

To IPE or not to IPE?

Words create worlds

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objectives

share current state of language used in the field of IPE and IPC

reflect on language and its impact in our own contexts

surface considerations related to language that will move the field forward effectively and sustainably

attending to language

signalling inclusion through language

literature trends

the language of centres – including our own story

the constructionist principle in appreciative inquiry



Words create
worlds – reality is
socially constructed
through language,
stories and
conversations.

Constructionist
principle

... the language that faculty members and health care providers use sends messages that can—consciously or not—undermine their explicit lessons

p.1, Cahn, 2016

attending to language we use

Which resonate with you, and why or why not?

Other words/phrases that may impact on interprofessional learning and care?

Seven Dirty Words That Undermine Interprofessional Collaboration and Team-Based Care and Possible Cleaner Alternatives

Dirty word	Cleaner alternative
Allied	Health professionals
Clinical	Experiential placement
Doctor	Physician ^a
Interdisciplinary	Interprofessional ^b
Medical	Health ^c
My	Our
Patient	Participant

^aWhen referring to a medical doctor as an abstract role. For other doctorally prepared members of the care team, use the name of their profession (e.g., nurse).

^bJust where “interdisciplinary” is serving as a synonym for “interprofessional.”

^cWhere it is appropriate to do so (i.e., where the medical model is not the only approach involved).

p. 2, Cahn, 2016

From Our Own Context

- *What do we call things?*
- *“The interprofessionals and...”*
- *“I am a patient not a professional...”*
- *Clinical and non-clinical*

trends from literature

growth in literature

- interprofessional publications increased 2200% from 1970 to 2010

changes in language

- decreasing prevalence of multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary
- greater prevalence of interprofessional – apparent “term of choice”

shifting focus of language

- 10% of all articles using multi/interdisciplinary/interprofessional
- rising use of: care/caring, patient

Paradis & Reeves, 2013

A word cloud of educational and professional terms. The words are arranged in a roughly circular shape, with some larger than others. The colors are white and light blue. The background is black.

Studies
Collaborative
Educating
Scholarship
Center
Council
Leadership
Partnerships
Continuing
National
Strategic
McGill
Initiative
Innovation
Collaboration
Professional
Office
Commons
Educational
Provost
Interprofessional
Institute
Centre
Teaching
Building
Service
Advancement
Health
future
Simulation
Academic
Network
Program
Transformative
Learning
Practice
Research
Sciences
Advancing
Transforming
Education

Our own story...

Centre for Interprofessional Education

Transforming Care through Collaboration

Discussion

- What are you noticing about language in your own contexts? What may be enabled and restricted by this language?
- How can we as a community be more choiceful about our language? Share one tip on the index card provided (individual)

“[W]e do think in language. And so the quality of our thoughts and ideas can only be as good as the quality of our language.”

George Carlin as quoted by Cahn, 2016

References

Cahn, PS (2016). Seven dirty words: Hot-button language that undermines interprofessional education and practice. *Academic Medicine*, Nov 1 Epub

Hammond, SA. (2013). *The Thin Book of Appreciative Inquiry*, Thin Book Publishing Company: Bend, Oregon

Paradis, E & Reeves, S (2013). Key trends in interprofessional research: A macrosociological analysis from 1970 to 2010. *Journal of Interprofessional Care*, 27: 113-122.