

SGIM Forum Call for Submissions:

Theme Issue on Team and Interprofessional Care - February 2022

Submission deadline: December 15, 2021

SGIM *Forum* will publish a theme issue on teamwork and interprofessional care in learning and clinical work environments for its February 2022 issue. This theme issue on *Team and Interprofessional Care* focuses on the evolving nature of multidisciplinary care in work and learning environments for general internists and trainees.

Team-based care involves the collaboration of at least two healthcare professionals working together, with patients and their caregiver(s) and/or care partner(s), to achieve shared care goals. Team-based care also is considered a key building block for high-performing primary care teams and hospital-based teams. Learners of all disciplines, including those in medicine and related professions, also add value to team care, while learning in an interprofessional educational environment.

Recent [theme](#) and the [current issue](#) of SGIM *Forum* began to offer perspectives of interprofessional healthcare teams in achieving behavioral health integration, yet team care can benefit patients and populations more broadly as well. Team and interprofessional care can improve the value and quality of care, improve patient outcomes including patient safety, reduce clinician burnout, and more. Additional opportunities for team care can also involve engaging community-based stakeholders, along with patients and their caregivers both at an individual patient care and institutional level, for example, through patient advisory boards.

Also, the COVID-19 pandemic has also challenged healthcare teams and educational systems to adapt and evolve quickly. The pandemic is a powerful driver for the medical community to “go virtual,” adapt clinical workflows, and change educational activities to adhere to physical distancing and other requirements. However, such adaptations have impacted how general internists, fellows, residents, and students engage in their daily activities, with patients, and with each other.

At SGIM’s 2015 Annual Meeting, then SGIM president, William P. Moran, MD, and plenary speakers for the meeting reflected on the [opportunities and challenges of advancing teams in General Internal Medicine](#). Key questions and considerations in embracing team and interprofessional care remain. *What are optimal strategies for adopting and sustaining team-based care models? What policy changes are still needed to advance and fund team-based care in the long term? What educational programs effectively educate health professionals together rather than separately (interprofessional education)?*

Ultimately, how do we provide “comprehensive, coordinated and cost-effective care to adults, educating the next generation of outstanding physicians, and conducting cutting-edge research to improve quality of care and clinical outcomes of all patients?”¹

Please consider the following for submissions to this theme issue:

- Article submissions [of all types](#) are welcome, covering a wide range of important issues, including but not limited to:

¹ <https://www.sgim.org/about-us>

- Innovative approaches to health service provision involving collaboration across disciplines and/or professions
- Engagement of community-based stakeholders in team care
- Patient and caregiver/care partner engagement in team care
- Advocacy for team care service models and/or interprofessional educational models or frameworks
- Applications of patient advisory boards in advancing models of team care
- Team care and service integration in primary care, hospital medicine, or general internal medicine clinical work and learning environments
- Health professions education or interprofessional education
- Patient, caregiver, or care partner outcomes, teamwork dynamics, and/or clinician well-being as a result of team care models or frameworks
- Team care and teamwork adaptations and/or evolutions in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, including but not limited to virtual work and learning
- Reflections and personal perspectives about the value, importance, or even shortcomings of various team care approaches in routine practice
- Medical students, residents, and fellows are also encouraged to submit. Personal reflections and experiences with team care and learning, especially in all-virtual work and learning environments, are welcome for consideration.
- Artwork or photography submissions will also be considered (they must be 300 DPI or higher).
- Please refer to the [author instructions](#) for more detailed article requirements and a suggested [article template](#). Incomplete submissions may encounter delays in review and/or production.

Submit your articles or artwork to Editor.SocietyGIMForum@gmail.com by December 15, 2021 for consideration for this theme issue.

SGIM *Forum* is a place for members to share their diverse perspectives and experiences, advocacy, research, and clinical work, for this theme issue and continuously into the future. Submissions not published in the theme issue will be considered for publication in future issues of SGIM *Forum*.