance measurement in IPC teams. Focus groups were held at the Association of Family Health Teams of Ontario Annual Meeting. A total of 283 interprofessional health providers from fourteen health professions working in Family Health Teams participated. Six questions on IPC performance indicators guided the focus groups.

Participant responses were documented on worksheets and flip charts. All responses were collected and entered verbatim into a word document. Each question was individually reviewed and 12 categories that best represented the responses were created. Response frequencies for each category were determined.



Key Messages

1. Participants were able to identify what fosters collaboration, but had more difficulty identifying performance indicators to measure the impact of IP collaboration on the team or population.
2. Findings reflect the ongoing challenge of determining performance indicators that capture IP collaboration.
3. Understanding the interprofessional health provider perspective is critical to ensuring relevant and meaningful performance indicators are being used to describe the value and outcomes of IPC.

References/Contact

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