Whose Goal is it, Anyway?

Host: Roslyn Compton

Presenters: Debbie Lashbrook

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Project ECHO® Palliative Care - Canada BY Pallium Canada

CGNA Canadian Gerontological Nursing Association

Territorial Honouring

The Palliative Care ECHO Project

The Palliative Care ECHO Project is a 5-year national initiative to cultivate communities of practice and establish continuous professional development among health care providers across Canada who care for patients with life-limiting illness.

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Health Canada Santé Canada

The Palliative Care ECHO Project is supported by a financial contribution from Health Canada. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of Health Canada.

Welcome and Reminders

- Please introduce yourself in the chat!
- Your microphones are muted. There will be time during this session for questions and discussion.
- You are also welcome to use the Q&A function to ask questions
- Use the chat function if you have any comments or are having technical difficulties.
- This session is being recorded and will be emailed to registrants within the next week.
- Remember not to disclose any Personal Health Information (PHI) during the session

Introductions

Host and Moderator

Roslyn Compton, PhD RN GNC (C)
Director of Education
Canadian Gerontological Nurses Association

Presenters

Debbie Lashbrook, BScN RN GNC(C)
Retired Nurse Educator for Community Paramedicine
County of Simcoe, Emergency Services
Barrie ON

Learning Objectives

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

- Examine the CP model in Simcoe County (ON) of chronic disease management
- Discuss respecting client's wishes and shared decision making
- Discuss opportunities for interprofessional collaboration

