

Committee of Presidents of Medical Colleges

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STRATEGIC POSITION STATEMENT

INTERPROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION

BODY OF STATEMENT

Collaborative models of patient care must ensure that the highest standard of patient care is maintained while seeking to improve access, affordability and timeliness of care.

Collaboration must occur within a framework of ongoing education, training, credentialing, audit and quality improvement and so should maintain a standard of care through efficient utilisation of resources.

Qualification, experience and scope of practice should define the role of team members in collaborative models. Clear and transparent guidelines, agreed by all parties, should define when there is a need to escalate the involvement of other members of the collaborative team.

Each collaborative team must have a defined leader who has ultimate responsibility for decision-making and accountability for the collaborative model. The leader should be chosen by virtue of his/her qualifications and experience in the field. The leader will not necessarily be the case co-ordinator responsible for day to day patient management.