

A collaborative partnership

Based on Gottlieb, L. & Feeley, N (2005) Collaborative Partnership: A delicate balance. Elsevier, Toronto.

Collaborative partnership

- Definition: “..the pursuit of person centered* goals through a dynamic process that requires the active participation and agreement of all partners” (Gottlieb & Feeley, 2005 p.7)
- Partners may include:
 - Practice teachers and students
 - Students and students
 - Students and clients/patients, practice teachers
- In practice teaching, this suggests that practice teachers assume a more collaborative role and students are actively engaged in all aspects of their learning within the context of the practice setting

* Similar terms; client/patient/family centered practice

interrelated elements in collaboration (based on Gottlieb & Feeley, 2005)

- Power sharing
- Openness & respect
- Accepting and non judgmental
- Tolerate ambiguity
- Self awareness and reflection

1. Power sharing...

- Agreeing on who is responsible/
accountable for decisions, plans, and
reevaluating the situation at a given time
- Inviting the other to consider a different
perspective
- Share, acknowledge, use knowledge
differences.

1. Power sharing works best when...

- Both people value power sharing
- Each person believes he or she has something to contribute
- Both accept fluidity and change in responsibility

2. Openness & respect...

- Being curious and interested in the other person
- Willing to
 - develop a relationship with the other
 - share ideas and to understand the other's perspective
 - Take risks to learn from each other and to change
- Accept differences but search for common ground
- See the person's strengths

3. Being non judgmental and accepting...

- Tolerance for another's beliefs, behaviors, perspectives, and values
- Not being critical or condemning
- Willing to explore feelings the person may think is unacceptable

4. Living with ambiguity...

- Being able to tolerate temporary uncertainty and unpredictability
- Time and patience
- Being flexible
- Tentative rather than fixed idea of outcome

5. Self awareness and reflection involves...

- Understand self, other and dynamics of relationship
- Monitor work of partnership which allows
 - Tailoring and flexibility in approach
 - redistribution of power/control
 - recognition and management of negative feelings, and making adjustments
 - greater visibility of work

Outcomes of a collaborative partnership

