Interprofessional Collaboration in Sports Science and Sports Medicine

Dear participant,

Success in sports is a team effort and should be the case for success in healthcare, too. However, health care workers traditionally operate in silos without integrating other health professions in their working routine. (Breitbach, Reeves and Fletcher, 2017)

In contrast to this traditional siloed model, the interprofessional (IP) collaborative model suggests that healthcare workers should communicate and collaborate over professional boundaries. More specifically, the WHO defines IP collaboration (IPC) as follows: "when multiple health workers from different professional backgrounds work together with patients, families, carers (caregivers), and communities to deliver the highest quality of care." (WHO, 2010).

The aim of this international survey is to gain insights from professionals who work in sports science or sports medicine on IPC and education.

It takes about 15 minutes to complete the survey. The survey is conducted in the English language.

Information collected from the survey will not be identifiable. Survey data will be stored electronically on the password-protected, secure server through the Qualtrics Survey Software maintained per Saint Louis University IRB guidance. Participation is voluntary and you may choose to withdraw and not submit the survey at any time without consequences.

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this study and supporting us in our

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research on IPC and education in international sports science and sports medicine.

Sincerely,
Dr. Anthony Breitbach (Doisy College of Health Sciences, Saint Louis University, St. Louis, USA)
Dr. Gert Ulrich (Careum Foundation, Department of Education Management, Zurich, Switzerland)

☐ I am at least 18 years old and agree to participate.

Which professions best describe you:
(select all that apply)

☐ Athletic Trainer
☐ Athletic Therapist
☐ Sports Therapist
☐ Physical Therapist/Physiotherapist
☐ Human Performance/Strength and Conditioning Coach
☐ Personal Trainer
☐ Sports Scientist/Exercise Physiologist
☐ Biomechanist/Biokineticist
☐ Kinesiologist/Kinesiotherapist
☐ Occupational Therapist
☐ Speech Language Pathologist
☐ Physician
☐ Physician Assistant
☐ Nurse
☐ Dietitian/Nutritionist/Biokinesiologist
☐ Massage Therapist
☐ Psychologist/Mental Trainer
☐ Other (describe):
Which best describe your professional role in sports science and sports medicine:
(select all that apply)

☐ Clinician/Practitioner
☐ Academic/Educator
☐ Researcher/Scientist
☐ Administrator/Manager
☐ Diagnostic Technician
☐ Student
☐ Other:

Which is your primary country/region of employment:

What are your primary sport(s) of your patients/clients (if no sports write NONE)

Which best describe the sport or health care organization where you are formally affiliated:
(Select all that apply)

☐ Professional/ Elite Athletes
☐ Amateur Athletes
☐ Academic/University
☐ Secondary School/Youth
☐ Recreational/Leisure sports
☐ Hospital/Health Center
☐ Specialty Clinic
Years of experience as a Sports Science/Sports Medicine professional:

[ ] [ ] Other (describe):

Which professions do you regularly interact with as a Sports Science/Sports Medicine professional:

(Select all that apply)

[ ] Athletic Trainer
[ ] Athletic Therapist
[ ] Sports Therapist
[ ] Physical Therapist/Physiotherapist
[ ] Human Performance/Strength and Conditioning Coach
[ ] Personal Trainer
[ ] Sports Scientist/Exercise Physiologist
[ ] Biomechanist/Biokineticist
[ ] Kinesiologist/Kinesiotherapist
[ ] Occupational Therapist
[ ] Speech Language Pathologist
[ ] Physician
[ ] Physician Assistant
[ ] Nurse
[ ] Dietitian/Nutritionist
[ ] Massage Therapist
[ ] Psychologist/Mental Trainer
[ ] Other (describe):

Type of employment:

- Employed by organization/institution
- Self-employed/freelance
- Job-seeking
- Student/Professional Training
- Other (describe):

Mean/average working hours per week:

You identify as which gender:

- Female
- Male
- Other (describe):

Your age in years:

Communication and teamwork with other health and social care professionals:

For each of the following statements please circle the number of response that best reflects how you would feel or behave.
I feel comfortable justifying recommendations/advice face to face with more senior people.

Strongly agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

I feel comfortable explaining an issue to people who are unfamiliar with the topic.

Strongly agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

I have difficulty in adapting my communication style (oral and written) to particular situations and audiences.

Strongly agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

I prefer to stay quiet when other people in a group express opinions that I don’t agree with.

Strongly agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

I feel comfortable working in a group.

Strongly agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

I feel uncomfortable putting forward my personal opinions in a group.

Strongly agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

I feel uncomfortable taking the lead in a group.

Strongly agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly disagree
I am able to become quickly involved in new teams and groups.

Strongly agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

I am comfortable expressing my own opinions in a group, even when I know that other people don’t agree with them.

Strongly agree  Agree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

Attitudes to learning with other health and social care professionals:

For each of the statements below please circle the number that best reflects your opinion.

