

Investigating the literature on integration, coordination and multidisciplinary care

Tieman J¹, Mitchell G²,

Shelby-James T^{1, 3}, Currow D¹, Fazekas B³, O'Doherty LJ², Hegarty M¹, Eriksson L², Brown R² & Reid-Orr D¹

1 Flinders University

2 University of Queensland

3 Repatriation General Hospital



ICM Review Project

- n A systematic literature review to explore what is meant by the terms, what models exist, and the effectiveness of integration, co-ordination and multidisciplinary (ICM) approaches in primary health care.
- n Original proposal dealt with palliative and aged. Also needed to include chronic.

Issues in designing and conducting this review

- n Broad, conceptually complex topic
- n Literature sources and evidence issues
- n Importance of context, generalisability, transferability
- n Overlap between health and social care
- n Population and subpopulations
- n Policy needs



Importance of scoping study

Engaging stakeholders

- n Time is your enemy
- n Define when and what involvement you want
- n Reference Group, consultation workshop, conversations (formal and informal)
- n Organisational sources

Systematic review process

- n Different methodologies
- n Different appraisal tools available
 - EPOC, JBI, Cochrane,
- n Project management
- n Defining and refining your question(s)

Managing the literature

- n Protocol to outline design of review
 - Relative value of different types of studies
 - Inconsistent/non compatible ICM mechanisms between studies
 - Transferability to Australian circumstance
 - Determining the effect of a population against an intervention
- n Search strategy development
- n Finding grey literature
- n Importance of documentation

Key Process learnings

- n Dealing with complex issues which are multifaceted and not easily answered definitively
- n More complex than classic systematic review. Conceptual, analytical, theoretical work required.
- n Engagement with policy makers requires time and the time frame is very tight.
- n Volume of material is challenging
- n There is a need for tools to support integration of evidence from diverse sources.
- n Importance of context
- n Writing the final report takes longer than you think. Editing it takes longer than you allowed.

Acknowledgements

- n This study was made possible by a grant from the Australian Primary Health Care Research Institute.