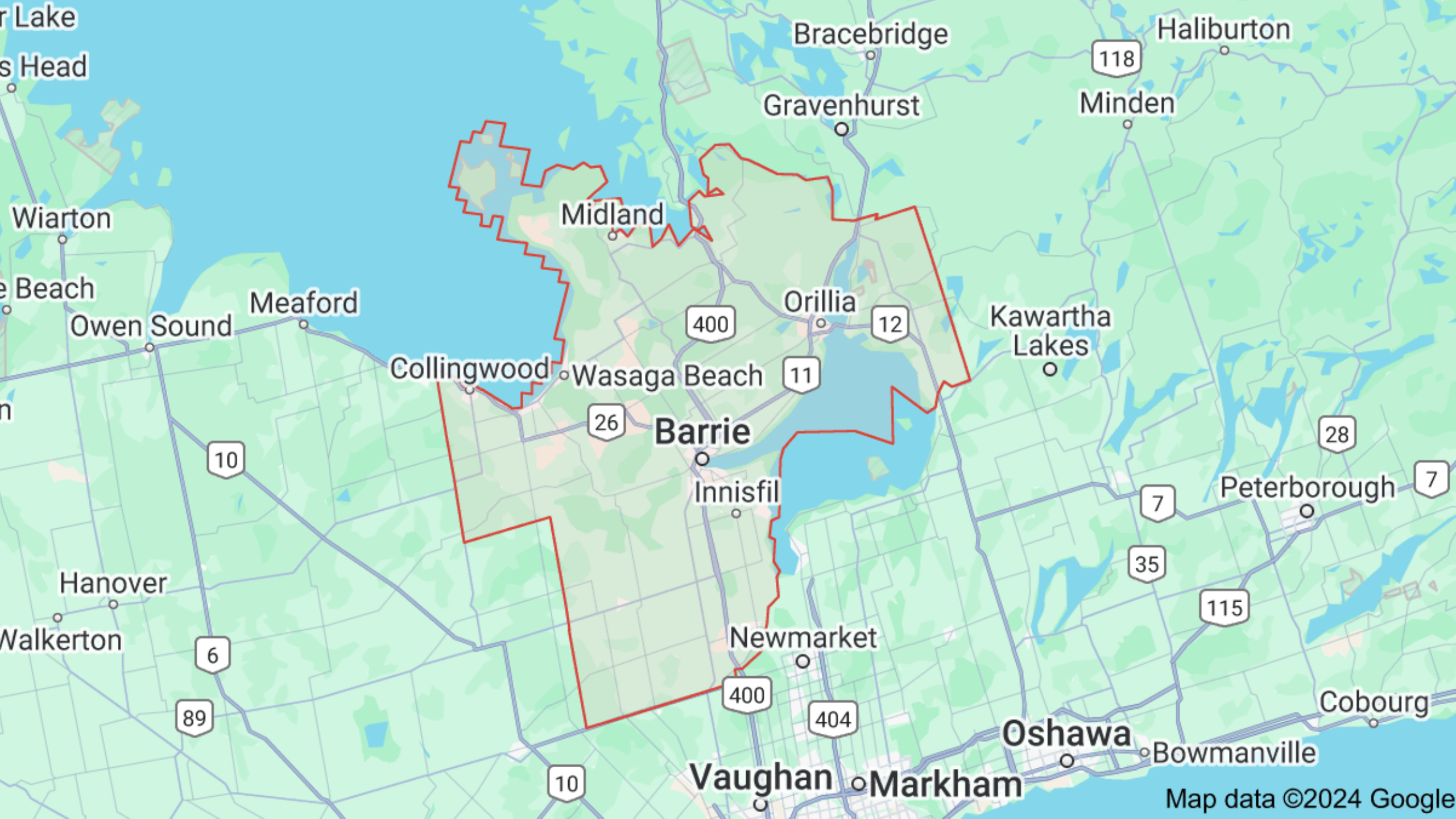
Community Paramedic (CP) Program

Experienced paramedics..

- With additional education providing in-home support for those with life limiting conditions of COPD, CHF and Diabetes.
- Who assist patients to participate in their care, maintaining independence and promoting the best quality of life possible, focusing on the patients' goals/wishes.
- Who work in collaboration with other health care professionals and community agencies to connect patients with needed health and community services.

Community Paramedicine Primary Purposes

- Reduce patient exacerbations and crisis requiring 911 response
- Reduce emergency department visits and hospital admissions
- Collaborate with patient's primary care physician/NP and other health care professions reducing the need for clinic visits
- To enhance the quality of life for the patient, honouring their wishes and respecting their decisions.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Haliburton
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Gravenhurst
Minden
Midland
Wiarton
Meaford
Owen Sound
Orillia
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Kawartha Lakes
Collingwood
Wasaga Beach
11
26
Barrie
28
Innisfil
Peterborough
7
10
35
115
Hanover
Walkerton
Newmarket
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Cobourg
Oshawa
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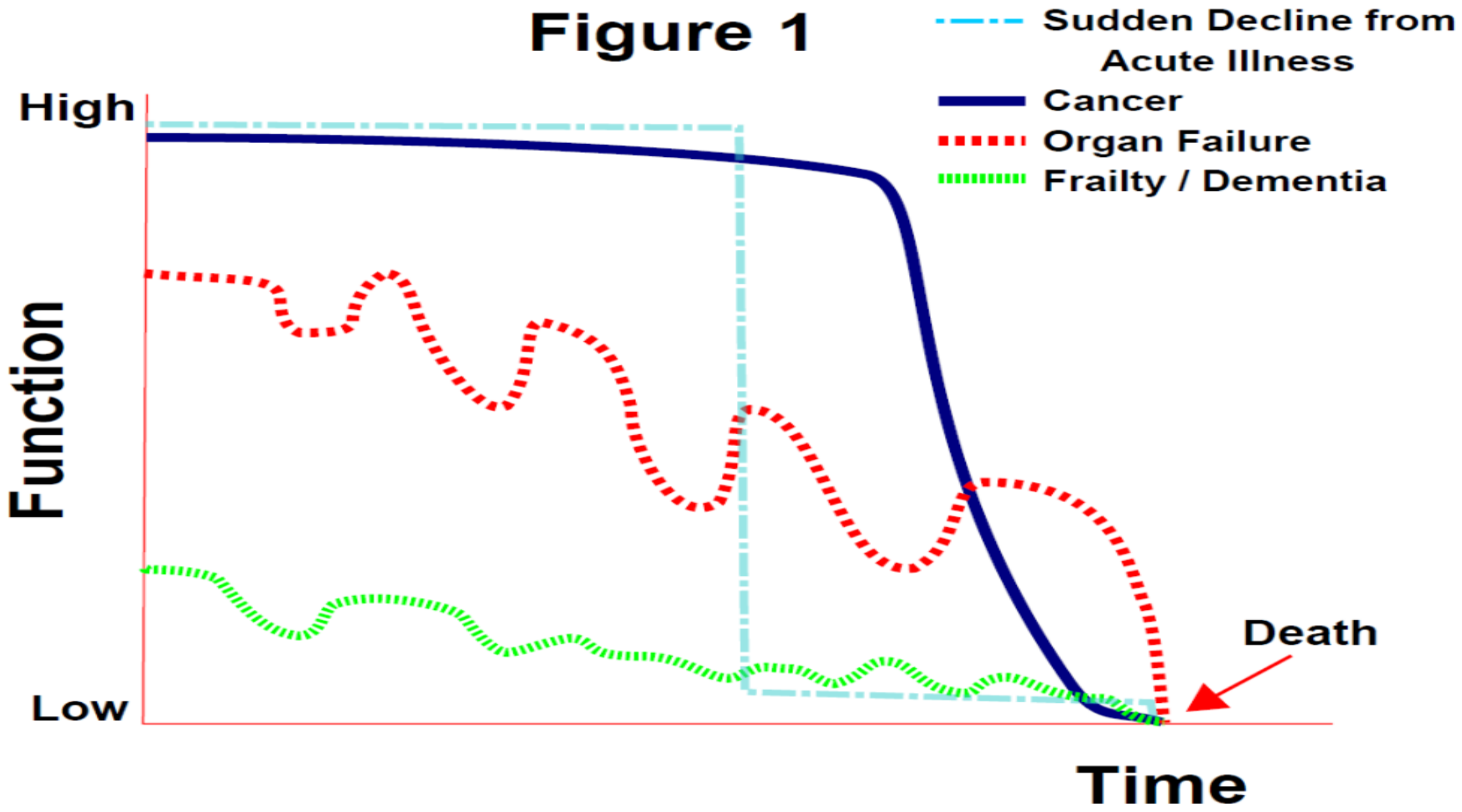
Map data ©2024 Google