Skills in communicating with patients/clients would be improved through learning with students from other health and social care professions.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

Skills in communicating with other health and social care professionals would be improved through learning with students from other health and social care professions.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

I would have preferred to learn only with peers from my own profession.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree
Learning with students from other health and social care professions is likely to facilitate subsequent working professional relationships.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

Learning with students from other health and social care professions would be more beneficial to improving my teamwork skills than learning only with my peers.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

Collaborative learning would be a positive learning experience for all health and social care students.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

Learning with students from other health and social care professions is likely to help to overcome stereotypes that are held about the different professions.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

I would have enjoyed the opportunity to learn with students from other health and social care professions.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

Learning with students from other health and social care professions is likely to improve the service for patient/client.
Interaction with other health and social care professionals:

For each of the following statements please circle the number of response that best reflects your own attitude/opinion.

Different health and social care professionals have stereotyped views of each other.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

The line of communication between all members of the health and social care professions is open.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

There is a status hierarchy in health and social care that affects relationships between professionals.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

Different health and social care professionals are biased in their views of each other.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

All members of health and social care professions have equal respect for each discipline.
It is easy to communicate openly with people from other health and social care disciplines.

Not all relationships between health and social care professionals are equal.

Health and social care professionals do not always communicate openly with one another.

Different health and social care professionals are not always cooperative with one another.

**Relationships with other health and social care professionals:**

For each of the following statements please circle the number of response that best reflects your own attitude/opinion.

I have an equal relationship with peers from my own professional discipline.
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Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

I am confident in my relationships with my peers from my own professional discipline.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

I have a good understanding of the roles of different health and social care professionals.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

I am confident in my relationships with people from other health and social care disciplines.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

I am comfortable working with people from other health and social care disciplines.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

I feel that I am respected by people from other health and social care disciplines.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

I lack confidence when I work with people from other health and social care disciplines.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

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I am comfortable working with people from my own professional discipline.

Strongly agree  Agree  Neither agree or disagree  Disagree  Strongly disagree

Job Satisfaction

Please indicate how dissatisfied or satisfied you are with various aspects of your job. Give your first and natural answer by working quickly, but be accurate, and answer all questions.

The physical working conditions:

Extremely satisfied  Moderately satisfied  Slightly satisfied  Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied  Slightly dissatisfied  Moderately dissatisfied  Extremely dissatisfied

The freedom to choose your own method of working:

Extremely satisfied  Moderately satisfied  Slightly satisfied  Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied  Slightly dissatisfied  Moderately dissatisfied  Extremely dissatisfied

Your colleagues and fellow workers:

Extremely satisfied  Moderately satisfied  Slightly satisfied  Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied  Slightly dissatisfied  Moderately dissatisfied  Extremely dissatisfied

The recognition you get for good work:

Extremely satisfied  Moderately satisfied  Slightly satisfied  Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied  Slightly dissatisfied  Moderately dissatisfied  Extremely dissatisfied

The amount of responsibility you are given:

- Extremely satisfied
- Moderately satisfied
- Slightly satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Slightly dissatisfied
- Moderately dissatisfied
- Extremely dissatisfied

Your rate of pay:

- Extremely satisfied
- Moderately satisfied
- Slightly satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Slightly dissatisfied
- Moderately dissatisfied
- Extremely dissatisfied

Your opportunity to use abilities:

- Extremely satisfied
- Moderately satisfied
- Slightly satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Slightly dissatisfied
- Moderately dissatisfied
- Extremely dissatisfied

Your hours of work:

- Extremely satisfied
- Moderately satisfied
- Slightly satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Slightly dissatisfied
- Moderately dissatisfied
- Extremely dissatisfied

The amount of variety in your job:

- Extremely satisfied
- Moderately satisfied
- Slightly satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Slightly dissatisfied
- Moderately dissatisfied
- Extremely dissatisfied

Taking everything into consideration, how do you feel about your job:

- Extremely satisfied
- Moderately satisfied
- Slightly satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Slightly dissatisfied
- Moderately dissatisfied
- Extremely dissatisfied

In your professional education/vocational training/study pre-certification/licensure or during continuing education post-certification/licensure, did you have interprofessional collaboration, where you learned in common with, from and about learners/trainees/students from other (health) professions?

- Yes, in professional education pre-certification/licensure
- Yes, in continuing education post-certification/licensure
- Yes, both in pre- and post-certification/licensure
- No

Have you had personal experiences where interprofessional collaboration has impacted patient/client outcomes?

- Yes - positive impact
- Yes - negative impact
- Yes - mixed impact
- No

The items in this survey are easy and clear to understand:

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

A regular survey of health professions working in sport science and/or medicine regarding interprofessional collaboration and learning is useful:

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neither agree or disagree
In my opinion, the title of “Athletic Trainer” indicates the following professional role and responsibilities:

What else would you like to tell us?

Could we use your answers of this survey to evaluate the effectiveness of this survey?

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