

INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

- **Errors in healthcare** can cause patient harm and can devastate healthcare team members.
- **Analysis** shows improved teamwork and communication reduce errors in healthcare.
- **Interprofessional education** can improve team members' communication & collaboration skills.



GETTING STARTED

1 IDENTIFY POTENTIAL PARTICIPANTS

- Healthcare students at your institution
- Current practitioners
- Students from other healthcare institutions
- Leaders from local facilities who host clinical students/residents



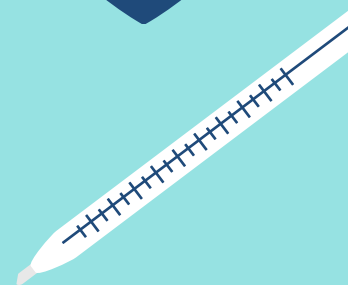
2 PLAN AHEAD

- Pick a specific day/time 6 months or more in advance (scheduling is often the biggest hurdle for IPE)
- Consider a self-contained, one-time IPE session
- Create learning outcomes that align with one or more of the [Interprofessional Education Collaborative Core Competencies](#)



3 PRE-ASSIGN PARTICIPANTS

- Create professionally diverse groups
- The World Health Organization states it only takes 2 professions to make it interprofessional!
- 6-8 people per group



4 INCLUDE A TEAMBUILDING ACTIVITY

- Start with a brief, fun team building activity to promote unity in the small groups.
- Consider the [Marshmallow Challenge](#) or have groups make the longest paper chain in a minute.



5 FOCUS ON PATIENT CARE

- Collaborate on a case study relevant to participants' professions.
- Show the effects of ineffective teamwork/communication.
- Facilitate students teaching students.



6 COLLECT DATA

- Use a pre-test/post-test of student self-evaluations.
- Explore the [National Center for Interprofessional Practice and Education](#) for tools to evaluate outcomes.



7 EVALUATE YOUR OUTCOMES, REFINE, AND REPEAT!

- Analyze data and feedback from students/faculty.
- Adjust and improve as needed.

8 REACH OUT!

- Connect with other IPE champions for support and creative ideas.
- Share your results with others.
- Contact me to talk about IPE (curtisan@mchp.edu). I am happy to share activities we use at Maine College of Health Professions.

