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Concern: To the attention of the Scientific Committee of the IACR 2025 conference.

Dear Sir, Dear Madam,

I am pleased to submit an abstract titled :

" Collaboration mechanisms and strategies used by healthcare professionals in various contexts of hospital interprofessional team meetings: a scoping review (preliminary results)"

This abstract presents the preliminary findings of our scoping review, which explores the mechanisms and strategies of interprofessional collaboration (ICP) within healthcare teams in hospital settings, particularly in oncology and palliative care. This work is part of a doctoral thesis project and mobilizes a critical realism social theory.

Thank you for your consideration and for taking the time to read. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any further information.

Sincerely,

Alessia Camponovo

Abstract

Title: Collaboration mechanisms and strategies used by healthcare professionals in various contexts of hospital interprofessional team meetings: a scoping review (preliminary results).

Background: Effective interprofessional collaboration (IPC) is a cornerstone for high-quality care delivery. While global health policy acknowledges and promotes the benefits of a team-based approach to address public health challenges such as demographic shifts and increasing prevalence of chronic conditions, the overall dynamics and underlying generative mechanisms that foster IPC remain insufficiently understood. Moreover, threats to IPC are manifold (e.g., hierarchy, gender imbalance, poor conflict resolution, negotiation, and lack of communication skills). This scoping review is the first work package of a broader PhD project. By mobilizing critical realism (CR) as an analytical lens, the overarching aim is to understand this complex social phenomenon beyond the surface level to uncover generative mechanisms shaping interprofessional decision-making in healthcare teams, within the context of a hospital.

Objectives: The scoping review's aims are threefold: 1) to map the breadth and depth of existing literature regarding interprofessional collaboration (IPC) in the context of team meetings in hospitals, 2) to identify key variables associated with effective collaboration, and 3) to identify significant enablers and barriers to IPC.

Design: A scoping review of the literature was undertaken using the Arksey and O'Malley (2005) framework.

Data Sources: In June 2024, we searched the databases MEDLINE (Ovid), Embase, CINAHL, PsycINFO, SCOPUS, Web of Science, and grey literature sources such as ProQuest (dissertations and theses).

Review Methods: Eligible studies included empirical studies, peer-reviewed literature, and studies conducted in hospital settings. The reviewers used Covidence software to screen the titles, abstracts, and full-text articles.

Preliminary results: In total, 3,989 studies were screened, of which 17 met inclusion criteria and were included for analysis. Consistent with our initial expectations, preliminary analysis indicates a predominance of studies conducted in the UK. Older people's team management, cancer care team, and palliative care team are the most prevalent team-related settings identified. Additionally, a predominant focus is on qualitative methodologies with limited use of experimental or quantitative designs. Early findings suggest limited exploration of the generative mechanisms that underlie IPC processes in team meetings.

Value: Initial findings underscore the need for further in-depth analysis of interaction processes within interprofessional team meetings in hospitals. More detailed findings are expected to gain new insights into IPC in highly complex real-life settings that are influenced by different levels (i.e., organizational level, team level, and individual level). Finally, this will have implications for informing interventions aimed at strengthening IPC, mitigate threats to collaboration, and identify underlying patterns and mechanisms that may ultimately impact patient outcomes. (428 words)

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