Figure 1



Comstock & Scherer (2024)

Whose Goal is it, anyway?

- Early discussions regarding a palliative approach to care:
  - Discussions regarding disease trajectory – family support and patient wishes
  - Discussions and common language re: palliation, end of life, etc.
  - Legal frameworks for decision making and who will be making those decisions based on advocacy of the patient:
    - Powers of attorneys
    - Wills
    - Getting financial affairs in order
    - Where to die – at home, in hospital or at hospice

What is shared decision making?

According to the article from Montouri et al. (2022) shared decision making starts with conversation…

"Care happens in interaction between the patient and the clinician, in conversation where the patient and clinician uncover or develop a shared understanding of the problematic situation of the patient and identify, discover, or invent ways to make that situation better, given what each patient prioritises and seeks.[1]

Thus, to get the right care for each patient, patient and clinician collaborate and deliberate together to figure out what to do.[2]"

Steps for shared decision-making

According to Montouri et al., (2022) steps for SDM include:

1. Foster conversation
2. Select and adapt the SDM process:
    a. Matching preferences
    b. Reconciling conflicts
    c. Problem-solving
    d. Making meaning
3. Supporting the process
4. Evaluation of outcomes

Interprofessional Collaboration

- Collaborative practice occurs, (World Health Organization) “when multiple health workers from different professional backgrounds provide comprehensive services by working with patients, their families, caregivers and communities to deliver the highest quality of care across settings.”
- The goal: improved health care delivery and improved quality of care of the patient by the experts in each perspective area.
- Working together improves quality care and patient outcomes, but seamless delivery of services is often fragmented in our current health care system.
- Barriers include: system communication failures, silo health care and busy schedules, including depleted human health resources.

Questions to Consider

- Do you use common language with your patients?
- Are you using a palliative approach to care for those with chronic diseases?
- Is patient autonomy valued, and supported through shared decision making?
- Do you have essential conversations with patients? Do you feel comfortable having these conversations?
- Are you participating in shared decision making?
- What interprofessional agencies or institutions are available in your community to better serve your patients, and are you promoting shared care?

Next Steps: Application

Case Study: November 13, 2025

Meet George – a 77-year-old male living with his spouse with end stage COPD.

Next week, we will exam 2 pathways regarding Georges' final wishes:

a. To die at home
b. To go to Hospice

Applying principles of shared decision making, interprofessional collaboration and community support systems available, we will examine how to respect his autonomy in his final days.

L.McKeown, C.Weiss, H.Woodbeck

Q & A

References

Canadian Nurses Association. Interprofessional Collaboration. Retrieved Oct. 28, 2025. https://www.cna-aiic.ca/en/nursing/nursing-tools-and-resources/interprofessional-collaboration

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World Health Professions Alliance (2025). Interprofessional Collaboration. Retrieved on Oct. 28/25. https://www.whpa.org/activities/interprofessional-collaborative-practice

Session Wrap Up

- Please fill out our feedback survey, a link has been added into the chat.
- A recording of this session will be emailed to registrants within the next week.
- Thank you for your participation!
- Save the date for the next session which is set to take place on November 13, 2025 at 11:00 am SK

Thank You

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