

## Determine the Optimal Model of Care Delivery

Questions to consider in determining the strengths and weaknesses of the current care delivery model based on results of the needs assessment (CNA, 2006):

- How accessible are the services currently? What could be done to make them more accessible? Are there services that are needed by your community that are not currently offered? Are there services offered that are under-utilized?
- What are the current financial implications of your health care delivery model? Will resources need to be re-allocated to better meet the needs of your community?
- How does the way health services are delivered either magnify or minimize the health needs of your community? Is there potential for this to be optimized?
- What **type of teamwork** is needed to meet the needs? What are the strengths and weakness of the current model of care when compared to what type of teamwork is needed? What are the benefits of working in interprofessional teams?
- How responsive is the current care delivery model to the identified priority needs? What are the opportunities to fill these gaps? Could modifying roles or ways in which team members' work together make the care delivery model more responsive? Are all team members able to contribute to the care delivery model in a way that maximizes their scope of practice and their own personal potential?

### Potential Benefits of Working in Interprofessional Teams

- Patient focus in service provision, care is planned with the input of multiple providers, instead of being discipline specific;
- Decreased duplication and delay in organizing care involving multiple professions;
- Agreed standard of prioritizing clinical concerns across disciplines for consistency and equality in care (Lowe & O'Hara, 2000).



If it is decided through this discussion that moving to an interprofessional team will be the optimal model for the delivery of care, the team will need to consider how the strengths of the service providers and the organization match the requirements of **interprofessional care** (or **interprofessional competencies**).

1. Empowering Team Dynamics
2. Productive Dialogue
3. Understanding how to work with Diversity
4. Appreciation of professional roles

