

Definition of Multidisciplinary Collaborative Maternity Care for MCP²

Mission

To reduce barriers and facilitate the implementation of national multidisciplinary collaborative primary maternity care strategies as a means of increasing the availability and quality of maternity services for all Canadian women.

Working Definition of Multidisciplinary Collaboration for the MCP² Project

“Collaborative woman-centered practice designed to promote the active participation of each discipline in providing quality care. It respects goals and values for women and their families, provides mechanisms for continuous communication among caregivers, optimizes caregiver participation in clinical decision making (within and across disciplines), and fosters respect for the contributions of all disciplines.” (Based on Health Canada’s definition of collaboration)

Guiding Principles

1. Belief that quality maternity care is achieved by the contribution of all care providers
2. Mutual trust and respect for each other’s perspective and way of thinking
3. Shared values, goals and visions
4. Open, honest communication
5. Informed choice and decision making for the woman
6. Professional competence
7. Responsibility and accountability that recognizes each professions’ standards of practice
8. Understanding of, and respect for, different professions’ scope of practice
9. Adherence to current best practice guidelines
10. Common protocols for clinical and administrative purposes
11. Unified front and mutual support
12. Willingness to devote time and energy to the collaborative model
13. Willingness to openly discuss differences
14. Open and frank discussion of financial issues