From interprofessional education to team based care: Design tools for health creation

Interprofessional education (IPE) and team care models are rapidly evolving design tools for the cost-efficient achievement of health creation through Integrative Health and Medicine. IPE and team care aim to meet patients’ individualized health, wellness needs and achieve better outcomes through training in specific team-based diagnostic, treatment and health promotion strategies. These tools, assessment protocols and treatment approaches are used in a multi-disciplinary, highly collaborative team-based approach to patient centered care. Southern California University of Health Sciences (SCU) has led the way for over 100 years in educating students to become caring and competent integrative healthcare practitioners. SCU prepares today’s students for the healthcare system of tomorrow through interprofessional education, scholarship, clinical training programs that are evidence-based and outcomes-focused. SCU’s distinct interprofessional environment creates tangible bridges between health professions in the clinic and classroom, and through the university’s unique institutional culture. Members throughout the SCU community are working together to transform higher education and health care through health creation and a respectful team approach to patient centered care. The implementation of interprofessional team care is growing in Integrative Health and Medicine as patients insist on stronger relationships between their conventional and integrative Clinicians. Patients want their clinical caregivers to work together to provide for their health needs. It is well known that health professionals who train and practice together deliver better patient healthcare outcomes, yet a key roadblock to successful interprofessional team care is the siloed training of health professionals. SCU has tackled this roadblock by seating 40% of its health care student clinicians in the same classrooms regardless of their chosen profession and by training them together in the same clinic. SCU’s team based Health System, community clinics, Olympic Sports Medicine interprofessional team, and clinic at the University of California at Irvine all illustrate the success of this approach, its health-creating effects and cost efficiencies. This presentation will highlight evidence for the value proposition of the integrative multi-disciplinary team care approach that is modeled by the SCU Health System. We will describe strategies and outcomes associated with our approach at SCU, as well as clinical vignettes from partner organizations, including SCU’s Primary Spine Care collaboration with Dartmouth Medical School. SCU’s diverse professions (Chiropractic, Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine, Ayurvedic Medicine, Integrative Physician Assistant, Massage Therapy, Yoga Therapy and Sports Medicine) provide a rich laboratory for developing, providing, and testing effective team strategies and models for patient-centered care.

Biography

John Scaringe is the President and CEO for the Southern California University of Health Sciences (SCU). He is a published author and has served as the Associate Editor for the Journal of Sports Chiropractic and Rehabilitation and on the Editorial Advisory Board of Manual Therapy. In addition to private practice and over 25 years of teaching experience, he has developed a reputation in change management and is a frequent Lecturer on academic leadership and trends in healthcare education. He has extensive experience in higher education accreditation serving on and chairing numerous regional and professional evaluation teams. He currently serves as a Commissioner for the Northwest Commission for Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) and served eight years on the Council for Chiropractic Education (CCE). He holds a Doctor of Chiropractic degree from New York Chiropractic College, a Master of Science in Kinesiology from California State University, Fullerton, and an EdD in Educational Leadership from California State University, Long Beach.