

# The Influence of Covid-19 on Interprofessional Collaboration from the Perspectives of Inpatient Physical and Occupational Therapists



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## Background:

- COVID-19 significantly impacted health care delivery, including interprofessional collaborative practice (IPCP).
- IPCP occurs when health care workers from diverse professional backgrounds work together for patients and families to deliver the highest level of care.
- A framework for IPCP is identified by the Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC®) and consists of four core competencies including Roles/Responsibilities, Communication, Teamwork, and Values/Ethics.
- Physical and occupational therapists commonly work together in an inpatient setting to promote patient functional independence.
- Purpose of this qualitative study was to explore the experiences of interprofessional collaboration over time among physical and occupational therapists employed at an inpatient setting at one academic medical center before, during, and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

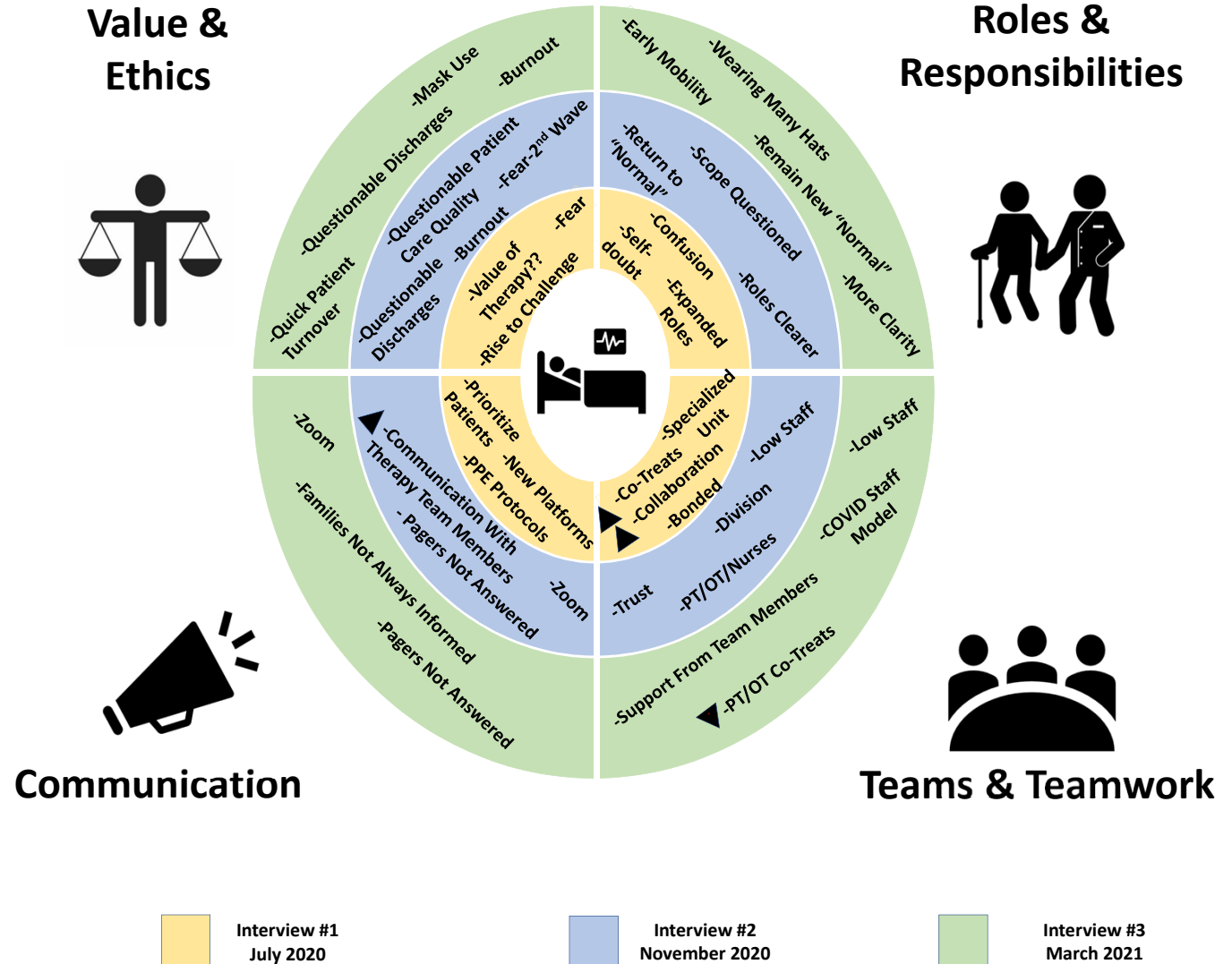
## Methods:

- Qualitative longitudinal case study beginning in the summer of 2020 with three interviews completed every three months (over a 9-month period) with individual therapists.
- 3 physical therapists and 3 occupational therapists from the same academic medical center participated in the study.
- Interviews were recorded on Zoom® and transcribed verbatim and checked for accuracy.
- Qualitative analysis was utilized to uncover themes associated with the 4 IPEC® competencies.

## Conclusion:

- IPCP is key to providing healthcare that is safe and patient centered.
- COVID-19 impacted IPCP including patient-centered care, transition of care practices, and staff morale in an inpatient setting.

## Results:



**Figure:** Conceptual Model Describing the Impact of COVID-19 on Interprofessional Collaborative Practice In an Inpatient Setting Among Occupational and Physical Therapists